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Third Biennial Report

OF THE

Colorado Traveling Library Commission



1908

DENVER, COLORADO
THE SMITH-BROOKS PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
1908

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Third Biennial Report

OF THE

Colorado Traveling Library
Commission

Office: Room 10, Capitol Building, Denver

"Books are strange things. Although untongued
and dumb,
Yet with their eloquence they sway the world;
And, powerless and impassive as they seem,
Move o'er the impressive hearts and minds of men
Like fire across the prairie. Mind sparks,
They star the else dark firmament."



1908

DENVER, COLORADO
THE SMITH-BROOKS PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
1908

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COLORADO TRAVELING LIBRARY COMMISSION, 1908.

Mrs. Julia V. Welles, President.....1930 Lincoln St., Denver
Mrs. M. A. B. Courier, Vice-President....724 E. 10th St., Denver
Mrs. James D. Whitmore, Secretary.....
.....730 Washington St., Denver
Mrs. Frank Wood, Historian.....Trinidad
Mrs. Z. X. Snyder, Reader.....Greeley

TRANSPORTATION CLERK.

Miss Carrie Cushing.....Room 10 Capitol Building, Denver

To His Excellency,
HENRY A. BUCHTEL,
Governor of the State of Colorado.

The following biennial report is respectfully submitted.

JULIA V. WELLES,
President.
MRS. ANNIE G. WHITMORE,
Secretary.

Denver, Colorado, Dec. 1, 1908.



JULIA VON DER LIETH WELLES,
President of the Colorado Traveling Library Commission.

Third Biennial Report OF THE Colorado Traveling Library Commission

Dec. 1, 1906—Dec. 1, 1908

ACT CREATING THE COMMISSION

The act creating the Colorado Traveling Library Commission was passed by the Fourteenth General Assembly, was signed by the Governor April 13, 1903, and became a law July 1, 1903.

PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION.

The purpose of the Commission, as expressed in the Law, is to maintain the Colorado Free Traveling Library system, through which books and magazines should be accessible to every community in the State, subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as will secure in the most practical manner the free use and enjoyment of said libraries by the people of this State.

NEW APPOINTEES ON THE COMMISSION.

The work of the Traveling Library Commission during the two years covered by this report have been years of steady progress under the same direction as in previous years. By executive appointment a new term of office for three years from July 1, 1908, was given to Mrs. James D. Whitmore. Mrs. Frank Wood of Trinidad was appointed at the same time and for the same term of years in place of Mrs. B. F. Stickley of Leadville.

INCREASE OF TRAVELING LIBRARIES.

The Commission has completed the fifth year of its work as a State Commission, previous to which its work had been carried on for two years by a committee from the State Federation of Women's Clubs. The Traveling Libraries have increased since our last report from 177 boxes, of fifty volumes each, to 216 boxes, with the same number of books in each box, an increase of 39 boxes. The total number of boxes valued at \$10,750. Of

these, 91 are juvenile and 125 miscellaneous boxes. In spite of the rapid increase in the number of boxes, the supply is still not equal to the demand, there being 12 unfilled applications on our list, owing to a lack of boxes, as this report goes to press.

LIST OF BOXES.

1. Annie G. Whitmore, C. F. W. C.
2. Adah Wiley Jones, Social Union.
3. Anne Hathaway, Shakespeare No. 1.
4. Anne Hathaway, Shakespeare No. 2.
5. Art and Literature, W. C. of Denver.
6. Alice Robinson, La Junta.
7. Art and Literature, North Side Woman's Club.
8. Amanda Kerr Lewis, Scio, Art Club.
9. Alfred Robinson, Memorial.
10. Alice Polk Hill, Round Table Club.
11. A. M. Stevenson, C. T. L. C.
12. Anna Willetts Stuard, T. L. C. C.
13. Anne Beatrice Chittenden, T. L. C. C. Memorial.
14. A. Merritt Welles, Jr., Memorial.
15. Blanche Roosevelt-Machette, Memorial.
16. Ben B. Lindsey, W. C. of Denver.
17. Boulder Fortnightly, Boulder.
18. City Improvement Society, Denver.
19. Centennial Club, Colorado Springs.
20. Canon City Convention Souvenir Box.
21. Christ Sunday School, Canon City.
22. Columbine Club, Fort Collins.
23. Collegiate Alumnae, Denver.
24. Carrie Christian Kunkelly, Woman's Press Club.
25. Carrie Chapman Catt, New York.
26. Clio Club, Denver.
27. Carrie P. Dawson, C. T. L. Commission.
28. Colorado Chapter D. A. R.
29. Camilla Roberts Tedrow, Y. L. C. C.
30. Cora V. Curtius, Memorial Argyle Club.
31. Clara Cressingham, Memorial Argyle Club.
32. Caroline P. Smith, North Side Woman's Club.
33. Dr. Laura M. Porter, Memorial, Boston, Mass.
34. Denver Fortnightly Club, Quarto Centennial.
35. Dr. J. H. Kappas, Reviewers' Club.
36. Denver Circle National Congress of Mothers.
37. Dr. Cora S. Richards, Social Science Dept. W. C. of D.
38. Dora Kerngood Wile, Memorial Jewish Woman's Council.
39. Denver Fortnightly Club, Denver.
40. Elizabeth W. Goddard, W. C. of Denver.
41. Eliza A. Rountt, Fortnightly Club.
42. Eurette K. La Barthe, W. C. of Denver.
43. Ethel Elsie Patch, Memorial T. L. C. C.

