

TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY HISTORY

A collection of materials relating to the history and development of the Tacoma Public Library consisting of typewritten histories, lists, and appeals of Branches.

TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Collected by the Tacoma Public Library/
111

May 1966.

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August 3, 1921

Hist Div
Tacoma Public Lib

Library Development in Tacoma

In the month of May, 1841, two vessels, under the command of Captain Charles Wilkes, sailed up Puget Sound, around Point Defiance, through the Narrows, passed the bay where the town of Steilacoom now is, and anchored off the mouth of Sequelitchew Creek, where the Du Pont wharf is located. The shore lands in that immediate vicinity were occupied by the Hudson's Bay Co., and their settlement was known as "Fort Nisqually".

Wilkes and his men were in the employ of the United States Government and had come here to survey the waters of Puget Sound and explore the surrounding country. The party in small boats, began their survey of the Sound waters in the bay around which the city of Tacoma is now located, and because this was the starting point, they called it Commencement Bay. In the year 1852, Nicholas Delin and his associates erected a saw mill at the head of Commencement Bay, about where Puyallup Avenue crosses the creek.

In August 1853, Theodore Winthrop, in a canoe trip from Port Townsend to Nisqually, rounded Brown's Point and first beheld our mountain. At that time he pencilled in his book: "We had rounded a point, and opened Puyallup Bay, a breadth of sheltered calmness, when I was suddenly aware of a white shadow in the water. What cloud, piled massive on the horizon, could cast an image so sharp in outline, so full of vigorous detail of surface? No cloud, but a cloud compeller. It was a giant mountain dome of snow, swelling and seeming to fill the aerial spheres as its image displaced the blue deeps of tranquil water.... Mount Rainier Christians have dubbed it in stupid nomenclature.... More

melodiously the Siwashes call it Tacoma."

Winthrop was passing through this section getting material for a book, which was afterwards published under the title of "The Canoe and the Saddle". In that book the name "Tacoma" appeared in print the first time. December 25, 1864, Job Carr came to Commencement Bay and selected a land claim - the present site of old Tacoma. In April 1868, Gen. M. M. McCarver came to Commencement Bay looking for a town-site. He purchased a portion of Job Carr's claim, took a home-stead and employed Anthony, one of Job Carr's sons to erect a log cabin in the gulch where the stadium now is. Anthony Carr owned a land claim joining his father's. McCarver was busily engaged in shaping things for his new town which did not yet exist nor had it been named, though several names were under consideration, among them being Washington, Pierce, Puget, Pacific, Puyallup, Rainier, Vashon, Defiance, Chebaulis, Commencement, etc..

On Friday, September 11, 1868, Philip Ritz visited McCarver. He had recently read Winthrop's book, "The Canoe and the Saddle", and suggested the name "Tacoma", for the new town. Anthony Carr owned a copy of "The Canoe and the Saddle", which he loaned to General McCarver to read. That was the first book loaned here that I know of. "Commencement City" seemed to gain favor as a name for the new town when it should be established. General McCarver had a map made which bore that title. Anthony Carr, fearing the name "Tacoma" would be lost, hired an engineer, platted four blocks of his land and on Nov. 29, 1869, filed this plat, which he called "Tacoma", with the County Auditor at Steilacoom. This settled the name. We have at the Museum the old McCarver map with the name Commencement City scratched off, and the name Tacoma written below. In 1869 a saw-mill was built in Tacoma, which

was afterwards known as the "Old Tacoma Mill". in 1873, the Northern Pacific Railroad Company located their terminus on Commencement Bay and New Tacoma sprang into existence, and grew quite rapidly.

In 1881 the inhabitants of New Tacoma, feeling the need of books for the use of the public, did on the third day of May, draft and sign articles of Incorporation of "The New Tacoma Library Association", with a capital stock of \$5,000 divided in 1,000 shares at \$5.00 each.

These Incorporation papers were signed and sworn to on May 3, 1881 before Frank Clark, Notary Public for Pierce County, by J. W. Sprague, R.F. Radebaugh, W.H.Fife, A.J.Baker, Elwood Evans, J.S. Howell and C.D.Young. These seven men had been named trustees of the Association for the first year. Other names noted in the Incorporation papers, which were filed for record in the County Auditor's office on May 14, 1881 were T.C.Armstrong, C.S.Barlow, C.A.Cook, S.D.Baker, I.M.Howell, W.B.Blackwell, W.J.Fife, J.H.Wilt, Charles Halstead, Jas. Junett, H.C.Bostwick and H.C.Davis.

The By-laws of this ASSOCIATION provided that to be an officer of the Incorporation a person must be a share-holder and a resident of New Tacoma. Only a few books were accumulated for public use by this organization.

Quoting from Hunt's History of Tacoma, "What is now the Carnegie Library began at a sewing circle. Three women, of whom one was Mrs. Grace R. Moore were busy with their needles one afternoon and their subject as they talked was books, which were then scarce in Tacoma. They discussed plans for procuring more and finally concluded to form a circulating library. On May 5, 1886, about eighteen women met at the home of Mrs. Frank Clark, in response to the trio's call.

Mrs. Moore was made President: Miss Emma Unthank, Vice-President: Mrs. E.M.Hunt, Treasurer: Mrs. Hadley, Secretary. Among those who gave the little library their active support were Mrs. A.H.W.Raynor, Mrs. Wm. Frazier, Miss Fannie Paddock, Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. Van Ogle, Mrs. Richard Vaeth, Mrs. Samuel Wilkeson, Mrs. Wm. Misner and Mrs. Munson.

The women ordered paper bound volumes of standard works, and bound them in heavy paste-board with their own hands. The library was first in Mrs. Moore's home, then afterwards in Mr. Moore's law office; a charge of twenty-five cents was made to borrowers and ^{50?} cents to bachelors who might desire to use the Moore home as a reading room. Spelling matches, plays, lectures, paper flower festivals and various other activities were staged to enlarge the revenues. In time the association obtained 2,000 volumes. These were turned over to "The Public Library", a corporation which was organized in January 1889. The Incorporation papers were filed with the County Auditor on January fifteenth and with the Secretary of the Territory of Washington on the sixteenth. Life membership in this association would be secured on the payment of \$100. Annual membership cost \$12, one dollar each for every current month of the year. The articles of Incorporation of the Public Library provided that there should be seven trustees. The Mayor of the city should be one of the trustees and he should appoint two other members of the City Council.

