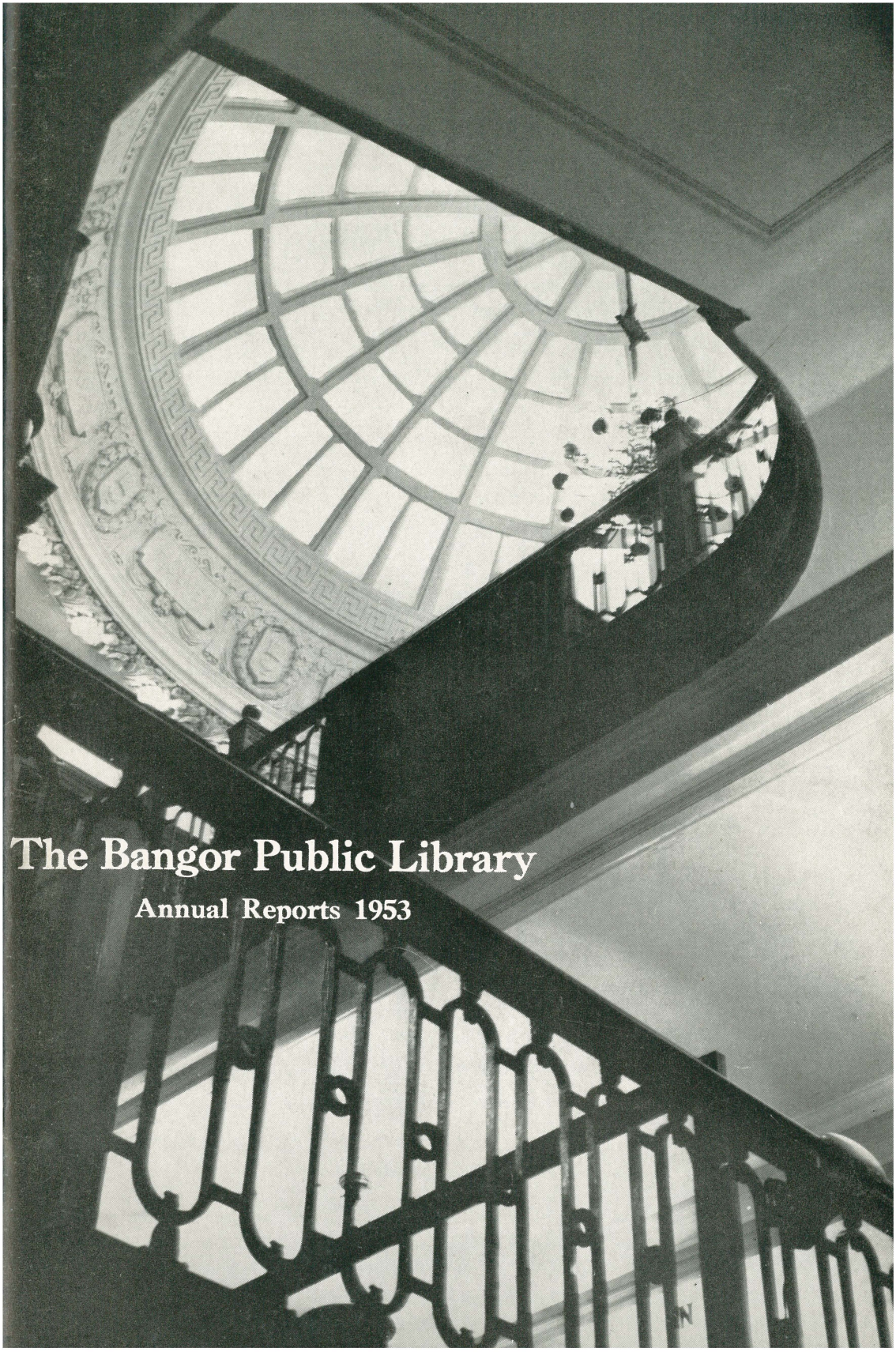




The Bangor Public Library

Annual Reports 1953

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Bangor Public Library is to preserve and disseminate knowledge and thought as recorded in print; to provide recreation through print; and to provide a maximum of assistance to its clients in the use of its collections. We are a general library yet we are also a library of record. We aim to provide printed material on all subjects likely to be of concern or interest either to present or potential users of whatever age or education. We recognize the scholarly resources of our neighbor library of the University of Maine and are interested that each library shall complement the other. Within the library building the use of the collections of the Bangor Public Library is free to all comers. The home-use privileges are free to all residents of Bangor and to whoever, regardless of place of residence, works, goes to school, or pays taxes in Bangor. To others they are available for a fee.

Cover photograph by

LUTHER S. PHILLIPS

Interior of the dome of the Bangor Public Library building, with second floor balcony rail and first floor stair rail, seen from part way down basement stairway. Note bronze seal of the City of Bangor in shaft of hanging chandelier.