44. Ellis Meredith First Charter Convention.
45. Edward Walter Hurlbut, Memorial.
46. Eliza Lentz, C. T. L. C.
47. Emily Meredith, C. F. W. C.
48. Emma C. Crowley, North End, W. C. T. U., Colorado Springs.
49. Emma Lentz, Memorial, Humane Educational Society.
50. Mrs. Albert R. Forbes, Reviewers' Club.
51. Estelle Fulton, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
52. Eliza Folsom McClelland, W. T. K. Club, Greeley.
53. Equal Suffrage Association, Denver.
54. Emma M. Herey, Arapahoe County Mothers.
55. Federation No. 3, C. F. W. C.
56. Francis B. Belford, Social Service Dept. W. C. of D.
57. First Congregational Church, Denver.
58. First Congregational Church Sunday School, Denver.
59. Fonetta Flansberg, City Federation, Colorado Springs.
60. Friends in Council Juvenile, Canon City.
61. Friends in Council, 1896, Canon City.
62. Friends in Council, 1901, Canon City.
63. Flora T. McHarg, Woman's Club of Denver.
64. Florence Kelley, Sunshine Society, New York.
65. Federation No. 11.
66. Francis A. Kimball, Ouray Woman's Club.
67. Forestry Committee C. F. W. C.
68. Henry Dudley Tupper, Memorial.
69. Helen Ring Robinson, Woman's Press Club.
70. Hypatia Club, Boulder.
71. Hypatia Club, Trinidad No. 2.
72. Hypatia Club, Trinidad No. 2.
73. Hypatia, Pierian and Tourists' Clubs, Trinidad.
74. Helen M. Grenfell, Teachers' Institute, 1904.
75. Halsey V. and Merritt-Welles, Denver.
76. Helen Leimer, Memorial, Pi Pi Kappa.
77. Harriet Scott Saxton, Social Science Dept. W. C. of Denver.
78. Hattie U. Stevens, Parliamentary Aux. W. C. of Denver.
79. Home and Education Dept., W. C. of Denver.
80. Helen Marsh Wixson, Woman's Press Club.
81. Historic Art Club, Denver.
82. Ione T. Hanna, H. and E. Dept. W. C. of Denver.
83. Inah Lewis Fox, Monday Extension W. C. of D.
84. Inez Thornburgh, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
85. Isabelle Churchill, C. F. W. C.
86. Jennie Helton Baker, Woman's Club of Boulder.
87. Julia von der Leith-Welles, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
88. James H. Peabody, C. F. W. C.
89. Janet R. Storr, Social Science Dept. W. C. of D.
90. Jessie I. Hanna, Young Ladies' Clio Club.

91. Junior Clio Club, Denver.
92. J. Warner Mills, Memorial Arena Club.
93. Julia von der Leith-Welles No. 2, C. F. W. C.
94. Jessica Stebbins, Y. L. C. C.
95. Jewish Woman's Council.
96. Jacob, von der Leith Memorial.
97. Kate Reynolds Lobinger, Collegiate Alumnae.
98. Kliothalean Club, Greeley.
99. Katherine Grafton Patterson, Woman's Club.
100. Katherine Grafton Patterson, No. 2, Denver Fort-
nightly.
101. Lulu M. Sawyer, Woman's Club, Colorado Springs.
102. Liska Stillman Churchill, A. L. Dept. W. C. of D.
103. Ladies' Fortnightly, Boulder.
104. Lola Maloney, A. and L. Dept. W. C. of Denver.
105. Lillian H. Kerr, Woman's Club, Colorado Springs.
106. Lucy E. Peabody, A. and L. Dept. W. C. of D.
107. Mrs. James B. Grant, Regent, Colorado Chapter D.
A. R.
108. Margaret Tupper Truc, End. Com. N. C. of Mothers.
109. Mabel Thornburgh, Y. L. C. C.
110. Martha E. Gildersleeve, Memorial North Side W. C.
T. U.
111. Mae Edgecomb, Argyle Club.
112. Minnie Harbaugh, Ninth District, W. C. T. U., Colo-
rado Springs.
113. Mrs. John L. McNeil, Denver.
114. Margaret E. Snyder, C. T. L. C.
115. Mary E. Drinkwater, A. & L. Dept. W. C. of D.
116. Martha B. Rogers, Century Club, Denver.
117. Mrs. Tilden, Memorial Y. W. C. T. U.
118. Mary M. Collins, Georgetown.
119. Mary E. Parks, North Side Woman's Club.
120. Minnie C. T. Love, M. D., H. & E. Dept. W. C. of D.
121. Mary B. Stover, Fort Collins.
122. Minnie Lahm Harding, C. F. W. C.
123. Mrs. B. F. Stickley, C. F. W. C.
124. Mary B. Ragan, North Side Woman's Club.
125. Myrtle Ruble, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
126. Mrs. O. G. Otis, C. F. W. C.
127. Mame M. Sprague, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
128. Martin P. Pels, Memorial, Denver.
129. Martha B. Tuttle, Centennial Club, Colorado Springs.
130. Mann and Winthrop Page, Denver.
131. Mrs. Mahlon D. Thatcher, Pueblo.
132. Mary L. Shears, North Side Woman's Club.
133. Mrs. J. J. Brown, Denver.
134. Minnie J. Reynolds, Woman's Press Club.
135. Minnie J. Reynolds, No. 2, C. F. W. C.
136. Mary C. C. Bradford, Social Science Dept. W. C. of D.

