

**Northern Nebraska  
Journal May, 1911**

**Council Votes \$4500 Library**

PASSES RESOLUTION SETTING  
ASIDE 3 MILLS FOR  
MAINTENANCE PURPOSES.

At the first meeting of the new city council on Tuesday evening a committee from the Public Library board presented a letter from Andrew Carnegie in which he expressed his willingness to present Ponca with a Public Library building to cost \$3000. The levy for maintenance now is 2 mills which produced annually about \$300. Mr. Carnegie gives ten times the sum when donating a library building. The last legislature having passed a law allowing three mill levy for library purposes, the board thought it wise to levy the limit and thus get a \$4500 building.

The Public Works committee of the council will have charge of the matter of looking up a site for the building.

(see mentioned letter in addendum)

**Northern Nebraska Journal  
December 14, 1911**

**PUBLIC LIBRARY A  
CERTAINTY**

Sec'y A. V. Teed Resolves Letter  
to That Effect

**GETTING A SITE NEXT STEP**

**Construction Work May Begin in  
Early Spring**

Secretary of the Library Board A. V. Teed is in receipt of a communication from the private secretary of Andrew Carnegie in which he states that Mr. Carnegie will increase his formerly promised donation from \$3,100 to \$4,500, with the usual stipulation as to maintenance.

The selection of a site is the next step to be taken and now offers an opportunity for some public spirited citizen of Ponca to distinguish himself by donating the necessary site. There are several sites that are suitable and desirable and one of them will probably be decided on soon, and the work of construction commences in the spring.

(see mention letter in addendum)

**Northern Nebraska Journal  
December 29, 2011**

**COUNCIL MEETS LIBRARY  
BOARD**

In Joint Session to Consider  
Question of Site

**SEVERAL SITES OFFERED**

Mayor Hart and N. P. Heydon  
Offer Sites.

As we go to press a joint meeting is being held by the city council and the library board to consider the question of a site for the new Carnegie library soon to be erected.

Several sites have been offered free to the city. Mayor Hart offers the lot immediately east of the Logan residence, and N. P. Heydon offers the lot next north of Dr. O'Connell's home. E. E. Rice and A. V. Teed also offer sites, but at some distance out.

The Bisbee property is considered a desirable location, and can be bought for about a thousand dollars. It is probable that it will be decided to solicit funds for the purchase of this site, and if not enough can be raised then decide on one of the other locations.

## **Northern Nebraska Journal March 7, 1912**

### **Library Site is Selected**

Scenic Site on Nebraska Street  
Picked

First City Must Vacate the Street

Library Board at last Agrees on Site  
at Friday Meeting

At the Friday night meeting of the library board it was agreed that the most available site for the public library is the site adjoining the place now occupied by John Mikesell on the east. This is a public street, but unused and not likely to be opened up.

The city council must first act upon the proposition before it can become final as the site. It must vacate the street.....??????

## **Northern Nebraska Journal March 14, 1912**

### **Report of Public Library**

Report of Ponca Public Library  
for the year ending March 12,  
1912.

No. volumes March 12, 1911  
723. No. of volumes March  
12, 1912. 1151

Borrowers cards issued 702.  
Withdrawn ?? Rural  
borrowers 25.

Circulation: German(?) 95.  
Non-fiction 211; ????? 91;  
Fiction 5345, total 8207.  
Fines, etc. \$25.29

Esther Wood, Librarian

## **Northern Nebraska Journal March 21, 2012**

### **Library Plans are Accepted**

On Monday evening the library committee met with Architect G. W. Burkhead of Sioux City, to select a plan for the library.

An attractive, classic design was selected, to be constructed of brick, faced with Bedford limestone. Mr. Burkhead is to receive \$225.00 for plans and supervision.

A blue print will be sent to Mr. Carnegie for his approval, after which the work of construction will proceed.

## **Northern Nebraska Journal April 11, 1912**

### **Library Plans to be Altered**

Carnegie Disapproves Plans  
Submitted

Word has been received from Mr. Carnegie in which suggestions are made as to

alterations of the library plans submitted to him from Ponca.