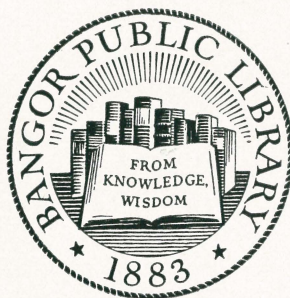
BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

JANUARY 1, 1953 - DECEMBER 31, 1953

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION JANUARY 26, 1954



BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY
BANGOR, MAINE
1954



Four o'clock in the children's room of the Bangor Public Library. A crowd of eighth-graders, and some others, digging out facts for their papers to be entered in the James W. Williams Post No. 112, American Legion, essay contest of 1953.
(Photo by Bangor Daily News)

Endowment

of the

Bangor Public Library

Administered by the Trustees of the Bangor
Public Library

Frederick W. Hill and Marianne Hill Fund— Bequeathed in 1920 by Frederick W. Hill "for the purpose of purchasing books . . . and no part . . . for the erection or repair of any building." Added to in subsequent years by reinvestment.	\$777,838.20
John F. Patten Fund— Bequeathed in 1900 by Grace D. Patten (Mrs. John F. Patten) in memory of her husband for "the purchase of books to make, or help make, entire, some important department of the Li- brary."	\$4,000.00
Augmented by the	
Thomas Upham Coe Bequest— Bequeathed in 1927 by Thomas Upham Coe "to be added to the Patten Fund, so-called."	2,000.00
Total of Patten Fund	
Stodder Fund— To a nucleus of \$36,000.00 be- queathed in 1924 by George Tyler Stodder and added to in subsequent years by rein- vestment, the termination in 1942 of life trusts set up by George Tyler Stodder and James Chesterman Stodder for Anne E. Stodder added a balance received in 1942, 1943, and 1946. Of the income of this fund, designated as the "Stodder Fund," one-half is for the purchase of books and the other half "may, if needed, be used by the Library for administration expenses."	\$1,250,048.87

Trustees Fund consisting of:

Luther H. Peirce Fund—Bequeathed in 1915 by Luther H. Peirce, the income for “the purchase of books or for any other purpose within the walls of said Library building.” Added to in subsequent years by reinvestment. \$189,388.62

Frances A. Stetson Fund—Bequeathed in 1918 by Frances A. Stetson “to be used as may seem to them (the Trustees) best.” 1,000.00

Ernestine Thompson Fund — Bequeathed in 1945 by Ernestine Thompson without conditions either as to use of principal or income. 1,000.00

Charles E. Adams Bequest, without conditions either as to use of principal or income, received in 1949. 10,000.00

Other monies from unexpended gifts and reinvestment, upon which there is no restriction as to use. 57,936.35

Total of Trustees Fund \$259,324.97

Louise Baldwin Thompson Fund—Bequeathed in 1944 by Louise de Hauteville Bell (Mrs. Jaffray de Hauteville Bell neé Louise Baldwin Thompson) in memory of her mother, Louise Baldwin Thompson (Mrs. Arad Thompson), “all books purchased with this fund to bear a bookplate in her name.” \$2,000.00

Administered by the Trustees of the Hersey Fund

Hersey Fund—Bequeathed in 1875 by Samuel F. Hersey and its income now, by provision of the City Ordinances, unalterably fixed at \$4,000.00 and devoted “to the perpetual maintenance of the Bangor Public Library.” \$100,000.00

Administered by the City of Bangor

Bangor Mechanic Association Fund — Conveyed by the Bangor Mechanic Association (founded 1828) to the City of Bangor in various years, beginning in 1867 and continuing until 1883, and administered in accordance with an agreement with the Trustees of the Hersey Fund “for the purpose of establishing and perpetually maintaining a Public Library in the City of Bangor.” \$12,000.00

Administered by the Bangor Mechanic Association

Edward Ellison Fund—Bequeathed in 1918 by Mary Harris Ellison Curran (Mrs. Nicholas F. Curran), in memory of her father, Edward Ellison, “for the purchase of books, other than works of fiction” of which only one copy is to be bought and that “may never be taken from the Library.” \$10,000.00

Total Endowment (principal)	\$2,417,212.04
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Report of Trustees of the Hersey Fund

Bangor, January 26, 1954

To the City Council of the City of Bangor:

The Trustees of the Hersey Fund submit their annual report. They have received from the City Treasurer the sum of four thousand (\$4,000.00) in quarterly payments, which have been paid to the treasurer of the Board of Managers of the Bangor Public Library.

They also submit, herewith, the annual reports of the librarian of the Bangor Public Library, the treasurer of the Trustees of the Bangor Public Library, and the treasurer of the Board of Managers of said library.

DONALD S. HIGGINS

JOHN M. O'CONNELL, JR.

W. P. NEWMAN

BOUTELLE SAVAGE

RALPH L. WAYMOUTH

Trustees of the Hersey Fund

Report of the Librarian

January 26, 1954

To the Board of Managers of the Bangor Public Library:

The library now numbers 290,669 volumes. This is 60,541 more than the theoretical capacity of the shelves of the central library building. That we are not already piling books on the floor is simply because so many of our books are out in use in homes or in auxiliary libraries such as those we supply in the public schools and the parochial schools of the city, the patients' and doctors' libraries at the Eastern Maine General Hospital, and the Penobscot Bar Association Library.

During the summer of 1953, at the expenditure of 107 hours of labor, we expanded our collection of bound periodicals into the last remaining free space in the storage shelves. The point of suffocation is nearly reached. The moment when we should build additional book storage space is here now. As you know from our many discussions of the subject, a simple storage building 100' x 30' x 30' at the rear of our present storage space, seems the least costly and most efficient solution. The problem on which we are working is to find the \$100,000.00 necessary.

"How has television affected the use of the library?" was the question most often asked during 1953 by statistically minded people. The quick answer is, "Very little." The home use of books was 289,062, only 3% less than in 1952, which was the final year without television. It is only 9% less than the highest point in the past ten years. A more careful answer is that television is only one of many forces acting on the use of library books. Among forces are rather full employment, the widespread sale of paper-covered books, increasing quantities of periodical subscriptions sold by organizations raising

money for their own projects, 3-D movies, and the lack of phenomenal best sellers.