137. Mrs. James Cowie, Boulder.
138. Marietta Jefferson, Friday Musical Club of Boulder.
139. Margaret White O'Leary, Western Slope.
140. Margaret Patterson Campbell, Collegiate Alumnae.
141. Mary B. Morris, Art and L. Dept. W. C. of Denver.
142. Mira S. Sprague, Colorado W. C. T. U.
143. Mary N. Perkins, New York.
144. Monday Evening Clio, Denver.
145. Monday Literary, Denver.
146. Monday Literary No. 2, Denver.
147. Mrs. L. M. Barney, Woman's Literary, Colorado
Springs.
148. Mrs. Clay B. Steele, Reviewer's Club.
149. McKinley No. 1, F. A. Reynolds, Canon City.
150. No. 2, Mrs. A. R. Guemar, Florence.
151. Mary C. Bancroft, Denver Fortnightly.
152. Mary N. Chase, North Side Woman's Club.
153. Mary Byers Robinson, Denver.
154. Nellie W. Wood, Tourists' Club, Trinidad.
155. Nettie Hubbard Bolles, M. D., H. & E. Dept. W. C.
of D.
156. Nettie Edwards Casper, 22d Avenue Club.
157. Norma Purchase, C. F. W. C.
158. Nettie C. Jacobson, A. and L. Dept. W. C. of D.
159. Ouray Woman's Club, Ouray.
160. Pearl Gallup, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
161. Pieririan Club, Trinidad.
162. Pearl B. Wheeler, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
163. Progress Club, Greeley.
164. Queen Esther Branch Sunshine Society, New Haven,
Conn.
165. Rebecca P. Wetter, Memorial, Unity Alliance.
166. Round Table Club, Denver.
167. Rev. J. Monroe Markley, First Congregational Church.
168. Reviewer's Club, Denver.
169. Rene C. Pels, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
170. Rebecca P. Utter, Memorial No. 2, Monday Literary.
171. Senator Horace T. De Long, C. T. L. C.
172. Susan B. Anthony, Memorial, Colorado Equal Suffrage
Association.
173. Senator Casimiro Barela, C. T. L. C.
174. Theodosia Ammons, Memorial, C. F. W. C.
175. Sarah K. Walling, Jane Jefferson Democratic Club.
176. Senator Hume Lewis, C. F. W. C.
177. Susan R. Ashley, Fortnightly Club.
178. Sarah Platt Decker, W. C. of D.
179. Scio Art Club, Denver.
180. Sophia Lovejoy Dickinson, W. C. of D.
181. Susan Moffatt Hayward, Clio Club.
182. Social Science Dept., W. C. of D.

183. Sarah C. Irish, North Side Woman's Club.
184. Social Art Club, Littleton.
185. Sphinx Club, Denver.
186. Thomas Scott Hayden, Jr., Memorial, Denver.
187. Tribune Sunshine Society, New York.
188. Tuesday Musical Club, Denver.
189. Twenty-second Avenue and Around the World Club,
Denver.
190. Valeria N. Church Memorial, Denver.
191. Violet Toovey, Young Ladies' Clio Club.
192. W. M. Church, Memorial, Denver.
193. Woman's Club of Leadville.
194. Woman's Press Club, Denver.
195. Woman's Club of Grand Junction.
196. W. T. K. Club of Greeley.
197. Woman's Club of Canon City.
198. Wednesday Current Events and Fourth Avenue Read-
ing Club.
199. Wednesday Morning Club of Pueblo.
200. Woman's Club of Denver.
201. Woman's Club of Littleton.
202. Woman's Literary Club of Colorado Springs.
203. Woman's Lunch Club, Denver.
204. Woman's Club of Victor.
205. Woman's Club of La Junta.
206. West Side Woman's Club.
207. Young Ladies' Clio Club, Denver.
208. Logan County Teachers' Box.
209. Colorado Branch Nat. Cong. of Mothers.
210. Tourists' Club of Trinidad.
211. Grace Roeschlaub Sibley, Y. L. C. C.
212. Nettie K. Gravett, Art Box, C. F. W. C.
213. Cora B. Arnold, A. & L. Dept. W. C. of D.
214. Lucy A. Davison, Memorial.
215. Honora McPherson, H. & E. Dept. W. C. of D.
216. Sara E. Blanchard, North Side Woman's Club.

CONDITIONS FOR NAMING A BOX.

The conditions for naming a box after a club or an individual are: \$6.00 in cash, to pay for box and name-plate, and fifty books to fill it. The books are packed in neat, uniform cases, which serve as library shelves after reaching their destination. Boxes are named for individuals, for the president of a club, for some individual member for valuable services rendered, or are memorial boxes named for some deceased friend or relative.

If an individual desires to contribute a box outright, \$50 pays for box, books and name-plate.

The State keeps the libraries up to the required standard, replacing boxes and books as they are worn out.

A BOX OF BOOKS FROM THE TRAVELING LIBRARY
READY FOR ITS MISSION OF EDUCATION.



"He ate and drank the precious words,
His spirit grew robust,
He knew no more that he was poor,
Nor that his frame was dust;
He danced along the dingy ways,
And this bequest of wings
Was but a book. What liberty
A loosened spirit brings!"

RULES GOVERNING STATE TRAVELING LIBRARIES.

1. The person to whom this box is sent shall be held personally responsible for the safe return of its contents.
2. This box of books is free to the public. No charge is made by the State for its use, and no charge is to be made by any person in authority, except to replace books lost or destroyed.
3. The only requirement made by the State is that this box and contents be returned at the end of six months in as good condition as when received, barring natural wear and tear.
4. If a book is lost, one of the same standard and in equally good condition must be substituted for it.
5. In order that the person in charge of a box may protect themselves, they should loan only to persons known to them, or to those presenting satisfactory references. A second book should not be loaned to any person until the first is returned in as good condition as when loaned.
6. These books have been given by friends of free libraries. The State asks all borrowers to treat them well, for the sake of those to whom they may give pleasure and profit after leaving you.
7. Address all communications and applications to the president, stating whether you wish a miscellaneous, a juvenile or a reference box. Always state what road you are on, and exactly how to direct box.
8. Return all boxes to transportation clerk by freight, Room 10, Capitol building, care Colorado Traveling Library Commission. Notify her of the return of a box and enclose bill of lading. Always advise her of the receipt of a box, otherwise she has no means of knowing that it has reached its destination.
9. Always return boxes by freight.
10. Do not fasten boxes with nails; it damages them very materially. Proper bolts for fastening are always sent with each box.
11. State whether you are willing to pay transportation charges or not.
12. A second box will not be sent to any one failing to comply with these rules.