The Mayor, Henry Drum, and two of the councilmen, J.H.Houghton, and H.M.Lillis became Trustees of the Library Association. At the meeting of the Association, held on the 24th of April 1889, there was read in the minutes a letter which had been written to the council as follows-

Tacoma, Washington.

December 1, 1889

"To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Tacoma.

Gentlemen:

There is a great need of a Public Library in Tacoma, maintained by the city to insure permanency.

In addition to the verbal agreement I have made in its behalf I desire to further encourage you to give it permanent support, by offering to contribute 2,000 volumes of new, well bound, standard library books to the Public Library of Tacoma, if the city will by ordinance provide for the permanent support of the Library in suitable rooms for literary and reading purposes, and if in addition to its maintenance you will appropriate not less than \$1,000 for purchase of books, I will give an additional 1,000 volumes.

Respectfully yours,

Walter J. Thomas".

The City Council did not comply with the request but did pass a resolution appropriating \$75 per month for the support of the Library. At this time the Library was occupying rooms in the Uhlman Building, on Rail-road Street between 9th and 11th, at a month rental of \$45. The rooms were not adequate to the needs of the society and a committee was instructed to look for a more suitable location.

At a meeting held on the 8th of May 1891, Mr. Thompson, then president of the Association announced that new quarters for the Library and Reading Rooms had been secured in the Ball Building on C Street at a rental of \$75 per month. At a meeting of the Library Trustees held on the 25th day of March 1892, it was announced that the city council had increased the monthly appropriation to \$250, to take effect in April next, and further that the city council had on the 19th day of March last, passed a resolution, "That the space

upon the fifth floor of the new City Hall, asked for by the Tacoma Public Library, the Tacoma Museum and the Academy of Science, be granted them for their use without cost." This carried free janitor service, free light and free heat. Being thus encouraged the Library Trustees elected William Curtis Taylor, Librarian, at the stipulated salary of \$75 per month. The new City Hall, under construction at this time, was finally completed and accepted on April 26, 1893. The Library at once moved into the fifth floor, where they fitted up splendid rooms with good light.

The New Tacoma Library Association that had been organized in 1881, The Women's Library Society, that had organized at Mrs. Clark's residence in May 1886, and the Public Library which had been incorporated in January 1889, were now all combined under the City Hall roof, and in January 1894, the city received the property and control from the library company and it became "The City Library of Tacoma", and a committee of three members of the council was charged with direction.

From a report of Librarian Taylor, rendered to the City Council in September 1894, we learn that there were on the shelves at that date 3,544 books, bound and unbound. That the loans for the twelve months had been 27,940 volumes. The children of the city patronized the Library in those days as is shown by the report that 4,496 of the loans were juvenile.

During the years that the Library had been passing through its formative period, there came to Tacoma, an educated man of ability, keen-sighted, sharp-witted, generous, with civic pride and love for fellow man.

Allen Chase Mason was born at Polo, in Ogle County, Illinois, December 22, 1855, of a family which traces its ancestry to the Mayflower period. He was an energetic lad. At the age of thirteen he

was the owner of a poultry farm in his native state. By picking berries and working at other odd jobs he earned money enough to obtain a common school education and to continue his studies at the State Normal School, and the Illinois Wesleyan University, where he was graduated with B.S. degree in 1875.

From tutoring in his college days to earn his expenses, he went on to teaching after graduation. In addition to writing text-books while he taught, he studied law, and was admitted to the bar. His health became impaired and he determined to go West. About this time he saw an article in the Chicago Times, picturing the opportunities and advantages of Tacoma. Through correspondence, he satisfied himself that this was a good place to cast his lot. On the 26th day of May 1883, Allen C. Mason and his family disembarked from the old side-wheeled steamer, Dakota, at the Tacoma dock. After getting settled in a rented house, he had just \$2.85 in his pocket. In less than ten years he was rated a millionaire. The history of the growth of Tacoma for those years is largely a recital of the personal achievements of Allen C. Mason. He promoted and built street car lines and rail-roads, established water-works, gas and electric plants, platted additions to the city, published a newspaper, built a mansion in the North end for a home, and near it he erected the first Library Building in Tacoma on lots 10-13, Block 3, Wingard's addition. At the contract price of \$10,000, Herbert Hunt's History of Tacoma says that Mr. Mason gave his check for the entire cost of the library building before a stick of timber had been laid or a shovel of earth turned. He bought about six thousand books for the library, equipped it with comfortable chairs and invited the people of the city to use it.

In the Tacoma Ledger of January 1, 1893 we read, "Allen C. Mason will this morning throw open to the public his gift to the

Handwritten notes:
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Mason
Library

citizens of Tacoma, the Mason Free Public Library. The gift is one of the most munificent in the history of the Northwest. xxx It consists of a piece of land 132 x 100 feet in area upon which has been erected a handsome semi-colonial structure, 70 x 120 feet over all in area, and two stories high. The building is surrounded with a veranda, and on either story and at the apex of the roof is an observatory, affording excellent opportunity to the visitor for viewing the beauties of the scenery which forms a panorama measured only by the extent of the horizon. The lower story has been devoted to a lecture hall which is a model of convenience. It has a corridor at the door-way, into which the window of a ticket office and a cloak room look, from it doors lead to wash-rooms and so on, which are to be used by the patrons of the Library.