Further, during this ten-year period, we have constantly liberalized our lending policies. Children's books are issued for four weeks rather than two. New novels and periodicals and phonograph records are issued for two weeks rather than one. Music in quantity use by organizations is issued for the full time required. These liberalizations have caused some statistical decreases, but they have increased the pleasure of our readers, which is what we are working for.

The reduction in reading from 1952 to 1953 was largely in current periodicals and adult fiction. The schools, particularly the junior high schools, showed a notable gain in the reading of Bangor Public Library books. This is a good augury, indeed, in the face of all the forces tending to change the reading habits of the public.

Looking over the home-use statistics of the past ten years (as seen on page 25) one finds that from year to year they vary only slightly upward or downward. The maximum variation in the period is 9%, between 316,655 and 289,062, with intermediate highs between recurring lows.

But the lending of books for home use is only one among various library services. If one includes in the answering of reference questions the phone calls occasioned by the Tello-Test radio program, one finds that in 1953 the figure was 341% of the figure of ten years ago. The maximum in ten years was 378% of the minimum. If one counts only reference questions requiring some research, the 1953 figure is 139% of that of 1944. The maximum in ten years was 150% of the minimum.

A major improvement in the library building was the complete redecoration and re-equipment of the women's staff room. This included the installation of a combination electric stove, refrigerator, sink, and garbage disposal unit. The staff has greatly enjoyed the improved facilities. The project cost \$1,533.89, of which \$600.00 was provided by a gift from the

Bangor Mechanic Association, \$106.35 by staff contributions, and \$847.54 by the library.

The refinishing, as a quiet reading room and committee room, decorated with maps and paintings of Bangor significance, of the room formerly occupied by the collection of the Bangor Historical Society, was another event of importance in the use of the building. The destruction, in a gale, of our 60-foot flag-pole erected in 1941 at a cost of \$241.00, was unfortunate. The pole will be rebuilt as a 48-foot pole. Part of the cost will be met by our windstorm insurance.

The illness record of our employees was better than in 1952. The number of changes in the staff was, happily, much fewer. Only two full-time employees of substantial length of service resigned. There were forty-four names on our payroll, accounting for a full-time equivalent of thirty persons.

A gift of \$10.00 was received from Mrs. E. D. Harshbarger for the purchase of books in memory of Mrs. Charles Willey, late of Bangor. Gifts of books were numerous. By arrangement with the donors, many of these were passed on by us to libraries less generously supplied than we. Among donors were the Bangor Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Bangor Woman's Club (records), the Bangor-Brewer Girl Scout Council, the estate of Frank L. Bass, Mrs. Ina Ladd Brown, the estate of Irving W. Devoe, Madeline Gillin, Edward M. Graham, Paul Hanneman, Mrs. Fred D. Jordan, John H. Magee, the Maine Real Estate Commission, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard J. Mann, Norumbega Club (records), Forrest W. Page, Mrs. Marion Porter Powers, Mrs. Cecil P. Ryder, Robert Sawyer, Mrs. Louis E. Shepley, Martha Mellon Bordman Smith, Robert E. Smith, Howard G. Stone, and Dena R. Theriault.

On July 1, 1947 the library became a local district of the Maine State Retirement System. Two of our members are now retired under its benefits. Two others, retired previously, have since died. Employee contributions in 1953 amounted to \$3,623.33; management contributions, to \$5,448.86. The oper-

ation of the system has been excellent, both in satisfaction to staff members and from a budgetary point of view. The basic amount of the management contribution has not had to be increased in the six years of our membership. The actuary of the system called for no budgetary increase in 1954, though one may be needed subsequently.

On December 26 Alice M. Wetherell resigned from the position of children's librarian which she has held since October 23, 1923. To generations of children she has been "the lady who owns the library." Her influence, extended through her knowledge of books, her delightful story-hours, and, above all, by her gracious personality, has been of immeasurable value. All of us who have been privileged to be associated with her are grateful for that privilege and happy for her in her marriage to Rowland G. Rice.

Mrs. Helen H. Wheeler immediately succeeded Miss Wetherell as children's librarian. Mrs. Wheeler has been associated with the Bangor Public Library since 1946 and has been first assistant in the children's department since April 3, 1949.

Statistics of the operation of the library are found on pages 21-28 of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

L. FELIX RANLETT, *Librarian*

Report of the Treasurer

*To the Board of Trustees and the Board of Managers
of the Bangor Public Library:*

On the following six pages are presented the financial statements of the Bangor Public Library. Copies of the detailed statements, which include a list of investments, are available for inspection at the library or at the office of the city clerk of the City of Bangor.

The report of Arthur Andersen & Co., independent public accountants, is shown below.

ERWIN S. ANDERSON,
Treasurer.

Bangor, Maine, January 26, 1954

Report of Independent Public Accountants

*To the Board of Trustees and the Board of Managers
of the Bangor Public Library:*

We have examined the statement of cash, investments and fund capital of the funds administered by the TRUSTEES OF THE BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY (a Maine corporation) as of December 31, 1953, and the related statements of income and expenditures and changes in fund capital for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying statements present fairly the cash, investments and fund capital of the funds administered by the Trustees of the Bangor Public Library as of December 31, 1953, and the income and expenditures and changes in fund capital for the year then ended.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & Co.

Boston, Massachusetts,
January 16, 1954.