APPLICATION BLANK.

The undersigned asks that the Colorado Traveling Library Commission ship to.....
one of the traveling libraries, and promise to take personal charge of the books sent.....
and to keep a record of their circulation in the form provided by the library, guaranteeing their return to the library in good condition, and the return of the library to Denver by freight at the end of the specified time. The commission reserves the

right to withdraw this privilege at any time on non-compliance with these conditions.

Signed

I recommend the above applicant as a responsible person and promise to make good to the library any loss that may be occasioned by his failure to comply with the above requirements.

Signed

Application blanks will be furnished upon application to the Transportation Clerk, Miss Carrie M. Cushing, Room 10, Capitol Bldg.

BRANCHES OF THE WORK.

First—We have the miscellaneous boxes, composed of recent fiction, with a judicious admixture of travel, history, biography and sociology, intended for the general public and suited to the general taste. Each box contains fifty books.

Second—The juvenile boxes, composed entirely of the best juvenile books, chosen with a view to their relation to the school work, as well as to the tastes and ages of the children generally. These are for use in the country schools, Sunday schools, and the industrial schools. There are also fifty books in each of these boxes.

Third—Small collections of reference books for the use of clubs and study classes. If you write for books of this class you must be resigned to some delay, for they often have to be ordered from the East.

Fourth—Magazines and paper-bound books. These are shipped to farmers, millmen, railroad men, barns, hospitals, engine houses, stations, jails, reformatories and prisons.

Fifth—Leaflets for the sick. Sent to hospitals, relief corps and societies, and branches of the Sunshine Society. These leaflets are short stories taken from the magazines and daintily mounted in such a way that invalids and convalescents can hold them without becoming tired.

SPECIAL BOXES.

Much interest has been manifested during the past year in preparing boxes along specific lines, and placing them in the hands of a librarian, who will send them to clubs and individuals studying along certain lines. For instance, the art committee to have charge of books upon art; teachers' box, prepared for teachers, in charge of county superintendent; household economics committee, books upon their work; outlook and extension books to help students along their line of work; forestry committee, books upon forestry; and the different circles of the Mothers' Congress, books to help both mother and child. The first box prepared by the Mothers' Congress will soon be ready, and will be stationed at the Wolcott school. A second box is being collected.

DISTRIBUTION OF PERIODICALS.

The fourth branch of our work—the distribution of periodicals—bids fair to outclass even the circulating of the books. Four thousand five hundred magazines and unbound books have been given out since our last report. We do not require that these be returned, but that they be used and passed on until they are worn out—thus enabling a score of readers to see them before they become waste paper. There is no more valuable material for reference work than that found in periodical literature, which often contains material not found in any other form. If you have a magazine which you have read, pass it on. You can do this by sending it to Room 10, Capitol building. The plan as presented at the meeting of the Federation in Pueblo last fall, whereby it is hoped, that through the co-operation of the club women in the different towns throughout the State, with the State Traveling Library Commission, a chain of library stations may be established for the distribution of periodicals. When you take into consideration that this system will have to be operated at long distance, without personal supervision, and located for the most part in stores, banks, railroad stations or postoffices, where the attendants have many other duties, and serve without compensation, it is not going to be an easy task to accomplish.

However, the results of this plan since last September are very gratifying indeed, and if the work continues at the present rate, before another year we will be well on our way toward encircling the state with a chain of stations.

The Pueblo Federation is supplying all of the school districts where there is need, in Pueblo county, with magazines, as well as supplying the county farm. The Colorado Springs Woman's Club is supplying the needs of Teller and El Paso counties, in all over thirty points.

The La Junta clubs supply Otero county with magazines.

The Trinidad clubs supply Las Animas county with magazines.

The Canon City clubs supply Fremont and Custer counties with magazines.

In addition to the magazines distributed by the Traveling Library Commission, through applications made directly to them, applications made to clubs outside of their county have been referred to the commission and have been promptly filled. The circulating of these magazines is being done largely through the co-operation of the county superintendents of schools with the club women. Boxes of magazines are sent, as arranged for with the county superintendents, once a month or once in two or three months, as the case may be, and the superintendents assume the responsibility of distributing them. One of the letters received by Mrs. J. W. Cannon, chairman of the committee

at Canon City, showing the interest in and the appreciation of the work undertaken by the library committee, is appended:

"MRS. MARIELLA D. MARTIN,
"Superintendent of Schools,
"Cheyenne County.

"Cheyenne Wells, Colo., Dec. 12, 1907.

"Mrs. J. W. Cannon, Canon City, Colo.:

"Dear Mrs. Cannon—Your letter comes to me like a cooling breath from the oases on the sandy deserts. I shall be pleased to distribute your magazines throughout the county and in order to spare your time shall be delighted to attend to their distribution.

"Our school terms are so varied in length that I think the county seat will be the best depository.

"Out on these sparsely settled plains, where we miss so much the advantages and opportunities of the city life, the chance to keep in contact with the outside world through the medium you propose is gratefully acknowledged and duly appreciated.

"Allow me, in behalf of the thirty teachers employed in Cheyenne county, to extend our most sincere thanks to 'The Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs' for your kindly offer.

"Very truly yours,

"MARIELLA D. MARTIN."

A FEW EXPRESSIONS QUOTED FROM LETTERS RECEIVED.

"Up here in this stormy snow-bound country the luxuries of life are somewhat limited, and the magazines, books and papers are good material for occupying the mind, and many pleasant hours will be spent as a result of the kindness of the C. T. L. C."

"If the traveling libraries you send elsewhere are as much appreciated as the ones I have charge of here in Pine Grove, the club women certainly are doing a great and a glorious work."

