

berman of Grand Rapids, gave \$300 to purchase libraries for a number of towns where he had business interests.

Hon. W. F. Vilas, L. S. Cheney, R. G. Thwaites, Mrs. S. H. Carpenter, Prof. W. W. Daniells, Amos P. Wilder, and Mrs. Lucius Fairchild, all of Madison, were contributors of books and periodicals.

The money for German traveling libraries was given by the Milwaukee National Bank, Geo. H. Heinemann, Fred Vogel, Jr., Pereles Brothers, Fred Pabst, Jr., J. G. Wagner, Chas. F. Pfister, F. A. W. Kieckheifer, all of Milwaukee; W. J. Starr, Eau Claire, W. C. Leitsch, Columbus, W. H. Hatton, New London, D. L. Plumer, Wausau, and Herman Erb, Appleton. A number of public libraries purchased German, Scandinavian and Polish libraries through the Commission.

#### IV

##### THE GROWTH OF THE MOVEMENT.

In 1898, there were 186 traveling libraries in Wisconsin, of which 35 were sent out by the Commission. In 1900, there were 238 libraries, 54 of which were issued by the Commission. In 1902, there were 305 libraries, 134 of which were sent out by the Commission. A number of communities sent \$50 to the Commission to purchase traveling libraries, thus making each of these communities a link in the chain of traveling libraries in the state. The demand for more traveling libraries became so pressing that a Department of Traveling Libraries was created by act of legislature in 1903 through the following enactment:

Section 373a as amended by chapter 53, laws of 1899, and chapter 348, laws of 1903:

\* \* \* It (the commission) shall establish a department of traveling libraries in charge of an officer specially qualified and shall purchase books and supplies for traveling libraries and accept gifts for them. Said department of traveling libraries shall also aid in establishing and supervising county systems of traveling libraries. \*

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In pursuance of this act, Miss Katharine I. MacDonald was given charge of the office part of the work, while Miss Stearns visited the traveling library stations in connection with her duties as the Library Visitor of the Commission. When Miss MacDonald resigned to become the editor of the A. L. A. Book List, Miss Stearns was made Chief of the Department.

Through the additional appropriation secured by the enactment, the number of state traveling libraries has been increased to the following proportions, as recorded in May, 1910:

25 to 30 volume libraries.....	30	894 vols.
50 to 55 volume libraries.....	254	14,402 vols.
100 volume libraries.....	41	4,100 vols.
New book libraries.....	19	950 vols.
Fiction libraries.....	17	432 vols.
Children's libraries.....	8	343 vols.
German libraries.....	101	3,501 vols.
Norwegian libraries.....	40	1,435 vols.
Polish libraries.....	9	295 vols.
Yiddish libraries.....	4	100 vols.
Study libraries.....	87	3,045 vols.
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Total number in state system.....	610	29,497 vols.
Total number in county systems.....	334	15,030 vols.
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Grand total.....	944	44,527 vols.

These figures do not include groups of Bohemian, Swedish, French, German, Norwegian, and Danish books which are sent out with the English traveling libraries.