Trustees of the Bangor Public Library
Statements of Income and Expenditures
Hill, Stodder, Patten and Thompson Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 1953

	Frederick W. Hill and Marianne Hill Fund	Stodder Fund	John F. Patten Fund	Louise Baldwin Thompson Fund
INTEREST AND DIVI- DEND INCOME.....	\$29,083.24	\$58,162.82	\$250.80	\$61.60
EXPENDITURES:				
Transfers to other funds—				
Book Fund	\$29,009.33	\$29,027.33	.....	.....
General Operating Fund .....	.....	29,027.34	.....	.....
Books purchased .....	.....	.....	224.51	60.66
Security registration costs	73.91	108.15	1.22	.44
	<u>\$29,083.24</u>	<u>\$58,162.82</u>	<u>\$225.73</u>	<u>\$61.10</u>
Excess of income over expenditures for the year	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 25.07</u>	<u>\$.50</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Trustees of the Bangor Public Library
Statements of Income and Expenditures
General Operating, Book and Trustees Funds
For the Year Ended December 31, 1953

	General Operating Fund	Book Fund	Trustees Fund
INCOME:			
Endowment income received from—			
Frederick W. Hill and Marianne Hill Fund.....	\$	\$29,009.33	\$
Stodder Fund	29,027.34	29,027.33	.....
Trustees Fund	5,752.00	.....	.....
Hersey Fund (Note 2).....	4,000.00	.....	.....
Bangor Mechanic Association Fund (Note 2).....	600.00	.....	.....
Edward Ellison Fund (Note 2)	.....	1,059.69	.....

ANNUAL REPORTS, 1953

13

Interest and dividends.....		5,000.80	12,733.90
City of Bangor appropriation, including \$200 of State Aid	30,316.00	200.00	.....
Received from librarian—			
Registration fees, fines, etc.....	4,479.44	.....	.....
Payments for lost and dam- aged books		182.37	.....
Other		250.00	.....
Gift from Bangor Mechanic Association	600.00	.....	.....
	<u>\$74,774.78</u>	<u>\$64,729.52</u>	<u>\$12,733.90</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Salaries—			
Operating	\$58,464.28	\$	\$ 1,550.00
Acquiring and processing new books		16,576.00	.....
Books and pamphlets.....		20,537.61	.....
Periodicals, maps, prints and music		7,336.99	.....
Binding		7,032.19	.....
Contribution for employees' retirement plan	5,448.86	.....	.....
Heat, electricity and water.....	3,837.30	.....	.....
Postage and stationery.....	1,789.90	.....	.....
Repairs and improvements.....	1,507.01	.....	2,015.00
Furniture and furnishings.....	1,694.55	.....	.....
Printing and publicity.....	1,074.38	.....	.....
Janitor's supplies	741.77	.....	.....
Telephone	531.58	.....	.....
Library of Congress catalog cards	428.02	.....	.....
Transportation	182.01	160.37	.....
Transfers to—			
General Operating Fund.....	.....	.....	5,752.00
Elevator Fund .....	.....	.....	2,300.00
Auditing services	1,500.00	.....	.....
Insurance premiums, less \$27.46 refunds .....		.....	1,578.78
Conventions and travel.....	.....	.....	259.35
Custody of securities.....	.....	.....	198.76
Miscellaneous	71.00	11.04	34.83
	<u>\$77,270.66</u>	<u>\$51,654.20</u>	<u>\$13,688.72</u>
Excess (or deficiency*) of income over expenditures for the year.....	<u>\$ 2,495.88*</u>	<u>\$13,075.32</u>	<u>\$ 954.82*</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Trustees of the Bar
Statements of Chan
For the Year Ended

GENERAL OPERATING FUND
ELEVATOR FUND:

Transfers from Trustees Fund.....
Interest on savings deposit

BOOK FUND (Expendable only for the purchase of books).....

ENDOWMENT FUNDS:

TRUSTEES FUND:

Principal—
Not expendable
Not restricted

Income—
Appropriated
Not appropriated

FREDERICK W. HILL AND MARIANNE HILL FUND—Principal (not
expendable):

Gifts and bequests
Net gains on sales of investments.....

STODDER FUND—Principal (not expendable):

Gifts and bequests
Net gains on sales of investments.....

JOHN F. PATTEN FUND:

Gifts and bequests (not expendable).....
Income (expendable only for books).....

LOUISE BALDWIN THOMPSON FUND:

Gifts and bequests (not expendable)
Income (expendable only for books).....