He requires the removal of the pillars and portico in front of the building as proposed. The architect is now revising the plans.

## **Northern Nebraska Journal May 16, 1912**

### **An Ordinance**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE  
MAYOR AND CITY  
COUNCIL

Sec. 1 That it is hereby declared necessary and expedient for the public good to vacate that part of Nebraska Street lying north of Second Street and between the south half of Block 1 and the south half of Block 98, original plat of the city of Ponca, for the purpose of acquiring a site for a public library.

## **Northern Nebraska Journal June 13, 1912**

### **Notice to Contractors**

Sealed proposals will be received up til 2 p.m. on June 18, 1912, at the office of G. W. Burkehead, architect, Sioux City, Ia, for the construction of a Carnegie library building to be erected

at Ponca, Nebr. Plans are on file at the furniture store of J. A. Mohr, Ponca, Neb., and at the office of the architect.

A certified check in the sum of \$100, as a guarantee of good faith, shall accompany each bid. A bond of 50 (percent of the architect) price will be required of the successful bidder. The library board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal June 20, 1912**

#### **Library Contract has been Signed**

**Henry G. Thompson of Sioux City is the Lowest Bidder**

The building committee of the library board has accepted the bid of Henry O. Thompson, of Sioux City, who contracts to complete the construction of the building by September 1<sup>st</sup> for \$4240.25, which was the lowest bid submitted, the highest being \$7000.00.

Grading will be commenced next week, and the work of construction will be under way as soon as possible.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal July 18, 1912**

Items of Interest: Work on the foundation of the new

Carnegie Library is progressing rapidly.

#### **ORDINANCE**

Sec 2 That \$450.00 be appropriated for the support of the Public Library, and that a levy of three mills be made to provide for the payment of the same.

#### **New Books at the Public Library**

Fiction: Reeve, Silent Bullet; Sienkiewicz, In Desert and Wilderness; Hold, Midnight at Mears Home; Comfort, Fate Knocks at the Door; Scott, Last Try; Whitlock, Fall Guy, Harris, Recording Angel, Dixon, Sins of the Fathers, Haggard, Red Eye Peyee; Chris, Cleaned for Defense; Sedgwick, Tante; Bower, Lonesome Land; Erskine, Mountain Girl; Oppenheim, Lighted Way; Dowd, Polly of the Hospital Staff; Atherton, Julia France and her Times; Sherman, He comes Up Smiling, Ferber, Buttered Side Down; Cutcheon, Worth her Weight in Gold; Canfield, Squirrel-Cage; Kipling, Light that Failed; Nicholson, Hoosier Chronicle; Kester, Just and Unjust; Fox, Blue-grass and Rhododendron; Ellia, Fran; Cutting, Lovers of Sanna; Hough, John Rah; Boshier, Man in Lonely Land; Chester, Five Thousand an Hour

Juvenile: Peary, Children of the Arctic, The Snowbaby; Caffin, Boys of '76; Smith, Bunny Bright Eyes, Little Bear, Three Little Cotton Tails, Seventeen Little Bears, Tale of Bunny Cotton-Tail, Bunny-boy and Grizzlybear; Burnett, Sara Crewe; Long, Wood Folk at School; Beebe, Henry W. Longfellow; Saunders, Beautiful

Joe; Pyle, Prose and Fiction for Children; Coolidge, What Katy Did next; Seton, Arctic Prairies; Grey, Riders of the purple Sage.

Non-Fiction: Antin, Promised Land, Ross, Changing America, ???, Changing Chinese; Chapman, Learning and Other Essays; Bjorkman, Plays by Strindberg; Bierce, Write it Right.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal October 17, 1912**

#### **Library Meeting**

The Library Board met Friday evening in the library to confer with contractor Thompson concerning certain complaints regarding the work on the library thus far accomplished.

There had been some complaint, and Mr. Thompson explained the apparent defects, and assured the board that they would be adjusted in such a manner as to leave the building in good condition.

About seventy-five new books were authorized to be ordered, and some bills were allowed.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal December 5, 1912**

#### **To Raise Money**

It was decided at the library meeting Monday evening to raise the balance required to complete the furnishings of

the library by popular subscriptions.