"For every book I have given out I have said, 'The Colorado Traveling Library Commission send these gratis,' and they all reply, 'How very kind!' So, you see, kind, grateful thoughts are vibrating toward you, and the snow-capped peaks which stand between us cannot keep these vibrations from reaching you."

"The books were greatly enjoyed; in fact, they have been in constant use since their receipt. Another box of the same kind will be greatly appreciated."

"The Colorado Traveling Library Commission has not only been a great aid, but the whole thing for communities far removed from Carnegie and other libraries, and the longer it lives the more firmly will its merits be appreciated by the people."

"I wish you might know what a treasure your box has been to us, how it has been appreciated, with what enthusiasm received, with what eagerness read, and how thankful we all are to you."

"The traveling library box arrived three weeks ago, and I assure you it is a boon to this village."

"Through the traveling library our community for several years has been provided with a high standard of literature, appreciated by the adult and juvenile, the summer guests, the shut-ins, and most by the students from the School of Mines, who convene here during the summer."

"We rank the traveling library as among the strongest educational agencies. The fact that tired miners, who find it as hard to read as to dig coal, will take these books home or to the reading room and read them, is one of the strongest evidences of the good work that the books are doing."

"Sterling, Logan Co.—We have had a number of the Federation libraries in this county and have enjoyed them more than we can tell. I am setting on foot a movement among my teachers to collect from them fifty good teachers' books to be donated to the Federation for a strictly Teachers' Box. Would this be acceptable? If the books were sent to you would you furnish the case and name it 'Logan County Teachers?' I should like to hear from you."

"Pueblo, Colo., April 22, 1908.

"Dear Mrs. Welles—I wrote you a few lines to tell you what book I have read in your library. I have read one and I liked it, and I read it every night, and it was good to read. The name of the book was 'Glimpses of Pioneers' Life,' and I liked it. This book was the best book I have read. The name of your library is the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs Free Traveling Library. Yours truly,

"MIKE SPINA."

"Pueblo, Colo., April 22, 1908.

"Dear Mrs. Welles—I want to thank you for the books that I have read out of your library. I have read 'Blue Fairy Book,' 'Little Women' and Longfellow's poems. I like the stories very much. Miss Graham has read some of the books to us. Miss Graham is my teacher. I liked 'Little Women' the best of all. Yours truly,

"GERTRUDE HARRISON,

"Blend School."

"Pueblo, Colo., April 20, 1908.

"Dear Mrs. Julia Welles—I have read some stories from the Blue Fairy Book, out of the traveling library. I have read 'Snow White and Rose Red,' 'The Forty Thieves,' 'Hans and Gretchen,' 'The Sleeping Beauty in the Woods,' 'The Tales of a Youth Who Set Out to Learn What Fear Was,' 'Rumpelstilzkin,' 'Little Tom Thumb,' 'The Goose Girl,' and 'Toads and Dia-

monds,' and Aesop's Fables, and liked them all very much, and I wish to thank you for sending them. Yours truly,

"EDNA WAYBRIGHT."

"Soldiers' Home, Monte Vista—I am constantly being asked by the men when we can have a new box of books. We have not a complete set of Dickens in the library, and I was wondering if a set might not be put in the boxes. This idea is such a good one and the men so thoroughly appreciate having the books sent them in this way. They seem to like the air of freshness that the new books bring."

LIBRARIES ASSISTED.

During the biennial period just closing the commission have donated to

	Books
Peoples' Chapel, for purposes of starting local library.....	50
Salvation Army	50
Jefferson, for purpose of starting local library.....	50
County jail, for purpose of starting local library.....	25
Added to South Side Library, Platte Park.....	25
Added to State Reformatory Library, Buena Vista.....	50
	—
Total	250

These books were histories, encyclopedias, poems, and dictionaries, which were not suitable to send out in the boxes, but were valuable to a local library. The result of this branch of the work has been the establishing of local libraries, namely: at Henderson, Silver Plume, Louisville and Platteville, Mancos, Arvada, Swallows, Montezuma, Jefferson, Peoples' Chapel, Larimer St., Sterling and Arickaree. If some member of the commission could visit the different points in the State where libraries are sent, we feel satisfied that the work could be greatly increased, and many more local libraries be established. The traveling library commission is responsible for the establishing of the traveling library system now being carried on by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company in their coal camps. This company secured three boxes from the commission as an experiment; it worked so well that the number increased to thirty-seven, which they circulated for two years. Being convinced of the value of the system, they established their own traveling library system, and now have forty-five boxes in circulation.

Two hundred leaflets for the sick have been sent out. They have been a factor in helping people to forget their ills, and have helped to bring them back to health and strength. The following libraries have been assisted:

We have furnished information to a missionary from India who desires upon her return to establish traveling libraries in that country.

The commission have also assisted in establishing the traveling library system in Rhode Island, and are now giving information and assistance to a committee in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and to another committee at Little Rock, Ark., for the same purpose.

LEAFLETS FOR THE SICK.

The fifth branch of the library work, the preparing of leaflets for the sick, has attracted considerable attention both at home and abroad. A sample package was sent to the Jamestown Exposition, and it was suggested there that Colorado copy-right the leaflets which originated with her commission. If the leaflets have proven beneficial to those for whom they were intended, the commission feel amply repaid, and hope that other libraries will take up the work of preparing similar leaflets for the sick.

AIMS OF THE COMMISSION.

The aims of the commission are to make the traveling library of the greatest usefulness, by finding out the needs of the community or district where the boxes are to be sent, and as far as possible supply these needs, to help small public libraries in getting on their feet, by supplying recent fiction, thus making it possible for them to invest their funds in reference and other books that are necessary in establishing a permanent library, to lend books to study clubs that can not get the material for their work, to co-operate with the teacher in the rural school in developing the children's reasoning power by placing in their hands good, wholesome reading matter, thus guiding the children to the right sort of reading and creating in them the love for and the habit of reading good books. In fact, we aim to place within the reach of the citizens of every town in the State, no matter how small or how remote from the centers of civilization, one of our compact little traveling library boxes, and ultimately to have more good books read per capita than in any other State in the Union.