The Auditorium is furnished with comfortable ash chairs, and has a seating capacity of between 400 and 500. x x x

The Library proper occupies the entire second story, one end is railed off for the Librarian's desk; inside of it the books of especial value are kept. x x x

Outside the rail is the main part of the library. The space is well filled with large tables, on which are magazines and a copy of every paper published in the State of Washington. Around the tables are chairs, the most comfortable obtainable at a reasonable expenditure of money - all large sized rockers of Eastern makes and of parlor styles. A speciality is made of state papers, representative weeklies from all the principal cities of the Union, magazines and other periodicals in the English tongue. x x x The books of especial value will be loaned for use in the building on receipt of written promise to return them before leaving the building. x x x Mr. Mason said in regard to the location of the library: "It has been very

generally criticized as being too far away from the business center. In bringing it out here I have insured for it a marine view from every one of its windows. It is roomy, airy, and the views from it are so magnificent I think that reading done with such surroundings must be of more value to one than if done under the dispiriting influence of a stuffy, noisy, down town street."

About 500 persons attended the dedication of the library, and all listened with much interest to the address given by Mr. Mason on the subject, "What constitutes a good education". It would pay each and every one of you to read that address. It was printed in full, January 2, 1893, in the Tacoma Daily Ledger.

In closing, Mr. Mason said, "Without formality, I hereby dedicate this building to the entertainment and instruction of the public. The Library room commands a view of the grandest mountain and marine scenery on earth. It has been and is my hope, that the Mason Library in the future, be an inspiration in this community to higher thoughts and nobler deeds."

On June 3, 1893, The Mason Library was incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000. Allen C. Mason, Libbie L. Mason, and A. E. Lawrence being the incorporators.

The rooms were kept open at Mr. Mason's expense for the benefit of the public, poor and rich alike, until the first day of November, 1898. From the City Council records we take the following:

"Resolution.

By Hartman.

Whereas, the Mason Library Inc. by its President Allen C. Mason has this 29th day of September, 1898, executed a warranty deed of the Mason Library building and the grounds upon which it is located and also a bill of sale for the personal property belonging thereto,

embracing a complete library of nearly 6,000 choice and valuable books, to the City of Tacoma, and

Whereas, the said deed and bill of sale are now before this council for acceptance therefore be it

Resolved, that on behalf of the City of Tacoma, the gift so generously made to the citizens of this city is hereby formally accepted and this valuable property is hereby made a part of the Public Library of Tacoma to be known as the Mason Library Branch.

Resolved, That the City Council, on behalf of Tacoma, tender to the members of the Mason Library Company, an expression of Appreciation of their noble gift, which becomes a part of the foundation of the great Library which Tacoma aspires to build, and we most heartily voice the thanks of the community to the generous donors.

Sept. 29, 1898.

Adopted unanimously.

L.W.Roys, Clerk. "

The city kept the Mason Library Branch open to the public a little more than one year, when it with other Mason property was presented to Whitworth College, by the city. Whitworth College flourished for a few years but finally left Tacoma, and located in Spokane. The Library was dismantled and the building torn down. Now there remains but a spot of ground upon which the Woman's Club of Tacoma propose to erect a monument to the memory of the first Library Building in Tacoma.

FEB 1963

FILE T. Libraries OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY Public

TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY.
General Services Department
Tacoma 5, Wash.

Trustees organize and adopt plans to raise money.

Work with the common schools.

The institution will be made a credit to the City.

New location.

The board of trustees of the Tacoma Public Library association met and organized yesterday afternoon. The board is now composed of W.J. Thompson, Mrs. Grace R. Moore, John Mayo Palmer, C.A. Snowden, Mayor Kandle, H.C. Clement and H.H. Warner. On organization Mr. Thompson was made president, John Mayo Palmer treasurer, and H.H. Warner secretary. A number of projects for the benefit of the library were proposed and adopted. C.A. Snowden was requested to work up a series of home lectures, the proceeds of which should be used to buy good books for the Tacoma reading public. Mrs. Moore was requested to report upon the feasibility of an art loan exhibition for the same purpose.

Superintendent Gault of the public schools submitted the following communication:

TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF TACOMA: I desire to call your attention to a few suggestions bearing on the public library and the public schools. It is generally conceded that the public library is an essential element in popular education. Just how it may be made a close and princely ally of the public schools may not be so manifest. A few general statements are quite axiomatic.

- First -- The public library contributes largely to the intellectual life of city.
- Second -- The popular appreciation of public libraries has made them a public necessity.
- Third -- The influence of the public library extends through and beyond the sphere of the schools.
- Fourth -- The reading habit, when properly gratified, gives every youth the opportunities for a liberal education, whatever the lack of educational advantages.
- Fifth -- A collection of good books is a university for our youth. Naturally follows the proposition I wish to place suggestively before you, viz: The public library cannot better fulfill its true function than by adjusting its work and cope to the needs of the school youth of the city.

What the schools are doing and may do to make the public library an essential necessity:

First -- A glance at our course of study will disclose the fact that we make reading very prominent in our schools as a branch of study. We seek all the possible values in the part of the course. We seek to enlarge the ability to read and to extend the lines of reading in the schools by our admirable course in supplementary reading. We try to develop the reading habit among our youth, to awaken a taste for literature, as well as to create the ability to read. Further than this we are endeavoring to guide in proper channels the home reading of our pupils. This little leaflet inclosed will indicate something of the effort we are making in this direction. I may add that so far as we know this leaflet idea is original with us. Already the plan is bearing fruit. Parents and children ask our teachers for suitable reading matter for certain ages and capabilities.

Second -- The character of our work in geography and history in our grammar schools makes the use of reference books and collateral reading indispensable to the highest results. In the high school work a well developed library will be more and more a necessity as our course of instruction is extended, and the departments of science, history, literature, civics, manual training, etc., are developed more full.

What the public library may do for itself and the schools:

First -- It should have a "school day" -- a particular time designated in rules for the school children to call for books.

Second -- Buy books designated by the school authorities as suitable and desirable, and graded somewhat as the leaflet suggests.

Third -- Buy these designated books in such quantities as will meet the demand for such books.

Fourth -- Issue a classified catalogue of the "school department" for distribution throughout the schools.

