Librarian's Report to the Board of Library Trustees

To the Board of Library Trustees:

In 1971 the circulation of reading materials was larger than in 1970 and 879 new borrowers registered. The total number of books in the library is 26,747 which includes all categories.

Needless to say, there is little shelf space left for books and constant weeding is necessary to find space for the more worthy editions.

Hopefully in the future an addition can be made to the present building with financial aid from the Federal Government. An addition would allow a much broader level of service to the town such as audio-visual materials, reading hours, space for shelving books, an expansion of the records section and if nothing else, a reading room.

The building was erected in 1922 and given to the town as a gift. In anticipation of the 50th anniversary the exterior was painted. The stacks room walls and floors were repaired and painted. The periodicals reference room was painted throughout and new chairs purchased for the comfort of those doing research. Presently every section of the building upstairs and downstairs is used by the public.

The library is open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from one o'clock to nine o'clock and on Friday and Saturday from ten a.m. to six p.m. We are asking for funds to enable us to stay open on
Wednesday inasmuch as many people have requested it. This will mean the closing of the Collinsville Branch Library. Some of the school libraries now circulate books to the students from their libraries as do the parochial schools resulting in a decrease in circulation in the Public Library Branch.

In 1971 we received the Dog Tax funds for the first time even though the law has been in existence for many years. All of this money was spent on improvements within the building and none was spent for wages, books, or maintenance.

The librarian wishes to thank the board of Trustees for their active interest in all of our problems and their enthusiasm for future improvements.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret C. Dockett