If the citizens who have access to fine buildings, and to the wealth of books so freely distributed through the libraries in the cities, could see the desolation of some of the people not so blessed, and their eagerness to avail themselves of the slightest opportunity, the city people would appreciate far more the great privilege they have and be more ready to help those less fortunate. A well-known Denver woman told me that when she was living high up among our snow-clad peaks, that all the printed matter that she saw of any kind while in her mountain home was a few standard volumes brought from her eastern home. These were read and re-read until they were worn out—the only way of leaving the mine for the greater part of the year was on snow shoes. A little girl of 12 in one of our rural schools went into hysteria when given a fairy book, and was told that she might take it home to read. She said that she had never had a story book all her own to read before in her

life. Another woman wrote that until magazines and papers were sent them by the traveling library, she had not seen a paper for eighteen months. These are but a few of many cases that come to our notice. The same conditions exist out on the plains where the people living on the ranches are often 75 miles from a railroad.

TOWNS VISITED BY THE LIBRARIES.

The essential principle in the traveling library system is economy. We endeavor to get the best reading for the largest number at the least cost. After the boxes have been used for a given period by one community, they are sent back, checked over, put in good repair, and sent out for service in other fields, thus keeping interest alive at every point. Books which used to become a back number after a few readings are now worn out in actual service. Over two hundred towns in the State have been visited by traveling libraries. They are as follows:

No.	Town	County
1	Agullar	Las Animas County
2	Alcott	Denver County
3	Arvada	Jefferson County
4	Akron	Washington County
5	Arriba	Lincoln County
6	Agate	Elbert County
7	Anthracite	Gunnison County
8	Amity	Prowers County
9	Bovina	Lincoln County
10	Bonanza	Saguache County
11	Brighton	Adams County
12	Bland	Elbert County
13	Buffalo Springs	Park County
14	Buena Vista	Chaffee County
15	Balley	Park County
16	Brush	Morgan County
17	Bennet	Adams County
18	Broomfield	Jefferson County
19	Byers	Arapahoe County
20	Breckenridge	Summit County
21	Brookside	Fremont County
22	Berwind	Las Animas County
23	Crystal	Gunnison County
24	Conrad	Park County
25	Colona	Ouray County
26	Conifer	Jefferson County

No.	Town	County
27	Calhan	El Paso County
28	Chase	Park County
29	Cripple Creek	Teller County
30	Como	Park County
31	Cotopaxi	Fremont County
32	Canon City	Fremont County
33	Cardiff	Garfield County
34	Crested Butte	Gunnison County
35	Coal Basin	Pitkin County
36	Castle Rock	Douglas County
37	Del Norte	Rio Grande County
39	Dyke	Archuleta County
40	Daffodil	Douglas County
41	Dillon	Summit County
42	Dumont	Clear Creek County
43	Delta	Delta County
44	Edgewater	Jefferson County
45	Englewood	Denver County
46	Evans	Lake County
47	Engleville	Las Animas County
48	Eastonville	El Paso County
49	Elizabeth	Elbert County
50	Empire	Clear Creek County
51	Eagle	Eagle County
52	Eaton	Weld County
53	Eckhart	Delta County
54	Edlowe	Morgan County
55	Eldora	Boulder County
56	El Nura	Las Animas County
57	Florence	Fremont County
58	Fort Lupton	Weld County
58½	Fondis	Elbert County
59	Florissant	Park County
60	Fort Logan	Arapahoe County
62	Franktown	Douglas County
63	Gulch	Pitkin County
64	Glendale	Fremont County
65	Grover	Pueblo County
66	Garos	Park County
67	Granada	Prowers County
68	Gault	Weld County

No.	Town	County
69	Gardner	Huerfano County
70	Glenwood Springs	Garfield County
71	Grand Junction	Mesa County
72	Georgetown	Clear Creek County
73	Grant	Park County
74	Glacier	Gunnison County
75	Granite	Chaffee County
76	Golden	Jefferson County
77	Guffey	Park County
78	Harris	Adams County
79	Howville	Gunnison County
80	Harvey	Garfield County
81	Henry's Spur	Jefferson County
82	Haxtum	Phillips County
83	Holly	Prowers County
84	Hardin	Weld County
85	Highland Lake	Weld County
86	Hudson	Weld County
87	Howard	Fremont County
88	Hellrose	Morgan County
89	Henderson	Adams County
90	Holyoke	Phillips County
91	Hotchkiss	Delta County
92	Hammond	Park County
93	Harman	Denver County
94	Howbert	Park County
95	Jamestown	Boulder County
96	Johnstown	Weld County
97	Kokomo	Summit County
98	Kiowa	Elbert County
99	Littleton	Arapahoe County
100	La Salle	Weld County
101	La Jara	Conejos County
102	La Veta	Huerfano County
103	Lyons	Boulder County
104	Longmont	Boulder County
105	Livermore	Larimer County
106	Leadville	Lake County
107	Loveland	Larimer County
108	Lamar	Prowers County
109	Lawson	Clear Creek County