Fifth -- In every possible way establish intimate relations between the library and the schools and in ways not now apparent, but which will suggest themselves as we think and experiment on this line.

The school department stands ready to assist this important enterprise by all means within its power and will promise a large and increasing patronage whenever we can send the children to the library for that which we need. Respectfully submitted,

F.B. Gault,
City Superintendent of Schools.

The ideas of the superintendent were considered good by the trustees and his plan will be adopted.

SOURCE: Tacoma Daily Ledger, Tuesday, February 3, 1891, page 6.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OCT 5 1951

Tacoma, Wash.

Mrs. M. H. ...
Anna ...
Mrs. ...
Anthony ...
Charlotte ...
Charlotte H. Young
Marion ...

North ...
South ...
Susan ...
Jane ...
Edith ...
Abel ...
Oliver ...
Bertha ...
Alfred ...
Oliver ...

Mrs. ...
Rev. ...
Janie ...
Baroness ...
Fanny ...
Frances ...
Mrs. ...
Marion ...
Law ...
Law ...
Miss ...
Mary ...
George ...
George ...

W. H. ...
H. H. ...

THE FIRST
CIRCULATING LIBRARY
OF TACOMA

Handwritten notes: original in New R017.1, D, typewritten copy R 66, 40

Anderson's Fairy Tales
The Sailer Boy
The Dog Graces
The Improved House Wife
Robinson Crusoe

- Bad Boys' Diary.
- Sea Queen A
- My Ducats and My Daughter
- Matthew Arnold's Poems.
- Wizard's Son The
- Shadow of a Sin, The
- Queen Victoria's Journal
- Young Mrs. Jardine
- Shandon Belle
- Sir Moses Montefiore
- George Eliot's Life. Vol I.
- George Eliot's Life. Vol II
- George Eliot's Life. Vol III
- American Notes
- It was a Lover and His Lass
- Life of James A. Garfield
- Princess Alice's Letters
- Lady Jane
- Fedora
- John Halifax
- An Autobiography
- Jane Eyre
- The Three Brides
- Wedded and Parted
- Miss Tommy
- Lady Clare
- The Marble Faun. Vol. I
- The Marble Faun. Vol. II
- A Manual of English Literature
- Free Prisoners
- The Boy Inventor
- Stories of Henry and Henrieta
- Cringle and Cross-Tree
- Ben, the Luggage Boy
- The Forest, The Jungle, etc.
- Young America Abroad
- The Watchman
- The Old Homestead
- Records of a Good Man's Life
- Jennie Juneana
- The Peasant and His Landlord
- Fern Leaces
- The Story of Ida
- Old Lady Mary
- House Keeping and Home Making
- Random Shots
- Elbow Room
- File no 113
- The arundel Motto
- Middlemarch. Vol I
- Middlemarch. Vol II
- Romola, Vol. I and II
- Pendennis, Vol. I
- Pendennis, Vol. II

- Russell
- Arnold
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Berth Clay
- Dinah Maria Craik
- William Elack
- Lucien Wolf
- J. W. Cross
- J. W. Cross
- J. W. Cross
- Charles Dickens
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Edward Kirke
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Adolph Bilot
- Miss Mulock
- Anthony Trollope
- Charlotte Bronte
- Charlotte M. Yonge
- Bertha Clay
- Miss Mulock
- Hawthorne
- Hawthorne
- Thomas Arnold
- Jane W. Bruner
- Mathew Edwards
- Abel Dufresne
- Oliver Optic
- Horatio Alger jr.
- Alfred Elliot
- Oliver Optic
- Mrs. Ann S. Stephens
- Rev. Chas. B. Tayler
- Jennie June
- Baroness Knovring
- Fanny Fern
- Francesca
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Marion Harland
- Max Adeler
- Max Adeler
- Emile Gaborian
- Mary Cecil Hay
- George Eliot
- George Eliot
- W. M. Thackery
- W. M. Thackery

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OCT 5 1951

Tacoma, Wash.

- Andersons Fairy Tales
- The Sailor Boy
- The Dog Crusoe
- The Improved House Wife
- Robinson Crusoe.
- Boy's Life Aboard Ship.
- Christmas Roses.
- Sense and Sensibility
- Off to Sea
- The Story of The Guard
- Eothen
- Christie Johnson
- Ruth Hall
- Mexico
- The Hecuba of Euripides
- Lorna Doone
- Monsieur Lecog, Vol. I
- Monsieur Lecog, Vol. II
- The Gates Ajar
- Beyond the Gates
- Byron's Poetical Works
- John Bull and His Island
- Deldee, or The Iron Hand
- In Durance Vile
- Miss Brown
- Ride to Khiva
- Russians at the Gates of Herat
- Modern Painters, Vol. III
- Book of Snobs
- Mildred Trevanion
- The Rebel General's Loyal Bride
- Wanda
- Monarch of Mincing Lane
- The Giants Robe
- The Sun Maid
- Sunshine and Roses
- Mystery of Orcival
- Judith Shakespeare
- Millbank
- Robinson Playfellow
- Biographical Sketch of Daniel Defoe
- Which Shall It Be
- Self Help (loaned)
- Workdays of God (loaned)
- Louis Napoleon
- By the Gales of The Sea
- Sir Thomas Upmore
- The Beautiful Wretch
- The Executor
- The Marquis of Lossie
- With Costs
- Doris
- Margaret Fuller
- Terribly Tempted
- Called Back
- Caesar
- On the Heights
- Sonia

Hans Cristian A.
 Oliver Optic
 R. M. Ballantyne
 Mrs. A. L. Webster

Miss Austen
 W. H. G. Kingston
 Jessie Benton Fremont
 George William Curtis
 Charles Reade
 Fanny Fern
 Robert A. Wilson

R. D. Blackmore
 Emile Gaboriau
 Emile Gaborian
 Elizabeth Stuart Phelps
 Elizabeth Stuart Phelps

Max O'Rell
 F. Warden
 The Duchess
 Vernon Lee
 Fred Burnaby
 Chas. Marvin
 John Ruskin
 Thackery
 The Duchess
 Anonymous
 Ouida
 Black
 F. Anstey
 Miss Grant
 Bertha Clay
 Emile Gaboriau
 Black
 March J. Holmes