Total endowment funds—
Not expendable
Not restricted

Total fund capital

The accompanying notes are an

Mayor Public Library
 Changes in Fund Capital
 December 31, 1953

	Balance December 31, 1952	Net Gains on Sales of Investments	Excess or Deficiency* of Income Over Expenditures	Balance December 31, 1953
.....	\$ 2,779.24	\$	\$ 2,495.88*	\$ 283.36
.....	\$ 4,600.00	\$	\$ 2,300.00	6,900.00
.....	56.39	.....	107.47	163.86
	<u>\$ 4,656.39</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 2,407.47</u>	<u>\$ 7,063.86</u>
.....	\$ 153,187.12	\$	\$13,075.32	\$ 166,262.44
	<u>\$ 180,402.74</u>	<u>\$ 8,985.88</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 189,388.62</u>
.....	66,618.10	3,318.25	.....	69,936.35
	<u>\$ 247,020.84</u>	<u>\$12,304.13</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 259,324.97</u>
.....	1,500.00	.....	1,500.00*	.....
.....	1,862.87	.....	954.82*	908.05
	<u>\$ 250,383.71</u>	<u>\$12,304.13</u>	<u>\$ 2,454.82*</u>	<u>\$ 260,233.02</u>
.....	\$ 535,172.75	\$	\$ 7,838.15	\$ 543,010.90
.....	224,269.97	10,557.33	.....	234,827.30
	<u>\$ 759,442.72</u>	<u>\$10,557.33</u>	<u>\$ 7,838.15</u>	<u>\$ 777,838.20</u>
.....	\$1,018,604.95	\$	\$	\$1,018,604.95
.....	177,274.40	54,169.52	.....	231,443.92
	<u>\$1,195,879.35</u>	<u>\$54,169.52</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$1,250,048.87</u>
.....	\$ 6,000.00	\$	\$	\$ 6,000.00
.....	12.46	.....	25.07	37.53
	<u>\$ 6,012.46</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 25.07</u>	<u>\$ 6,037.53</u>
.....	\$ 2,000.00	\$	\$	\$ 2,000.00
.....	2.28	.....	.50	2.78
	<u>\$ 2,002.28</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$.50</u>	<u>\$ 2,002.78</u>
.....	\$2,143,724.81	\$73,712.73	\$ 7,838.15	\$2,225,275.69
.....	69,995.71	3,318.25	2,429.25*	70,884.71
	<u>\$2,213,720.52</u>	<u>\$77,030.98</u>	<u>\$ 5,408.90</u>	<u>\$2,296,160.40</u>
.....	\$2,374,343.27	\$77,030.98	\$18,395.81	\$2,469,770.06

integral part of these statements.

BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Trustees of the Bangor Public Library
Statement of Cash, Investments and Fund Capital
December 31, 1953

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Cash	\$ 283.36
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ELEVATOR FUND (created by appropriation
from income of Trustees Fund):

Cash in savings account.....	\$ 7,063.86
------------------------------	-------------

BOOK FUND (expendable only for the purchase of books):

Cash	\$	58,844.42
Investments (market value \$107,713)		
(Note 1)		107,418.02
		\$ 166,262.44

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

TRUSTEES FUND (\$189,388.62 not expendable):

Principal cash	\$	8,444.61
Income cash		908.05
Investments (market value \$256,885)		
(Note 1)		250,880.36
		\$ 260,233.02

FREDERICK W. HILL AND MARIANNE

HILL FUND (not expendable):

Principal cash	\$	18,966.66
Investments (market value \$777,607)		
(Note 1)		758,871.54
		777,838.20

STODDER FUND (not expendable):

Principal cash	\$	22,178.22
Investments (market value \$1,379,211)		
(Note 1)		1,227,870.65
		1,250,048.87

JOHN F. PATTEN FUND (\$6,000.00 not expendable):

Principal cash	\$	68.01
Income cash		37.53
Investments (market value \$5,970)		
(Note 1)		5,931.99
		6,037.53

LOUISE BALDWIN THOMPSON FUND

(\$2,000.00 not expendable) :

Principal cash	\$	37.60	
Income cash		2.78	
Investments (market value \$1,799) (Note 1)		1,962.40	
			<u>2,002.78</u>
Total capital of endowment funds (\$2,225,275.69 not expendable)			<u>\$2,296,160.40</u>
Total fund capital			<u><u>\$2,469,770.06</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Trustees of the Bangor Public Library
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 1953

- (1) Investments are carried at cost or, in the case of gifts or bequests, at the market value at the date received.
- (2) In addition to the funds administered by the Trustees, the Library is beneficiary of the income of the following funds:

Income not restricted—

Hersey Fund, administered by the Trustees of the Hersey Fund, principal \$100,000, income fixed at \$4,000 per annum by contractual agreement with the City of Bangor which holds the principal.

Bangor Mechanic Association Fund, administered by the City of Bangor, principal \$12,000.

Income expendable only for books—

Edward Ellison Fund, administered by the Bangor Mechanic Association, principal \$10,000.

1953 Organization
Board of Managers and Trustees
of the
Bangor Public Library

Consisting of the
Trustees of the Hersey Fund

William P. Newman term expires January 1955
Donald S. Higgins, term expires January 1957
Boutelle Savage, term expires January 1959
John M. O'Connell, Jr., term expires January 1959
Ralph L. Waymouth, *ex officio* as City Treasurer
and the

Officers of the Bangor Mechanic Association

George F. Eaton
Charles F. Bragg, 2nd
Erwin S. Anderson
Horace S. Stewart

Officers

President, Donald S. Higgins
Vice-President, George F. Eaton
Treasurer, Erwin S. Anderson
Secretary and Clerk, L. Felix Ranlett

Standing Committee

Auditing, Mr. Higgins
Finance, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Eaton, and *ex officio*, Mr. Anderson
Purchasing, Mr. Bragg Mr. Savage, and Mr. Waymouth
Building and Grounds, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Newman, and Mr. O'Connell
Insurance and Property Values, Mr. Higgins, Mr. O'Connell, and Mr. Savage

1953 Organization

Library Personnel

(Who worked at any time during 1953)

Librarian and Staff

(In order of first appointment to staff)

