and further to obtain title to that portion of lot 3 not conveyed by Mr. Alexander, by purchase or otherwise, as may be advisable.

Section 4. In case the § 5000.00 above described shall be insufficient to pay for said lots 1 and 2 and balance of lot 3, then the said city of Wausau hereby agrees and obligates itself to pay out of the general funds of said city such sum as may be necessary to acquire the same.

Section 5. The said city further agrees that the owners of said premises or any owner of any portion thereof, have and are given the right and privilege, unless otherwise provided in the aquisition, to remove from said premises before the city is ready to commence work thereon, this however, to be not later than May 1st. 1906, any buildings situated thereon and may collect rents therefrom until so removed.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

" Adopted this 18th. day of April A. D. 1906.

" Attest, 

Charles F. Beck, 
City Clerk. 

E. C. Zimmerman, 
Mayor.

On the same date the following Ordinance and Resolution was enacted by the Mayor and City Council of Wausau:

( 3 Library Ordinance )

" The Common Council of the City of Wausau do Ordain as follows:
Whereas, the offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie to donate a sum for the free public library building in this city was accepted by resolution of July 5, 1904, and an annual tax for its maintenance there provided for such resolution to become effective when a proper site for such building shall have been donated and conveyed to the city free of charge; and

Whereas Walter Alexander has this day conveyed to the city of Wausau lot 6 of block 3, of the original plat of the city of Wausau for such site, and has also conveyed certain other property for a public park,

Now, It Is Hereby Ordained and Resolved as Follows:

Section 1. The deed of conveyance of said Walter Alexander of said premises be and the same hereby is accepted for the use above stated.

Section 2. It is hereby declared that the conditions upon which said ordinance of July 5th, 1904, is to become effective has now occurred and the said ordinance is in full force and effect.

Section 3. Confirming the tax levy provided in section 1 of said ordinance of July 5, 1904, the said city of Wausau hereby obligates itself to levy and collect and hereby levies an annual tax to be collected in the general tax roll of the city of Wausau in the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars ($2,500.00) each year, commencing with the year 1905, (the tax for the year 1904 having already been collected), and each succeeding year thereafter, to be used for the support and maintenance of a free public library to be erected upon lot 6 block 3 of the original plat of the said city out of funds agreed to be donated by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and the proper officers are hereby directed to include such levy in the tax roll for the year 1905, and each succeeding year, and to pay such amount to the library board of this city each year.
"Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and"
"after its passage and publication."
"Adopted April 18, 1905.

Attest,

Chas. F. Beck,
City Clerk.

Approved,

E. C. Zimmerman
Mayor.

With the adoption of these ordinances the tax levy became a fact, and also the gift of $35,000.00 from Mr. Andrew Carnegie, but the people who now enjoy the use of the library, and soon will enjoy the park whereon it stands have little conception of the large amount of active and persuasive work which needed to be done, and will never fully realize it.

It was not only the collecting of the funds, but also in acquisition of the title to the strip of lot 3 which caused a long delay, said strip being about 50 by 135 feet and for which the city council finally paid the sum of three thousand dollars, in order to obtain the land by purchase paying therefore the same price which was paid for lots 1 and 2 the corner lots in said block which have 70 by 90 street front, and also another small strip along Washington St., not being exactly a part of the street nor a part of the lots.

The funds and the real estate having been secured at last, the Library Board lost no time in asking for plans; several were presented, and on the 32nd. day of July 1905 after many meetings and deliberations, the plan of Mr. George W. Maher was adopted, and some slight changes having been deemed desirable, the notice to contractors was issued September 28, 1905.
After the plan was adopted Mrs. Helen Van Vechten and Mr. E.B. Thayer resigned as members of the Board having up to this time faithfully taken part in all the preliminary work in full harmony with the Board, and their resignation was wholly caused or prompted from business reasons.

At about this time, Mr. S. B. Tobey having succeeded Mr. Carl Mathie as Supt. of Pub. Schools, took his place on the Library Board in Sept. 1905 and so did Mrs. C. W. Harger and Mr. C. E. Turner in place of Mrs. Van Vechten and Mr. E. B. Thayer, and the Library Board so constituted with the same persons as officers remained without change until the first Monday in July 1908.