The furniture costs \$232.25, grading \$35.25, and the estimated cost of cement work, retaining wall and steps is \$100, and the furnace will cost about \$135. There are other items which will be taken care of outside

This money must be raised before the building can be completed according to the terms of Mr. Carnegie when he will turn over balance of donation. It is now expected that the library will be occupied by January 1.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal December 5, 1912**

#### **Local News:**

The library is rapidly nearing completion, and work is being rushed right along

#### **Personal Items:**

The library board held a meeting Tuesday evening to consider the question of heating the library and other matters connected with the completion of the building.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal December 26, 1912**

#### **Library Board**

The library board met last Thursday evening.

Contract was let for the furnace to Wm. Auge at \$125. H. H. Miille submitted a bid for \$130.

The furnace selected is the Quaker furnace, and the contract includes all pipes and extras and placing the furnace.

Bills were allowed, and the librarian authorized to select a substitute to serve during her absence at Lincoln this winter.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal January 23, 1913**

#### **Library Meeting**

The library board had a meeting last Friday afternoon with Architect Burkhead to go over the matter of taking possession of the library. In view of the absence of Contractor Thompson, who was unable to be present on account of sickness, it was decided to postpone moving into the library until he could be present and make settlement.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal January 30, 1913**

#### **Library Meeting**

The library board met Fri eve in the library rooms over the Security Bank to consider the matter of insurance and of

moving into the new building.

It was decided after hearing a legal opinion by Attorney J. J. McCarthy to move into the new building this week, in order that the old room might be vacated and rent stopped by the first of next month.

It was also decided that the building be insured at once, by a policy for four thousand dollars, for one year, and contents for \$500.

Books will be issued from the new building Saturday afternoon for the first time, when the public may inspect the new library home.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal February 6, 1913**

Under the direction of Secretary Teed the books of the public library were moved into the new Carnegie building last week. The pictures also were transferred, and a glass door cabinet provided for the guns and B. A. R. relics which were donated to the library by the local post. The post also contributed their pictures which have been placed in the library. The chairs having arrived the furniture is now all in, and the tomed(?) oak finish of these substantial pieces show up to excellent advantage. Reading room now being available the

library will no doubt be patronized more than ever.

### **Northern Nebraska Journal February 13, 1913**

#### **Library Meeting**

The Library Board met Tuesday evening in Dr. Young's office to take up various matters requiring attention.

A number of bills were allowed and an order for books authorized.

Secretary Teed reported that he had collected most of the amounts signed for by contributors for the purchase of furniture and furnace, and other improvements.

The hours for keeping open the library were changed from two o'clock to six o'clock, to one o'clock to five o'clock. This time will be in effect Saturday.

### **Nebraska Journal Leader June 12, 1913**

The library board met last Friday afternoon and made the final payment of the new library building also paid for the retaining wall and other concrete work, together with various other small bills. The board also made arrangements for the grading in of the grounds and infilling in around the building. When all the work is completed

about the building, which will be soon now, Ponca will have the finest public library of any town of its size in the state, an institution that the citizens may well take just pride in.

### **Nebraska Journal Leader June 19, 1913**

#### **Local News**

Saturday the grading at the Ponca Public Library was completed under the supervision of A. V. Teed. As soon as possible, grass will be sown and the lawn seeded. The grading has made a wonderful improvement in the appearance of the building and as soon as a nice grassy lawn is secured it will give it the proper setting, which will make it the finest looking building for the money expended we know of in the state. The money used in the construction has been judiciously expended.

### **Nebraska Journal Leader November 6, 1913**

#### **New Library Ruling Pleases the Reading Public**

The public library is now open one evening of each week. This move was decided upon at the last meeting of the board and is already a popular feature of the library as it gives the

business man and the day laborer a chance to get books from the library. Formerly when the place was open only in the afternoons from two to five very few persons besides school children and retired folk were able to secure books. It is to be hoped that more people will take advantage of the new ruling on the library board and patronize the library to a greater extent than heretofore, as unless the evening circulation in the evening warrants it, there is a possibility of the evening service being discontinued.