Mrs. Alexander
 Samuel Smiles
 Herbert W. Morris
 Henry W. DePuy
 D. C. Murray
 R. D. Blackmore
 William Black
 Mrs. Alexander
 George MacDonald
 Mrs. Newman
 The Dutchess
 Julia Ward Howe
 Annabel Grey
 Hugh Conway
 James A. Froude
 Berthold Auerbach
 Henri Greville

- 3. Memories of Mdm De Remusat, Vol. I
- 4. " " " " Vol. II
- 5. " " " " Vol. III
- 6. Dark Days
- 7. The House on The Marsh
- 8. In Duranee Vile - Other Stories
- 9. The Crime of Christmas Day
- 10. Boy's Own Book, The
- 11. Obiter Dicta
- 12. Dombey and Son. Vol. I
- 13. Dombey and Son. Vol. II
- 14. Fatal Boots
- 15. Rossmoyne
- 16. The Moonstone
- 17. Hard Times
- 18. Education
- 19. Great Thoughts from Greek Authors
- 20. Luther's Table Talk
- 1. Beauty's Daughters
- 2. Life of Washington
- 3. Night and Morning
- 4. The Second Wife
- 5. A Voyage in the Sunbeam
- 6. Mrs. Geoffrey
- 7. Macaria
- 8. Vice Versa
- 9. Ivanhoe
- 10. Vanity Fair
- 1. Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers
- 2. Paul Faber
- 3. From the Earth to the Moon
- 4. The Virginians
- 5. Frankenstein
- 6. A Rose in June
- 7. Eugenia Grandet
- 8. Put to the Test
- 9. Sir Tom
- 10. My Novel
- 1. A History of our own Times
- 2. Fellow Townsmen
- 3. Two Novelettes
- 4. Vixen
- 5. Only a Clod
- 6. The Rebel of the Family
- 7. The Commander of Malta
- 8. James Nasmyth
- 9. Sonia
- 10. Laodicean, A
- 11. Bound to John Company
- 2. The Sisters
- 3. Life of Christ
- 4. Leaves from the Book of Nature
- 5. Moods
- 6. Underground Russia
- 7. Archibald Malmaison
- 8. Russia under the Tzars
- 9. Chinese Gordon

- Hugh Conway
- The Duchess
- W. H. G. Kingston
- Chas. Dickens
- Chas. Dickens
- W. M. Thackeray
- The Duchesse
- Wilkie Collins
- Chas. Dickens
- Herbert Spencer
- Dr. Maculay
- William Thayer
- Bulwer Lytton
- E. Marlitt
- Mrs. Brassy
- The Duchess
- Augusta Evans
- F. Anstey
- Sir Walter Scott
- Wm. Thackeray
- Aytoun
- Geo. MacDonald
- Jules Verne
- W. M. Thackeray
- Mary W. Shelly
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Honore de Balzac
- Miss M. E. Braddon
- Mrs. Oliphant
- Bulwer Lytton
- Justin McCarthy
- Thomas Hardy
- J. H. Shorthouse
- Miss Braddon
- Miss Braddon
- E. Lynn Lytton
- Eugene Sue
- An Autobiography
- Henry Greville
- Thomas Hardy
- Miss Braddon
- George Ebers
- Fleetwood
- DeVere
- Louise M. Alcott
- Stepniak
- Julian Hawthorne
- Stepniak
- Archibald Forbes

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|----|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0. | Court of the Tuileries | Lady Jackson |
| 1. | Frederick the Second | Duc de Broglie |
| 2. | Peck's Bad Boy | Geo. W. Peck |
| 3. | Moss side | Marion Harland |
| 4. | Thaddens of Warsaw | Jane Porter |
| 5. | The Heart of Mid Lothian | Sir Walter Scott |
| 6. | The Parlor Car | W. D. Howells |
| 7. | The Sleeping Car | W. D. Howells |
| 8. | Olive Blake's Gook Work | John Cordy Jeaffreson |
| 9. | Last Days of Pompeii | Edward Bulwer Lytton |
| 0. | Kenilworth | Sir Walter Scott |
| 1. | Adam Bede | George Eliot |
| 2. | The Arabian Nights | Oliver V. Boissac |
| 3. | Notre-Dame | Victor Hugo |
| 4. | Les Miserables | Victor Hugo |
| 5. | Ben Hur | Gen Lew Wallace |
| 6. | Ramona | Helen Hunt Jackson |
| 7. | Arthur Bonnicastle | J. G. Holland |
| 8. | Mr. Isaacs | Marion Crawford |
| 9. | The Scarlet Letter | Nathaniel Hawthorne |
| 0. | Anne | Constance L. Woolson |
| 1. | Fuck | Ouida |
| 2. | Phyllis | The Duchess |
| 3. | Under Two Flags | Ouida |
| 4. | The Leavenworth Case | Anna Katherine Green |
| | Famous Women Series -- | |
| 5. | George Sand | J. Fawcett Cooper |
| 6. | Margaret Fuller | |
| 7. | Mary Lamb | |
| 8. | George Eliot | |
| 9. | Emily Bronte | |
| 0. | Elizabeth Fry | |
| 1. | Harriet Martineau | |
| 2. | The Admiral's Ward | Mrs. Alexander |
| 3. | The Shadow of a Crime | Hall Caine |
| 4. | Daniel Deronda | George Eliot |
| 5. | California as it is. | |
| 6. | Aureola, or The Black Sheep | Mrs. A. Shelton McKensie |
| 7. | The Phantom Ship | Capt. Marryat |
| 8. | Poems of the Intellect and Affections | Browning and Hemans |
| 9. | History of American Odd Fellowship | |
| 0. | Curiosities of the Law Reporters | Franklin Fiske Heard |
| 1. | Sacred Gems from English Poets | Chancer to Tennyson |
| 2. | Life of Goldsmith | Washington Irving |
| 3. | Life in the Open Air | Theodore Winthrop |
| 4. | John Brent | Theodore Winthrop |
| 5. | No Thoroughfare | Chas. Dickens |
| 6. | Eastern Sketches | W. M. Thackeray |
| 7. | Dora Thorne | Bertha M. Clay |
| 8. | A Great Mistake | |
| 9. | Cecil's Book of Birds | Selim H. Peabody |
| 0. | Zanoni | Lord Lytton |
| 1. | Hyperion | Henry W. Longfellow |
| 2. | Uncle Tom's Cabin | Harriet Beecher Stowe |
| 3. | Pascarel | Ouida |
| 4. | Room at the Top | A. Craig |
| | House and Temperance | |

