

**NOTES FOR THE LOUISIANA
PURCHASE EXPOSITION,
ST. LOUIS, MO., 1904.
NO.1-4; NO.5 PP. 1-14**

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LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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U.S. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

NOTES FOR THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION
ST. LOUIS, MO., 1904

No. 1

THE LIBRARY

And its Work



WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1904

LIBRARY STAFF.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

HERBERT PUTNAM.—Librarian of Congress.
AINSWORTH RAND SPOFFORD.—Chief Assistant Librarian.
Allen Richards Boyd.—Librarian's Secretary.
Thomas Gold Alvord.—Chief Clerk.

DIVISIONS.

Reading Rooms.—David Hutcheson, superintendent; John Graham Morrison, Hugh Alexander Morrison, chief assistants.
Reading Room for the Blind.—Etta Josselyn Giffin, assistant in charge.

Bibliography.—Appleton Prentiss Clark Griffin, Chief.

Catalogue.—James Christian Meinich Hanson, Chief; Charles Martel, Chief Classifier.

Documents.—Roland Post Falkner, Chief.

Manuscripts.—Worthington Chauncey Ford, Chief.

Maps and Charts.—Philip Lee Phillips, Chief.

Music.—Oscar George Theodore Sonneck, Chief.

Order.—William Parker Cutter, Chief.

Periodicals.—Allan Bedcut Slauson, Chief.

Prints.—Arthur Jeffrey Parsons, Chief.

Smithsonian Deposit.—Paul Brockett, Custodian (office at Smithsonian Institution); Francis Henry Parsons, Assistant in charge.

Law Library.—George Winfield Scott, Custodian.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE.

Thorvald Solberg, Register.

LIBRARY BRANCH, GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

Printing.—William Henry Fisher, foreman.

Binding.—Henry Clay Espey, foreman.

LIBRARY BUILDING AND GROUNDS.

BERNARD RICHARDSON GREEN.—Superintendent.

George Norris French, Chief Clerk.

Charles Benjamin Titlow, Chief Engineer.

Damon Warren Harding, Electrician.

John Vanderbilt Würdemann, Captain of the watch.

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457
17:4

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

THE BUILDING.

The building of the Library of Congress, the largest and most costly library building in the world, is located on Capitol Hill, a quarter of a mile east of the Capitol.

It was begun 1889 and completed 1897 at a cost of \$6,347,000, exclusive of the site, which cost \$585,000. The original plans were made by Messrs. Smithmeyer & Pelz, but the building was actually constructed and many architectural details worked out under Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Casey, Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, and his chief assistant, Bernard R. Green. After the death of General Casey, in 1895, the building was completed under Mr. Green, now its Superintendent.

The building occupies 3½ acres. It contains 7,500,000 cubic feet of space and over 8 acres of floor space.

Its internal arrangements are planned to secure the greatest protection of its contents from loss or injury which is consistent with the public use of its collections. The shelving for books is metal throughout, combining cleanliness with convenience. For the preservation of maps, manuscripts, and prints specially constructed cases are provided. Steel safes of special design and make are used for the more valuable manuscripts. All parts of the building are patrolled day and night.

The present shelving will contain about 2,000,000 volumes. Within its present walls the building contains space for over 3,000,000 volumes without curtailing the space requisite for readers or exhibits. With stacks in the courtyards, its capacity can be increased to over 7,000,000 volumes.

It has space at present for a thousand readers at a time.

During the year 1902-3 it was visited by 1,011,766 persons—an average of 2,866 daily.

THE LIBRARY.

CHRONOLOGY.

1800. Established as a library for Congress in the Capitol building.

1814. Destroyed in the burning of the Capitol by the British.

1815. Reconstructed by the purchase of the library of ex-President Jefferson—about 7,000 volumes, cost \$23,950.

1851. Partially destroyed by fire in the Capitol; 20,000 volumes were saved and the Library replenished by special expenditure of \$75,000.

1846-1870. One copy of books, etc., deposited under Copyright Law sent to Library.

1866. Made custodian of the library of the Smithsonian Institution, with its subsequent accessions.

1867. Purchase of Peter Force collection of Americana.

1870. Made Office of Copyright for the United States.

1882. Purchase of papers of the Marquis de Rochambeau, and gift of the library of Joseph M. Toner.

1897. Removed to new building.

1898. Gift of Gardiner Greene Hubbard collection of prints.

1903. Gifts of the papers of Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren. Made depository of historical manuscripts in the Executive Departments of the Government.

PRESENT COLLECTIONS.

It comprised at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 1903) about 1,202,993 printed books and pamphlets (including the law library of 94,609 volumes, which, while a division of the Library of Congress, still remains at the Capitol), 103,115 manuscripts, 69,814 maps and charts, 366,616 pieces of music, and 142,337 photographs, prints, engravings, and lithographs.