Olive M. Smythe, *Reference Librarian*
 Pauline E. Tartre, *Chief, Accessions and Classification Department*
 *Alice M. Wetherell, *Children's Librarian*
 H. Eola Mayo, *Librarian's Secretary*
 Marion C. Cluff, *Chief, Catalog Department*
 L. Felix Ranlett, *Librarian*
 Ruth E. Dole, *Assistant, Circulation Department*
 Freda M. Wilks, *First Assistant, Catalog Department*
 Charlotte C. Bowler, *Chief, Circulation Department*
 Charlotte M. Torrey, *Chief, Extension Department*
 Rossa W. Giberson, *First Assistant, Accessions and Classification Dept.*
 Thelma A. Rebstock, *Assistant, Catalog Department*
 Helen H. Wheeler, *Children's Librarian*
 Dorothy H. Foley, *Assistant, Circulation Department*
 Dorrice M. Wetzler, *Assistant in Charge of Periodicals and Binding*
 Joanne L. Brooks, *Assistant, Children's Department*
 Jeanette Staples, *First Assistant, Reference Department*
 Dolores C. Toothaker, *Assistant, Extension Department*
 Joan M. Tesseo, *Assistant, Children's Department*
 Constance M. Brissette, *Assistant, Office*
 Harriette D. Pickard, *Assistant, Reference Department*
 Ethel K. Hamilton, *Assistant, Circulation Department*
 *Ethel S. Payne, *Assistant, Circulation Department*
 Doris M. Lichtenstein, *Assistant, Children's Department*
 Lillian Y. Marquis, *Assistant, Periodicals and Binding*
 Virginia M. Lane, *Assistant, Office*

Probationary and Part-time Assistants

*Susan L. Chase	*Barbara L. Mead
Benita J. Dorsky	*Marjorie M. Melvin
*Herbert P. Hicks	*Jeannine Morrow
Susan B. Humphrey	Mary J. Murray
*Charles A. Low, Jr.	*Hazel M. Seamans

Joyce F. Swan

Care of Building

Omer J. Nadeau, <i>Superintendent of the Building</i>	
Elmer W. Gibbs, <i>Janitor</i>	Cornelius Golden, <i>Asst. Jan.</i>
C. S. Barchard, <i>Engineer</i>	Edward L. McCann, <i>Asst. Jan.</i>
*Resigned	



A corner of the children's room, Bangor Public Library, before the beginning of the day's rush. Seen on the wall, left to right, are two paintings by Annie Eliza Hardy (1839-1935) and one by Valentin Henneman (1861-1930), both of Bangor, and a fourth by Warren C. Briggs (1867-1903). A part of the main lobby is seen through the archways at the left and right.—Photograph by Luther S. Phillips.

Statistics of the Library

TABLE A

Books in the Library, 1953

<i>By Class</i>			
Class and Class Number	In Library Jan. 1, 1953	Net Additions	In Library Dec. 31, 1953
General Works 000-099.....	17,380	653	18,033
Philosophy 100-199	4,021	46	4,067
Religion 200-299	7,659	212	7,871
Social Sciences 300-399.....	53,344	1,564	54,908
Language 400-499	1,434	15	1,449
Pure Science 500-599.....	10,297	267	10,564
Useful Arts 600-699	25,985	761	26,746
Fine Arts 700-799.....	37,006	499	37,505
Literature 800-899	20,127	272	20,399
Description 910-919	8,683	228	8,911
History 900-909, 930-999.....	23,591	471	24,062
Biography 920, 929 & B.....	17,618	574	18,192
Fiction	56,260	1,702	57,962
Totals	283,405	7,264	290,669
Gross additions were	10,200		
Removals	2,936		
Making net additions	7,264		

By Location and Kind, December 31, 1953

Location	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Central Library	214,998	25,856	240,854
Music Branch	19,877		19,877
Extension	14,042	15,896	29,938
Totals	248,917	41,752	290,669
Kind	Number	Percent	
Adult non-fiction	208,312	72%	
Adult fiction	40,605	14%	
Juvenile	41,752	14%	
	290,669	100%	
Volumes per capita.....			9.21%

TABLE B

Additions and Removals, 1953

<i>Sources of Additions</i>					
	New Titles	Added Copies	Replace- ments	Binding Serials	Totals
Purchase	3,647	3,553	783	622	8,605
Gift	562	913	13	82	1,570
Return after loss.....	.....	.....	25	.....	25
Totals	4,209	4,466	821	704	10,200
<i>Causes of Removals</i>					
Withdrawn:					
Worn out				1,818	
Duplicate				35	
Obsolete				599	
Exchange				1	
Sold				1	
Given away				73	
Damaged				9	
Total withdrawn					2,536
Lost:					
Charged out and not returned.....				143	
Missing in inventories				12	
Missing from classes not inventoried.....				60	
Lost and paid for.....				174	
Contagion				9	
Burned				2	
Total lost					400
Total removed					2,936
Net additions (additions less removals).....					7,264

TABLE C

Binding and Repair, 1953

Sent to bindery:		
Previously unbound:		
Volumes of serials	485	
Volumes not serials .....	.....	
Previously bound:		
Volumes to be rebound.....	3,387	
Volumes to be repaired .....	.....	
		3,872

TABLE D

Registration, 1953

(Principal registration period is three years)

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Card holders Jan. 1, 1954.....	14,045	2,273	16,318
Registrations removed because of failure to renew, change of ad- dress, death, etc.	2,760	649	3,409
New registrations, 1953.....	11,285 2,006	1,624 519	12,909 2,525
Theoretical total of card holders Dec. 31, 1953	13,291	2,143	15,434
Less discrepancy discovered by actual count of registrations in force Dec. 31, 1953.....	71	.....	71
Card holders Dec. 31, 1953.....	13,220	2,143	15,363
Including registrations renewed in 1953	1,872	186	2,058