- 5. Going to Jericho
- 6. History of English Literature
- 7. Gulliver Travels
- 8. Mill on the Floss
- 9. Joseph Wilmot, Vol. I
- 0. Joseph Wilmot, Vol. II
- 1. Joseph Wilmot, Vol. III
- 2. Trumps
- 3. The Amber Gods
- 4. The Carlyle Anthology
- 5. Tempest and Sunshine
- 6. The Poet at the Breakfast Table
- 7. The Autocrat at the Breakfast Table
- 8. The Greek Corsair
- 9. Sebastian Strome
- 0. David Armstrong
- 1. A Young Wife's Story
- 2. My Bonnie Lass
- 3. Our Saturday Nights
- 4. Castle Dangerous
- 5. Moths
- 6. Epic of the Starry Heavens
- 7. Count Robert of Paris
- 8. Pelham
- 9. The Adverntures of Verdant Green
- 0. A Vagrant Wife
- 1. Home or the Unlost Paradise
- 2. Home as Found
- 3. Stories by American Authors, Vol. I
- 4. Stories by American Authors, Vol. II
- 5. Stories by American Authors, Vol. III
- 6. Stories by American Authors, Vol. IV
- 7. Stories by American Authors, Vol V
- 8. The Moonstone
- 9. Our Christmas in a Palace
- 0. A Broken Wedding Ring
- 1. Number One, and How to Take Care of Him
- 2. Faust and the Demon Vol I
- 3. Faust and the Demon Vol II
- 4. Christmas in Narragansett
- 5. Signs
- 6. History of England
- 7. History of Greece
- 8. Outre-Mer.
- 9. Reminiscences of Glass Making
- 0. Caxston's Book
- 1. The Clique of Gold
- 2. Terse Talk on Timely Topics
- 3. The Buyers Manuel of San Francisco
- 4. The Odd Fellows Text Book
- 5. The Pentralia
- 6. The Hidden Sin
- 7. Thomas Carlyle
- 8. Boy's Own Book
- 9. Sazerac Lying Club
- 0. Lady Lovelace
- 1. Woman and Temperance
- 2. The Family Library, Part 1st

- John F. Swift
- Thomas Arnold
- Lemuel Gulliver
- George Eliot
- George W. M. Reynolds
- George W. M. Reynolds
- George W. M. Reynolds
- Geo. W. Curtis
- Harriet Prescott
- Edward Barrett
- Mary J. Holmes
- Oliver W. Holmes
- Oliver W. Holmes
- George W. M. Reynolds
- Julian Hawthorne

- Harriett Brown
- Mrs. C. V. Hamilton
- Mark M. Pomeroy
- Sir Walter Scott
- Ouida
- Thomas L. Harris
- Sir Walter Scott
- Bulwer Lytton
- Cuthberd Bede
- Florence Warden
- Ray Palmer
- J. Fennimore Cooper

- Wilkie Collins
- Edward Everett Hale
- Bertha M. Clay
- Jos. J. Pope
- Geo. W. M. Reynolds
- Geo. W. M. Reynolds
- Edward Everett Hale
- Ouida
- Dr. Goldsmith
- Dr. Goldsmith
- Henry W. Longfellow

- W. H. Rhodes
- Emilie Gaborian
- Henry Varley

- Paschal Donaldson
- Andrew Jackson Davis

- Anthony Froude

- Fred Hart
- C. J. Pirkis
- Florence E. Willard

An Odd Couple
Basil
Andre de Traverney
Materialism
John Ploughman's Talk
Barriers Burned Away
Libbie Marsh's Three Eras
Spiritualism
Tancred, or the New Crusade
Romance of California Life
Present Conflict of Science with Religion
History of American Odd Fellowship
The Gun and its Developments
Thirty Years in the U. S. Senate
Boots and Saddles
Little Women
Souvenirs of Some Continents
Ralph Wilton's Wierd
The Old Manselle's Secret
Banned and Blessed
Guy Livingston
Armada
The Last of the Mohicans
The Pathfinder
Katerfelto
The Queen's Maries
Donal Grant
Elinor Dryden
Venus's Doves
Jenifer
From the Wings
To the Bitter End
Endymion
The Woman in White
Winifred Power
Lucy Crofton
Book of Tableaux
The Scottish Chiefs Vol. I
The Scottish Chiefs Vol. II
Jessamine
Chronicles of the Schonberg-Cotta Family
Winifred Bertram
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. I
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. IV
Chamer's Miscellany, Vol. V
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. VI
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. VII
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. VIII
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. IX
Chamber's Miscellany, Vol. X
The Golden Shaft
Nat Foster, The Boston Detective
Lady Audley's Secret
The Hermits
A Bride from the Sea
A Wilful Step-Daughter
Hope Meredith
The Family Library, Part 1st