RECENT GROWTH.

The rapidity of its development is shown in the accessions for the year 1903, which were:

Printed books and pamphlets (volumes).....	88,273
Manuscripts (pieces)	3,563
Maps and charts (pieces).....	4,893
Music (pieces).....	21,105
Prints (pieces).....	15,335
Miscellaneous	9,696

APPROPRIATIONS.

Appropriations for 1903 were, for salaries, \$323,739.33 (including \$70,440 for the Copyright Office, which is offset by fees received); increase of Library, \$99,800; contingent, \$7,300; printing and binding, \$185,000 (an "allotment," i. e., leave to order work to this amount at the Government Printing Office and its branches in the Library building)—to be expended under the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, for care and maintenance, \$77,245; fuel, light, and miscellaneous, \$30,000; furniture and shelving, \$45,000. Total, all purposes, \$768,084.33.

ORGANIZATION.

The administration of the Library is under the Librarian of Congress. He is appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the Senate. He reports direct to Congress, to which he submits annually estimates of appropriations required for the maintenance of the Library. He is authorized to expend the appropriations granted by law for the purposes designated, to appoint all employees of the Library proper and the Copyright Office, and is authorized to make rules and regulations for the government of the Library. In addition to the Copyright Office, the Library includes the following divisions, each under the supervision of a chief: Order, Catalogue, Bibliography, Reading Room, Periodical, Documents, Manuscripts, Maps, Music, Prints, Smithsonian Deposit, and Law Library; and two divisions, Mail and Supply and Binding, in charge of assistants.

The Copyright Office is under the general administration of the Librarian of Congress, in particular charge of the Register of Copyrights. During the year 1902-3 there were 97,979 entries for copyright and \$68,874.50 received in fees—this amount more than offsetting the cost of maintaining the office. During the year there were 177,519 articles deposited to perfect the above entries. So far as desirable, articles so deposited are drawn up into the Library to form a part of its collection. Others, to the amount of nearly a million, remain still in the files of the Copyright Office.

The building and grounds are in the charge of a Superintendent, also appointed by the President and subject to confirmation by the Senate, who also reports direct to Congress. He submits estimates for the care, equipment, and maintenance of the buildings and grounds, and disburses the appropriations granted for these purposes.

SERVICE.

There are employed in the building, under the Superintendent, 120 persons; under the Librarian, 297; under the Public Printer, but detailed to the Library of Congress for its printing, binding, and repairing, 76 persons.

USE.

The Library was originally established for the use merely of Congress. It aids with research and the loan of books all branches of the Federal Government, the Supreme Court, the Executive Departments, and the various scientific Bureaus which are maintained by the Federal Government at an annual expense of several million dollars, and whose investigations constantly require a reference to books.

Though still carrying the title "Library of Congress," it is also now a general public library, open as freely for reference use as any in the world. Since its removal to the new building its collections and its service have so extended that it is now familiarly entitled the National Library. Any person from any place may examine within its walls any book in its possession, and may do this without introduction or credentials. The Library is open

from 9 a. m. till 10 p. m.; on Sundays and most holidays from 2 till 10 p. m.

Books for home use are issued to certain classes designated by statute and, within the District of Columbia, in effect to any person engaged in a serious investigation which absolutely requires it.

Of late the Library has also lent books to other libraries in various parts of the United States for the convenience of investigators engaged in research calculated to advance the boundaries of knowledge. This is under a system of inter-library loan. A condition of the loan is that the book is an unusual book, which it is not the duty of the local library to supply, and that it can at the moment be spared by the Library of Congress, and that the risk and expense of transportation shall be borne by the borrowing library.

For the convenience of investigators the Library deposits in some twenty-five cities (centers of research) a complete set of its printed cards as issued. These will, within five years, form a complete card catalogue under authors of the printed books in its collections.

It also supplies to any library subscribing for them one or more copies, as may be desired, of any of the catalogue cards which it prints, thus enabling the subscribing library to get, at a nominal cost, complete catalogue entries for books in its own collections which would cost several times as much to catalogue independently. Nearly 400 libraries are now subscribing to such cards.

The library also aids investigators by publications exhibiting material in its collections upon topics under current discussion, or within fields of special research. It answers inquiries addressed to it by mail in so far as they can be answered by bibliographic information—that is, by a reference to printed authorities. The number of such inquiries yearly exceeds 10,000.

PUBLICATIONS.¹

The publications issued by the Library are very numerous and include:

Annual Reports, showing the progress of the Library.

¹ Complete lists of the Library publications are sent on application to the Librarian.