TABLE E

Class of Borrowers, 1953

	Adult	Juvenile 3rd-8th Grade	Juvenile Parent's Cards	Total (Juve- nile)	Total
A. Bangor residents	10,677	1,629	453	(2,082)	12,759
AS. Army Service	830	.....	.....	.....	830
B. Business cards	171	.....	.....	.....	171
C. Non-resident individuals who pay \$1.00 a year (juvenile \$0.50) for over-the-desk service, or \$3.00 a year (juvenile \$1.50) plus postage for mail service	1,413	52	7	(59)	1,472
D. Special borrowers who make a deposit.....	24	2	.....	(2)	26
E. Libraries outside of Bangor	84	.....	.....	.....	84
I. Visitors who make a de- posit of \$2.00.....	17	.....	.....	.....	17
J. Non-resident groups	4	.....	.....	.....	4
	13,220	1,683	460	(2,143)	15,363
Percent of population registered, counting only classes A, AS, and B					44%
Percent of population registered, counting all classes.....					49%

TABLE F
Circulation, 1953
Entire Library

	Adult Non- Fiction	Adult Fiction	Juvenile	Total
Central Library				
General works, 000-099.....	587	.....	545	1,132
Philosophy 100-199	2,255	.....	26	2,281
Religion 200-299	2,257	.....	526	2,783
Social sciences 300-399.....	4,961	.....	20,326	25,287
Languages 400-499	390	.....	41	431
Pure science 500-599.....	2,341	.....	1,781	4,122
Useful arts 600-699.....	7,531	.....	2,426	9,957
Fine arts 700-799.....	6,821	.....	1,312	8,133
Literature 800-899	7,318	.....	923	8,241
Description 910-919	6,021	.....	1,062	7,083
History 900-909, 930-999.....	2,489	.....	1,156	3,645
Biography 920-929 and B.....	5,990	.....	2,027	8,017
Current periodicals 000.....	19,909	.....	707	20,616
Fiction .....	.....	88,757	20,702	109,459
Total Central Library.....	68,870	88,757	53,560	211,187
Music Branch—records	2,465	.....	.....	2,465
Music Branch—music	4,902	.....	.....	4,902
Total Music Branch.....	7,367	.....	.....	7,367
Total, Central Library and Music Branch.....	76,237	88,757	53,560	218,554
Extension Department	4,782	14,425	51,301	70,508
Total entire library.....	81,019	103,182	104,861	289,062
Percent	28%	36%	36%	100%
Circulation per capita.....	.....	.....	.....	9.16
Circulation per registered borrower.....	.....	.....	.....	18.82

Extension Department 1953

	Adult Non- Fiction	Adult Fiction	Juvenile	Total
Bangor grade schools (public, grades I-VI and parochial, grades I-VIII) .....	.....	.....	15,832	15,832
Bangor High School.....	1,494	4,000	.....	5,494
John Bapst High School.....	346	1,371	.....	1,717
Fifth St. Jr. High.....	.....	.....	13,477	13,477
Garland St. Jr. High.....	.....	.....	12,520	12,520
Dedham Schools .....	.....	.....	485	485
Holden Schools .....	.....	.....	624	624
Orrington Schools .....	.....	.....	2,677	2,677

Veazie Schools			1,359	1,359
Bangor Sanatorium	45	617		662
Bangor Children's Home.....			177	177
Bangor City Hospital.....	5	31		36
Bangor Theological Seminary.....	173			173
Burrill's Convalescent Home.....	48	365		413
E.M.G.H. Doctors' Medical.....	135			135
E.M.G.H. Nurses' Professional.....	192			192
E.M.G.H. Patients' Library.....	1,969	5,912	3,490	11,371
Good Samaritan Home.....	25	167		192
Hammond Street Church.....	19	112		131
Home for Aged Men.....	3	21		24
Home for Aged Women.....	96	970		1,066
King's Daughters Home.....	22	231		253
Prescott's Convalescent Home.....	69	433		502
Summer Camps	96	46	660	802
Teachers' Sets	45	149		194
Totals	4,782	14,425	51,301	70,508

Deposits as follows, were also maintained, where books were used for reference only: Bangor Osteopathic Hospital Doctors' Medical Library, City Clerk's Office, City Manager's Office, City Planner's Office, City Purchasing Agent's Office, City Hospital, Elementary School Workshop, Penobscot Bar Library, Police Headquarters, Public Welfare Department Office, Public Works Department Office, State Street Clinic, Water Board Office. 61 sets of encyclopedias are on deposit in school rooms or principals' offices.

TABLE G

Growth and Circulation, 1934-1953

Year	Books in Library Dec. 31	Circulation
1934.....	168,439	378,448
1935.....	174,162	388,089
1936.....	180,397	389,363
1937.....	186,914	384,801
1938.....	195,726	389,785
1939.....	204,928	415,723
1940.....	212,193	416,029
1941.....	218,181	405,323
1942.....	222,249	358,740
1943.....	228,236	310,535
1944.....	230,968	314,317
1945.....	236,562	316,655
1946.....	243,812	310,699
1947.....	251,116	308,058
1948.....	257,860	310,727
1949.....	264,657	308,181
1950.....	271,168	303,096
1951.....	276,144	309,180
1952.....	283,405	297,979
1953.....	290,669	289,062

TABLE H

Miscellaneous Statistics, 1953

Postal card notices for overdue books.....	10,685
Second notices for overdue books.....	1,051
Reference questions answered, adult.....	26,878
Reserves for home use.....	8,638
Discarded books given away.....	1,779
Lectures outside library.....	14
Exhibits in lecture hall:	
By invitation of the library.....	9
Offered.....	11
Public meetings (by 27 organizations).....	158
Mail service to 214 individuals and 42 libraries in 144 cities or towns, total books.....	6,385
Borrowed from 10 libraries, books.....	27
Lent to 42 libraries, books.....	731
Newspapers currently received:	
Titles.....	17
Duplicates.....	3
Other periodicals currently received:	
Titles.....	853
Duplicates.....	349
New cards filed in all catalogs and shelf lists.....	22,280
Staff hours lost from illness, funerals, etc.	1,292