No.	Town	County
110	Louisville	Boulder County
111	Lafayette	Boulder County
112	Lake George	Park County
113	Las Animas	Bent County
114	Melvin	Arapahoe County
115	Maher	Montrose County
116	Morrison	Jefferson County
117	Maitland	Huerfano County
118	Masters	Weld County
119	Merino	Logan County
120	Minnequa	Pueblo County
121	Montrose	Montrose County
122	Manzanola	Otero County
123	Midway	
124	Mosca	Costilla County
125	New Windsor	Weld County
126	New Castle	Garfield County
127	Meeker	Rio Grande County
128	Otis	Washington County
129	Oversteg	Gunnison County
130	Orient	Saguache County
131	Ohio City	Gunnison County
132	Piceance	Rio Blanco County
133	Petersburg	Arapahoe County
134	Pinon	Montrose County
135	Powers	Bent County
136	Parker	Douglas County
137	Pagosa Junction	Archuleta County
138	Paonia	Delta County
139	Platteville	Weld County
140	Pine	Jefferson County
141	Pemberton	Douglas County
142	Pueblo	Pueblo County
143	Primero	Las Animas County
144	Parachute	Garfield County
145	Pitkin	Gunnison County
146	Quimby	Arapahoe County
147	Rye	Pueblo County
148	Roblnson	Summit County
149	Rouse	Huerfano County
150	Redstone	Pitkin County

No.	Town	County
151	Rand	Larimer County
152	Rockvale	Fremont County
153	Rocky Ford	Otero County
154	Rifle	Garfield County
155	Roggen	Weld County
156	Ridgway	Ouray County
157	Russell Gulch	Gilpin County
158	Semper	Jefferson County
159	Sedalia	Douglas County
160	Sterling	Logan County
161	Salida	Chaffee County
162	Silver Plume	Clear Creek County
163	Silverton	San Juan County
164	Steamboat Springs	Routt County
165	Segundo	Las Animas County
166	Starkville	Las Animas County
167	Smuggler	San Miguel County
168	Sopris	Garfield County
169	Stewart's Mesa	Delta County
170	Sulphur Springs	Grand County
171	Sugar Loaf	Boulder County
172	Seibert	Adams County
173	Texas Creek	Fremont County
174	Tin Cup	Gunnison County
175	Torres	Las Animas County
176	Turret	Chaffee County
177	Turret	Chaffee County
178	Undercliff	Pueblo County
179	Twin Lakes	Lake County
180	Victor	Teller County
181	Walden	Larimer County
182	Wagon Creek	Costilla County
183	Winfield	Chaffee County
184	West Creek	Douglas County
185	Wanamaker	Jefferson County
186	Watkins	Adams County
187	Walsenburg	Huerfano County
188	Westcliffe	Custer County
189	Yuma	Yuma County
190	Woodland Park	Teller County
191	Limon	Lincoln County

No.	Town	County
192	Springfield	Baca County
193	Monte Vista	Rio Grande County
194	Thurman	Washington County
195	Jefferson	Park County
196	Hoyt	Mesa County
197	Vilas	Baca County
198	Avon	Eagle County
199	Crawford	Delta County
200	Durango	La Plata County
201	Cascade	El Paso County
202	Peoria	Arapahoe County
203	Pinneo	Washington County
204	Ordway	Otero County

In addition to the towns visited, the following State institutions have been supplied with books:

State Industrial School for Boys.

State Industrial School for Girls.

State Reformatory.

State Home for Dependent Children.

The Detention School.

And The Soldiers' Home at Monte Vista.

ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF TRAVELING LIBRARIES IN COLORADO.

That wonder working branch of library extension known as the traveling library system, one of the products of the twentieth century, has during the last twelve years been made a part of the educational work in twenty-two States through the efforts of the different State Federations of Women's Clubs. It is as yet largely a potential force, but is working toward the development of a national institution as distinctive and influential as our common school system, and is destined to play as important a part among this century forces as those that make for the uplifting of American country life, such as mail delivery, good roads, telegraph and telephones.

We say American country life advisedly, for while as far as possible these little traveling library boxes are placed wherever there is a demand for them, the work is pre-eminently inaugurated for those removed from the centers of civilization. The farmers, the miners, the lumbermen, the railroad men, and above all, for the benefit of the children in the country schools. In no State is there greater need for this institution than in Colorado, with its youth, its magnificent distances, its widely scattered towns, and its large percentage of floating population. At the annual meeting of the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs held in Denver, October, 1899, the convention voted to

take up the traveling library work. The committee appointed realized that one of the problems of our State was the dearth of reading matter among its citizens. By the united efforts and hearty co-operation of those interested in library matters with the committee, a good start was made toward solving the problem. Impoverished and poorly equipped country libraries have been strengthened, new libraries have been started, reference and reading matter has been furnished to clubs far away from a good public library, and the children in forty of our rural school districts have been put in touch with good, wholesome reading matter, which tends to create a love for and the habit of reading good books. Nor have the boys and girls in the rural districts been the only beneficiaries of this new movement. It has opened a new world for many of the parents, carrying mental stimulus and enjoyment into their lives, as well as giving the children of these people opportunity for a wider, richer and more hopeful outlook upon life. From its inception the work grew so rapidly that it soon became too large for the Colorado Federation of Women's Clubs to carry on alone. At the close of the first year thirty-five boxes had been contributed and placed in circulation. By the end of the second year this number was doubled. To-day, although the work is only seven years old, we have in circulation 215 boxes, and except during the summer months, when the schools are closed, the demand for boxes has far exceeded the supply. Accordingly, a bill was introduced by Senator Hume Lewis of Pueblo, during the legislative session of 1903, which was a bill for an act for the establishment and maintenance of a system of free traveling libraries in the State of Colorado, and to appropriate money for the support of the same. This bill was passed by the Fourteenth General Assembly, was signed by the Governor April 13, 1903, and became a law July 1, 1903. As soon as the law went into effect the plant that had been accumulated by the women of the Federation, and which was valued at \$4,000, was formally turned over to the State.

