

## LIBRARY BOOK CIRCULATION IS INCREASING

Registration Growth Noted in 1929, Mrs. N. E. Thomas, Librarian, Reports

1,238 NEW READERS

A constantly growing circulation at the Baldwin Public Library, together with the larger registration inscribed every month, and the ever increasing number of books on the library shelves as shown in the library report for 1929 submitted by Mrs. Nancy Thomas, is testimony to the popularity enjoyed by the library, and suggestive of an even greater participation in library activities by Birmingham people in the future.

Total circulation at the library last year came to 82,648, as against the 64,526 of 1928. The juvenile circulation totalling 36,493 was the largest, followed closely by the 35,586 of adult fiction. Adult non-fiction accounted for 9,260, circulation and periodicals for 1,309.

New registrations, 1,238 in number, brought the total number in the register Dec. 31 up to 3,085. New books bought in 1929 came to 2,541, while those given to the library numbered 106. There were 630 books withdrawn during the year, which left 13,985 books in the library Dec. 31. Of the new books added, 300 were adult-fiction, 436, adult non-fiction, and 543, juvenile.

The Baldwin Public Library subscribes to 46 magazines. The current numbers are available for readers in the library all during the month, and the back numbers may be borrowed like books. The library has a collection of bound volumes of periodicals, as well as unbound ones which are useful for reference. By using the Readers' Guide, which is an index to articles appearing in the magazines, much material not easily obtainable in books can be found. The magazines subscribed to may be divided up under the heads of informational, literary, general interest, special interests, home magazines, and children's magazines.

An examination of the classification of the type of adult non-fiction called for at the library, said Mrs. Nancy Thomas, librarian, "shows that the people of Birmingham are interested in the cultural type of thing. In 1928, biography had the greatest circulation, but last year, it dropped to third place, being exceeded by both literature, with a circulation of 1,471, and fine arts, 1,471.

cluding garden books, with 1,887 circulation. "In the past year," continued Mrs. Thomas, "there has been a great development in the children's department, largely by reason of the establishment of two new school stations—at the Adams and Quanton schools, in addition to the one already maintained at the Pierce school. These are open only during the school months to children between the second and sixth grades, both inclusive. It provides a solution to the difficulties naturally encountered in a town where two main arteries of traffic divide it so that it is hard for children in different quarters to come to the library."

Many children, who receive books at the school stations, begin to get interested in them, and come to the library for the first time, according to Mrs. Thomas. The stations are maintained one afternoon a week at the Pierce and Quanton Schools, when Miss Gertrude Melody, of the library staff, lends books to children who come in for them. The school has no control over the school library, but co-operates. The children are sent to the room where the books are kept, one grade at a time, if they wish to go. The Adams school station is kept open all day, with Miss Melody and Miss Alice Hagelshaw in charge.

The school circulation cited below, does not include the books lent at these school stations. It applies only to school children

who have cards at the main library. The school circulation in 1929 was 12,519. The number of juvenile residents and non-resident registrations totalled 300. The new books added in 1929 included 513 juvenile books.

During the past year, there have been several changes in the library staff. Miss Jane Shephard and Miss Marjorie Porter who in the early part of the year were part-time assistants, left the former to work in the Art Library of Cranbrook school, and latter to attend the University of Wisconsin. Miss Margaret Huron, a senior in the Baldwin High School, has replaced them. A gain of over 18,000 in circulation necessitated the employment of a new full-time assistant. Late in November, Miss Alice Hagelshaw, of Union City, a graduate of the Library school at the University of Michigan in 1929, assumed the position.

Changes in the library board have also taken place during the year. Mrs. John H. Marlette, resigned because she was leaving town, and Mrs. Lawrence Thomas was chosen to take her place. At the Spring elections, Mr. Russell Gore and Mrs. Retta Barr were re-elected to the board.

**Tested and True**  
Mrs. Gray—Ah, Jenny, I wonder if my husband will love me when my hair is gray?  
Mrs. Black—Why not? He's loved you through three shades already.—Tit-Bits.

## COURSE IN SEED STUDY OFFERED

State College Presents Latest Research Data For Michigan Farmers

East Lansing, Jan. 15.—Michigan farmers who now have a national reputation as producers of excellent seed grains, will have a chance to pool their knowledge of the business and to learn the latest

research discoveries made at State College during the seed production and marketing short course given at the College, Jan. 27 to 31.

This is the second year that the course has been given. Last year's class included a group of 23 farmers who not only obtained the instruction given in the regular classes but were also able to compare notes on individual yield practices during the informal discussions held during the week.

The course as outlined starts with planning the farm itself and adapting it to the economic pro-

## WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Russell Moore, chief of the Bloomfield Hills Fire department: "I want to thank all those who offered their volunteer services in particular, and the people of Bloomfield Hills village in general, for their fine co-operation during the year."

The course is held the week preceding Farmers' Week to permit those enrolled to stay for the best crops show held in the State.

concludes with discussions on marketing and shipping. Members of the soils department are included in the group of instructors and emphasis is placed on the correct use of fertilizers. Methods of destroying weeds which will lower seed values are also included in the week's work.

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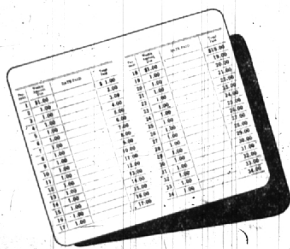
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