Mrs. Oliphant
Wilkie Collins
Alexander Dumas
Giles B. Stebbins
Spurgeon
E. P. Roe
Mrs. Gaskell
Edmunds and Dexter
Benjamin Disraeli
John Habberton
H. W. Morris
Ridgely
W. W. Greener
Thomas H. Benton
Mrs. Custer
Louise M. Alcott
Archibald Forbes
Mrs. Alexander
E. Marlitt
E. Marlitt
Lawrence
Wilkie Collins
J. Fennimore Cooper
J. Fennimore Cooper
Melville Whyte
Melville Whyte
George McDonald
Katherine S. Macquoid
Ida A. Taylor
Annie Thomas
B. H. Buxton
M. E. Braddon
Benjamin Disraeli
Wilkie Collins
Joyce Darrell
Mrs. Oliphant
Sarah Annie Frost
Jane Porter
Jane Porter
Marion Harland

Charles Gibbon
Harry Rockwood
Miss M. E. Braddon
Rev. Chas. Kingsley
Bertha M Clay

Eliza Tabor

The Family Library, Part 2nd

The Family Library, Part 3rd

Barbara's Lovers

Cut by the County

Louisa, Vol. I

Louisa, Vol. II

The Lady's Mile

A Strange World

Mount Royal

For Lillias

Only a Woman

Victory Deane

The Waif of the Storm

Asphodel

Through Asiatic Turkey

A Few Months in New Guinea

The Zulus and The British Frontier

The Heart of Holland

The Doctor's Wife

Sport and Work on the Nepaul Frontier

Journal of the Plague in London

The Story of the Christians and Moors of Spain

His Wedded Wife

The Commentaries of Caesar

Pearls of the faith

The Cricket on the Hearth

The Ancient Mariner

Rip Van Winkle

Life of George Muller

Peter Cooper

The Mud-King's Daughter

The Ugly Duck

Christian Series, No. 1

Clara Percy

M. E. Braddon

Katherine S. Macquoid

Katherine S. Macquoid

M. E. Braddon

M. E. Braddon

M. E. Braddon

Rosa Manchette Carey

M. E. Braddon

Cecil Griffith

Annie A. Gibbs

M. E. Braddon

Grattan Geary

Octavius C. Stone

Thomas J. Lucas

Henry Havard

M. E. Braddon

Maori

Daniel Defoe

Charlotte M. Yonge

Anthony Trollope

Edwin Arnold

Charles Dickens

S. T. Coleridge

Washington Irving

Mrs. Muller

C. Edwards Lester

Hans C. Andersen

Hans C. Anderson

The Century — Vols. XV to XXVIII

Salaries	121,000.00
Books	10,000.00
Periodicals	1,500.00
Maintenance and Fuel	8,000.00

The library is supported by the city, receiving a tax rate of 1.5¢ mill. Total amount received is approximately \$25,000.00 (1917) per annum. Funds are returned to the city.

In 1917 the expenditures were as follows:

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T. Librarian

The Tacoma Public Library, the largest one in Pierce County, was founded in 1886 by Mrs. G. Moore and run on a subscription basis. It was transferred to the city in 1894 and housed in the Old City Hall before being moved to its present quarters in 1903. The site of the present building was donated, the building itself erected at a cost of \$75,000.00 with money obtained from the Carnegie Foundation.

At the time of writing (1938) the building is no longer adequate. More room is needed for reading space and book shelves. Lighting is very poor, plumbing fair. Repairing would be impractical. A new building would be the only remedy.

The work of the departments is carried on in separate rooms.

It is located away from the present center of business, near two grade schools and about two miles south of one of the High Schools.

The Library is controlled by the City of Tacoma. The librarian is appointed by a board, whose members in turn are appointed by the mayor. The library board holds meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. The librarian is secretary of the board and as such is present at board meetings.

The library is supported by the city, receiving a tax rate of 1.51 mill. Total amount received is approximately \$83,648.00 (1937) per annum. Fines are returned to the city.

In 1937 the expenditures were as follows:

Salaries	\$52,663.09
Books	10,054.99
Periodicals	1,341.07
Maintenance and Rent	6,013.88

The trained personnel consists of a staff of twenty-five people including the librarian. The younger members received their training in an accredited Library School; some of the older members of the Staff by experience and library certificate from a school.

#2

According to 1937 statistics the total volumes in the library are 142,805 of which 44,133 are junior books. These are obtained mainly by purchase. Heads of departments turn in their requests to the Librarian, who has to OK them. The final approval comes from the Library Board. Most purchases are made through the Puget Sound News Agency. Occasional gifts come from Business clubs, manufacturing plants, and interested individuals. About 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of the stock is discarded during the year. Pay duplicate books are purchased from a revolving fund. The present size of this collection is 156 of which 90% are fiction. All rental titles are duplicates of titles already in library.

There are 455 current subscriptions in the periodical collection. Contents of the magazines may easily be found through Readers' Guide. Slightly more than one third of the periodicals are bound at the end of a year or whenever a volume is completed. Others are stored in the basement.

The library has accession records. The Catalog Department makes a shelf list and authority card for each new title, and subject author and file cards for the public catalog. Last inventory was taken in 1936.

In 1937 33.5% of the total population of the city was registered in the library. Of these 24,850 were adults, 10,900 junior and twenty-nine were non-residents. Non-resident fee per year amounts to \$2.00. A registration period is three years.

1937 Circulation figures were as follows: Adult: 204,925 volumes non-fiction, 243,200 volumes fiction; Junior: 321,838 volumes.

Books are not charged out unless a borrower shows his library card. The borrower's number is written on the book slip, and the dating slip in the back of the book is stamped with the date due. Eight books may be taken out at a time. Books go out for two weeks. A renewal is granted, except in the case of new fiction, which goes out for seven days only. Fines for overdue books are two cents per day per book. A fee of five cents is charged for reserves.

3

The Reference Department answers yearly about 14,800 questions. It makes numerous bibliographies on popular or difficult to find subjects. The following records are kept: Questions are counted monthly, telephone and others; a count is taken of pictures, pamphlets and clippings circulated; club bibliographies made; government documents checked in and new pictures added to the collection.

The Junior Department visits each school except high schools at least once a year, library lessons are given to the grade pupils from each school once a semester.

