A History of Libraries in the Treasure Valley

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A HISTORY OF LIBRARIES IN THE TREASURE VALLEY

Julia Stringfellow
Idaho Library Association Annual Conference
October 4, 2013
Boise Basin Library in Idaho City
Boise Basin Library in Idaho City
Early Days of the Boise Library
Boise Library in City Hall and Ella Cartee Reed
Boise Carnegie Public Library
The New Boise Public Library

‘House of Books’ Opens Today

New Library Fascinates Public
Boise Public Library, Political Debate, 1980
LIBRARY PLANS ACCEPTED

Work to Commence at Once on Public Library at Caldwell.

CALDWELL—The revised plans of the Caldwell Carnegie library, recently submitted to the Carnegie corporation, have been approved and funds for the erection of the building have been placed at the disposal of the local library board. Curtis Haydon, chairman of the board, Tuesday received a communication from R. A. Franks, treasurer of the Carnegie library fund, explaining the manner in which the money will be paid, and several minor matters connected with the construction work.

The Caldwell building will cost $12,500 and will be paid over on architects' certificates in sums of $2000 or $3000. Members of the library board are anxious that work on the building be started this fall and preliminary details are being rushed with this end in view.

OPEN CALDWELL LIBRARY

Forward Club Will Present Interesting Program.

CALDWELL—The Forward club has arranged an excellent program for the opening of the Carnegie library Friday evening. The program opens at 7 o'clock with music by the Flske orchestra. The introductory talk will be made by Curtiss Haydon, chairman of the library board. Residents of the city are invited to attend.

The program follows:
- Musical cycle, Mrs. F. F. Beale, Mrs. William Moll Case, Austin Westrope and Arthur Binford.
- History of the library movement in Caldwell, Mrs. E. A. Gipson.
- Reading cycle, Mrs. R. B. Scatterday.
- Presentation of picture donated by the D. A. R., Mrs. Ward Stone.
Carnegie Public Library
Caldwell, Idaho

WCTU initiated Caldwell library as alternative to local saloons
College of Idaho, Box Carton Brigade from Strahorn to Terteling
College of Idaho, Terteling Library and Balaz Relief Sculpture
First McCall Library in Goodman’s Service Station, 1920s
McCall Public Library
The New McCall Public Library, 1973 and 2013
Mountain Home Carnegie Library, 1908
Mountain Home Carnegie Library Dedication, 1908
Mountain Home Carnegie Library

Mountain Home, Idaho

Carnegie Library

Box 626
An attendance at a Carnegie library of 600 adults and children a month out of 2000 population in a town, is the record of the Mountain Home library, according to Mrs. Hattie Querry, librarian, who is registered at the Idaho.

Located centrally in the town with percentage of these offerings are held by on one side and on the other side, the Owyhee range, the Mountain Home Carnegie library, says Mrs. Querry, presents an unusually attractive place for those booklovers who come in daily to read fiction, history, poetry, or to make use of the many reference books the library possesses.

"The attendance has more than doubled the past two years," says Mrs. Querry, "and the school children, both large and small, use our library in every way possible—It is amazing to see the interest they take in it.

"We have about 2500 books in our library, and take about 15 magazines, besides the papers. We try to buy two dozen new books each month, and I am going to take back some new books with me when I go. These range from fiction to scientific books, and are read equally by all those who come to the library for knowledge, and recreation."
Mountain Home Public Library
Groundbreaking, 2005
Mountain Home Librarian Luise House is 2006 Idaho Librarian of the Year
Century Club and the Nampa Public Library
Nampa Carnegie Library
MORE THAN 500
USE LIBRARY
EACH WEEK

Patrons of Nampa Reading Room Number 26,974 During Year 1915.
RECORD IS GRATIFYING
“Single men found using area library” Idaho Press-Tribune, 1989
The Future Nampa Public Library
Sources

Manuscript Collections
- Columbian Club Collection, MS 356, Idaho State Archives.
- Allan Eaton Papers, MS 77, Idaho State Archives.
- Idaho Public Library History Collection, MS 364, Idaho State Archives.
- Idaho Statesman Negatives Collection, MSS 111, Special Collections and Archives, Boise State University.

Books

Images
- College of Idaho Archives
- McCall Public Library
- Mountain Home Public Library
- Nampa Public Library
Special Thanks

- Jan Boles, College of Idaho Archives
- Marcy Rowe, Library Director of Boise Basin Public Library
- Staff at the Idaho State Archives
- Beth A. Neunaber, Nampa Public Library
- Luise House and William Lamb, Mountain Home Public Library
- Anne Kantola, McCall Public Library
- Tully Gerlach, Boise Public Library and BPL Reference Librarians
Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

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