At a meeting on the 27th. day of September 1905, the Library Board through its president appointed the following building committee with power and authority in the premises which served until the completion and acceptance of the building to wit:

Mr. H. G. Flieth, Mrs. D. L. Plumer and Mr. C. E. Turner.

On October 18th. 1905 the representative of Mr. Andrew Carnegie was notified by letter that the contracts were let, and requested for information as to the manner of drawing the grant.

The following letter was received in response thereto to wit:
Home Trust Company,
Hoboken N. J.
R. A. Franks, Pres.

October 24th, 1905.

Dear Madam:

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th. inst. also plans and specifications of proposed building, which is entirely satisfactory, provided they can be carried out for the amount at your disposal.

My letter March 3rd. 1905 addressed to Mr. Louis Marchetti, Pres. gives full direction as to the method of procuring funds on account of Mr. Carnegie's grant of $25,000.00.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Franks.

Mrs. Mary Dickens,
Sec. Library Board,

Wausau, Wis.

It should be remembered that the building was begun at a time when the country enjoyed a high degree of prosperity, when material and labor was as high as it ever had been if it ever was as high, and that the cost of building was thereby somewhat enhanced over prices ruling several years previous thereto.

The building committee let the main contract to Messrs. Miller and Krause of Wausau for the building proper, the heating to Messrs. Wheeler & Son, the plumbing to Messrs. Hett Bros. and the ornamenting to Gimbel Bros. of Milwaukee.
The contracts for lighting and furniture were later made, the stakes were bought from the "Metal Art Construction Co." the shelving ordered from the firm of Janke and Weisse of Wausau, and the furniture was manufactured by the Curtis & Yale Company of Wausau. The wiring was done by Kuntz and Rood and the lamps bought from the "Nearest Lamp Co." the carpet from the Livingstone Mercantile Co., the marble work was contracted to Hawes, Dodd & Co. and some smaller contracts were given out before the building was completed.

The basement was not contemplated to be finished when the contract was let but it was determined to finish that also and make it fit for occupancy for any purpose it might be needed, and Miller and Krause were engaged to do it, and when the building was ready for occupancy every part and nook and corner of the building was complete as it is now.

The building committee labored faithfully, making the best of contracts, watching the work as it progressed, reported diligently to the Library Board, and the Board in return supported the committee unanimously in every thing done.

The acting chairman of the citizens committee having in charge the raising of funds, worked equally faithful during the whole time, raising and collecting by subscriptions up to July 1, 1907, the sum of $8103.13, to which several hundred dollars were added after July 1, 1907.

The building was now complete and it was determined by the Library Board to dedicate the building with proper ceremonies on the 3rd. day of April 1907, and the president was directed to take full charge of the dedicating exercises.

In as much as it is improbable that another library will be dedicated within the life of this generation, and as this was the first building of that kind in Wausau, erected under difficulties which no one knows or understands except those who had the matter in charge, it may be worth while if only to preserve them in memory to make the following record
of the exercises had:

The books had been moved into the building and on the 3rd. day of April the dedication was had and took this form:

( Dedication )

At ten o'clock the hour set for the beginning of the ceremonies, the spacious floor space was comfortably filled; among the many attendants was Miss Lutie E. Stearns Secretary of the State Free Library Commission, who congratulated the Board on the accomplishment of what it had set out to do.

After mutual exchange of greetings, the assembly became quite, and then Mr. John Miller of the firm of Miller and Krause chief contractors, stepped forward, and in a few well-chosen words turned the building over to the Library Board by delivering the keyes to the President.

In accepting the same the President said:

We accept the building and in doing so the Board thanks you for the fidelity with which you have carried out your contract; our relations with you have been pleasant and agreeable during the whole time the building was in process of erection. The building itself stands as a monument to your capacity and honesty as contractors ad builders, and you have by your work, earned this public testimonial.

Reverend E. M. Thompson
Pastor of the St. John's Episcopal Church then in a fervid and solemn prayer invoked divine aid to the end that the library would always be true to its mission as an educational institution to the glory of God.