TABLE I

U. S. Office of Education, Public Library Statistical Report, 1953

Report for fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1953

City of Bangor, Penobscot County, Maine

1. Name of Library, Bangor Public Library. Date of founding, 1883.
2. Name of Librarian, L. Felix Ranlett. Date appointment, January 1, 1937.
3. Chief Librarian appointed by, The Board of Managers of the Bangor Public Library.
4. Governmental unit of support, City. Population served, 31,558 (1950 U. S. Census, final).
5. Terms of use: a. Free for lending to residents of Bangor. Lends to others for a fee or deposit.
6. Central Library is housed in a building owned by the Library and erected in 1913.
Daily Schedule (Central Library)
7. Open for circulation, reading and study:
 - Jan. 1-June 13, Sept. 7-Dec. 31. Daily, except Sundays,
9 A. M. to 9 P. M., total 72 hours a week.
 - June 14-Sept. 5. Daily, Mon.-Fri. 9 A. M. to 7 P. M.
Sat. 9 A. M. to 1 P. M., total 54 hours a week.

8. Number of days open during year, 304. Entirely closed on holidays, Jan. 1, Feb. 23, April 20, May 30, July 4, Sept. 7, Nov. 11, Nov. 26, Dec. 25.

Agencies

9. Central Library	1
10. Number of branches and sub-branches:	
c. In other than library buildings or schools.....	1
11. Number of stations: a. In schools.....	135
b. Other	18
12. Other agencies	13
13. Total agencies	168

Circulation and Use

	Volumes	Percentage of Total Circulation
15. Number of volumes of adult non-fiction lent for home use	81,019	28%
16. Number of volumes of adult fiction lent for home use	103,182	36%
17. Number of books for children lent for home use	104,861	36%
18. Total number of volumes lent for home use	289,062	100%
19. Period of loan for the majority of adult book stock is 28 days.		
20. Number of interlibrary loans:		
Volumes lent		731
Volumes borrowed		27
21. Number of reference questions answered (adult).....		26,898

Registration

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
22. Total number of registered borrowers.....	13,220	2,143	15,363
23. Borrowers registered or reregistered.....	3,878	705	4,583
24. Number of non-resident borrowers (in- cluded above)	1,542	61	1,603
25. Annual fee for non-resident borrowers			
a. Over the desk.....	\$1.00	\$0.50	
b. By mail	3.00	1.50	
26. The length of the registration period is 3 years for residents and 1 year for non-residents or soldiers on duty in Bangor.			

Book Stock

27. Number of volumes at beginning of year...	243,542	39,863	283,405
28. Number of volumes added during year.....	7,483	2,717	10,200
Total	251,025	42,580	293,605
29. Number of volumes withdrawn from record during year.....	2,108	828	2,936
30. Total number of volumes at end of year...	248,917	41,752	290,669

BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

31. Number of newspapers currently received excluding duplicates	16
32. Number of periodicals currently received excluding duplicates	795

Personnel

47. Full-time equivalent of all employees.....	29.90
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Finance

48. Assessed valuation of city, April 1, 1953...	\$38,493,960.00
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Receipts

52. City Appropriation (includes state grant of \$200.00).....	\$ 30,516.00
58. Incomes from endowment, trust and invested funds.....	111,060.32
60. Petty cash: Fines, fees, memberships, etc.....	4,729.44
62. Other sources	782.37
63. Total	147,088.13
64. Unexpended balance from previous year.....	162,500.36
	<u>\$309,588.49</u>

Expenditures

65. Salaries: Library staff	\$ 50,778.78
66. Salaries: Building staff	7,685.50
67. Books: Price	22,075.73
Books: Processing	16,576.00
68. Periodicals	6,244.41
69. Binding, repairing and mending.....	7,032.19
71. Heat, light, power, water.....	3,837.30
72. Insurance (all types)	1,578.78
73. Other operating expenses	19,221.78
74. Total ordinary operating expenses.....	135,030.47
75. Major improvements .....	.....
76. Grand total operating expenses.....	135,030.47
77. Balance on hand at end of fiscal year (including \$166,302.75 restricted to purchase of books and \$7,063.86 appropriated for Elevator Fund).....	174,558.02
Total	<u>\$309,588.49</u>

Total endowment principal—Administered by Trustees (\$2,225,275.69 not expendable)	\$2,295,212.04
Administered by others (not expendable).....	122,000.00
	<u><u>\$2,417,212.04</u></u>

The City of Bangor and The Bangor Public Library

In 1953 74% of the entire ordinary cost of the library was met by the income of the trust funds described on pages 3-5 of this report, 3% was met by fees and fines, and the remaining 23% was supplied by appropriation by the City of Bangor under the provisions of section 6 of chapter 19 of the city ordinances: "For the purpose of maintaining a free public library and hereafter provide for the necessary expense of such maintenance, there shall be annually appropriated by the city council under the title of 'Library Fund' a sum sufficient to meet the estimated current expense of maintaining such library for the benefit of the public; such appropriation to be in charge of and expended under the direction of the trustees of the Hersey Fund." These provisions are the result of the contractual relationship between the city and the library set up in (1) the agreement of the city and the Bangor Mechanic Association ratified June 5, 1883 and (2) the action in 1904 under which the library discontinued membership charges to borrowers to become a free public library and the city assumed the necessary expense of maintaining such a library for the benefit of the public.

1000 copies

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