The first boxes were named for the clubs contributing them, those that followed were named for the president or some member whom the club delighted to honor. A few boxes have been contributed by individuals, but a feature of the last four years' work has been the Memorial boxes named for some deceased relative or friend. What more beautiful tribute could one pay to the memory of the departed? These little libraries are not monuments of granite or stone, but living monuments that build character and continue to bring light and sunshine into the lives of those into whose hands these books fall. There are two classes of boxes with fifty books in each box—miscellaneous and juvenile. They contain works upon science, travel, biography, history, poetry, nature study, mythology and current fiction. Boxes may be retained six months, but can be returned whenever they have been read. Thus interest is kept

alive at every point, and books which used to become mere lumber after a few readings are now promptly worn out in actual service.

From the ninety juvenile boxes the best results may be hoped for. The teachers co-operate with the traveling library commission by sending suggestive lists of books, chosen with a view to their relation to the school work, as well as to the tastes and ages of the children generally, thus developing the reading habit along lines that provoke wholesome and well balanced thought, that lead into channels of truth and beauty.

The traveling library system has not been in operation long enough yet to form a basis of observation from which to deduct definite results, but when the children who within the last few years have been brought in touch with this system shall have reached maturity, a better estimate can be made of what the libraries are doing for the State. We do know that the ratio of readers is increasing far more rapidly than the number of libraries. In the first years of the work each book was read from one to three times. The present average is from five to seven times, with 215 boxes in circulation, as against thirty-five in 1900. Then, if you will take into consideration that we are only in touch with thirty out of the 1,700 school districts in the State, you will have an idea of the possibilities of the work. Undoubtedly no greater educational and, we might say, social protective measure was ever undertaken with such small means. This has been made possible only by the cheerful volunteer service of the club women. It is authoritatively stated that over half of the inmates of reformatories, jails and prisons are under twenty-five years of age, and that between the ages of ten and sixteen are the most important years for the care and formation of character. By common consent the supreme thing in education is the building of character. What more potent factor for the building of character in the young than the books they read? From these their ideas and their ideals are chiefly drawn. Books and magazines more readily than sermons and addresses set in motion the effective currents. Therefore, in spite of the short time that the traveling library system has been in operation, we feel that we are safe in saying that it will not be many years before the number of inmates in the public institutions will be lessened, as a direct result of this work, to such an extent that, aside from adding to the number of good and useful citizens, and considering the question from a financial standpoint only, the State will find that it has been a paying investment. The work has received the most enthusiastic endorsement from the people who have come in touch with it—ministers, teachers, editors, mine superintendents, postmasters, station agents, and clubs. We have many letters of appreciation and encouragement.

The library boxes reach all classes of patrons, those in small hamlets of mountain and plain, and the isolated school and

ranch houses, as well as the inmates of the State institutions. To each reader we endeavor, as far as is within our power, to give what, to him, is most valuable. Experience has proved that books are one medium through which knowledge may become as free as the air we breathe. In conclusion, may we ask the co-operation of the members of the Seventeenth General Assembly of the Colorado Legislature in fostering the little kernel that was planted January sixth, 1900, thereby helping it to expand into broad fields of grain that will in time furnish intellectual food to every person within the borders of our State? Certainly the result of your deliberations during the next ninety days are intended to educate the citizens of Colorado, and again we bespeak your interest and co-operation in the passage of the traveling library bill.

"What is education for? For the knowledge that makes life richer; for the friendship that makes life sweeter; for the training that gives powers for the task that is hard and high; for the wisdom that suffers and triumphs and is strong; for the vision that shall light our way like a pillar of fire; for the truth that shall make us free."

BOOKS ADDED.

New books purchased	700
Second-hand books	200
Contributed by New York Sunshine Society.....	80
Contributed by Mrs. W. S. Ament.....	50
Contributed by Hypatia Club of Boulder.....	50
Contributed by Mrs. James Cowie.....	25
Contributed by Christian Science Church.....	12
Contributed by Mrs. Crawford Campbell.....	50
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Total	1,167

The State Auditor has honored our vouchers to the full extent of the appropriation made at the last session of the Legislature—\$4,000—but the work is growing so rapidly, the expenses for replacing and rebinding books is increasing, boxes are wearing out, and the railroads, with the exception of the Santa Fe, have been compelled to withdraw their gift of free transportation, making this sum wholly inadequate to the carrying on of the work during the next two years. Therefore, the traveling library commission recommend that the next Legislature appropriate \$6,000 for the carrying on of the work during the next two years, \$3,000 for 1909, and \$3,000 for 1910, to become available as soon as the appropriation bill has been signed by the Governor.

Your commission further recommend that, owing to the difference of opinion of each succeeding Attorney General as to what class of appropriations the traveling library appropria-

tion belongs, it be classed in the same class with all other educational institutions. The Traveling Library Commission hope that your Excellency is convinced of the value of the work that they are carrying on, to the extent that you will be willing to endorse their recommendation and make mention of the work in your message.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The federation committee that will co-operate with the traveling library commission are as follows: Miss Carrie Cushing, Denver; Mrs. Katherine Thompson, Denver; Mrs. E. A. Sawyer, Colorado Springs; Mrs. Dexter T. Sapp, Gunnison.

Office of the commission, Room 10, Capitol building.

Regular meetings of the Traveling Library Commission will be held in January, April, July and October. Time and place of meeting to be decided upon by the president.

The commission take this opportunity to express their thanks to all who have co-operated with them in their work, especially to the W. P. Herrick Book Company and Pierce & Zahn for cut rates on books, and to the Santa Fe Railroad for free transportation, the only road granting this privilege now.

During the past year the United States Department of Forestry have furnished us with 250 copies of each of their recent publications. These have been placed in the traveling library boxes and have awakened a great deal of interest in the question of Forestry in our State. The commission take this opportunity to thank the Forestry Service for their aid and co-operation in the traveling library work.

AN URGENT REQUEST.

Will patrons of the traveling library bear in mind that, under all circumstances, boxes must be returned by "Freight?"

Address all boxes to Room 10, Capitol building, care of Colorado Traveling Library Commission.