Patrons are occasionally referred to some other library if that library perhaps has a large collection of books in the field in which the patron is interested, e.g. Washington State Library for genealogy; University of Washington Library for scientific and technical requests. Books are occasionally borrowed on Interlibrary Loan, mostly from University of Washington Library, some from Seattle Public or Portland. Between 30-40 books a year are requested.

The library is open six days a week, twelve hours per day for reading and circulation. This schedule remains in effect throughout the year except for Sundays and holidays when it is closed.

Outside service of the library consists in preparation of reading lists for groups or individuals; book talks and reviews given by both the Junior and the Circulation Departments. A list of new books appears each week in a local newspaper, sometimes also a special article about the library.

March 1946. Tacoma - Libraries

FERN HILL LIBRARY

Five years ago Mrs. Ethel Mawson, teacher at Stewart High School headed a movement for the establishment of better library facilities in Tacoma. This included three branch libraries, one at Sixth Avenue, one at South Tacoma, and one at Fern Hill. All were to be financed by a special levy.

The levy did not pass but the Fern Hill Committee went ahead and acquired half an acre on the corner of 84th and Yakima, named it Byrd's Square after an early pioneer, and at the dedication gave the deed to the Tacoma Library Board. This is a fine building site with one-hundred and twenty feet on the State Historical Road No. 1, a branch of the old Naches Trail, and two-hundred and fifty feet on Yakima Avenue. As a promise to our 460 boys that went to war the flag has been flown from the great flagpole on the Square every day for four years.

Fern Hill needs a library for its fifteen-hundred children of school age and for its growing adult population. Some years ago the North End was presented a library by Charlotte McCormick. Later on Mr. Mottet gave McKinley Hill theirs. We have been wondering if some Citizen with heart and means would give Fern Hill its library as a memorial in this old Pioneer Community.

Nels Björke

trans

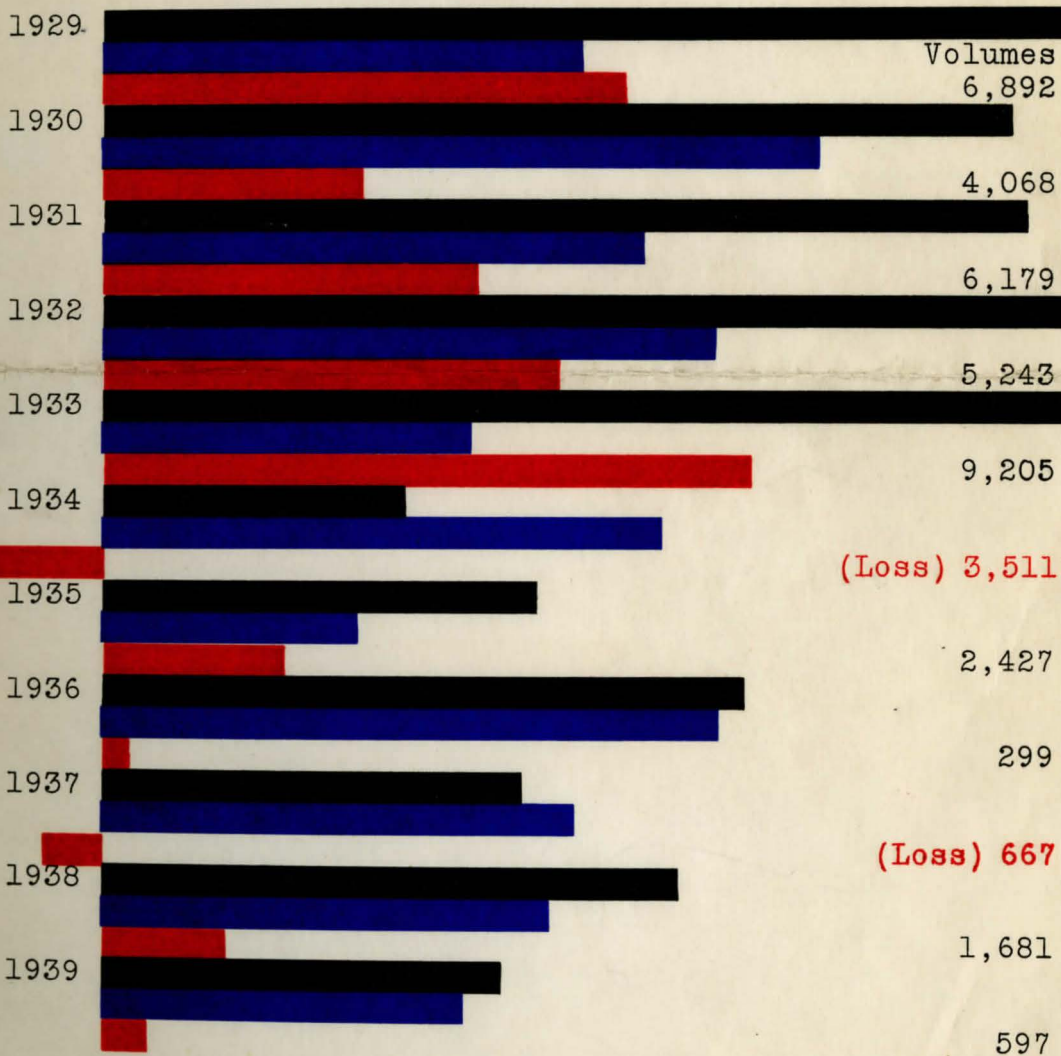
THE SOUTH SIDE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF TACOMA

submits the following graph as evidence of the serious depletion in the upkeep of libraries already established in the city. The continuation of the downward tendency is clearly shown. This makes expansion consistent with our growth and development as a progressive city impossible.

By way of comparison with other departments of the city, out of every dollar of revenue spent for the support of city government, last year, the entire public library system of Tacoma received less than one cent, or 4.7 tax tokens.

ANNUAL NET GAIN IN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS

1929-1939



Additions Withdrawals Net Gains

Average net gain, 1930-34, was 3,973 volumes a year.
Average net gain, 1935-39, was 861 volumes a year.

NOTE FOR 2-MILL LIBRARY LEVY