

VANPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Report for December 1943.

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The usual Christmas buying rush as well as widespread illness affected the Vanport Library noticeably during December. Many books due early in the month have not yet been returned, but we do not feel unduly alarmed about them for during the past week most overdue books which have been returned have been accompanied by comments such as: "I was so busy getting ready for Christmas I could not get in to the Library" or "For the last two weeks I have been laid up with the flu."

Our hospital visits were limited to two this month because of the flu. We have no satisfactory book box to place in the hospital office as yet so it is difficult to keep track of all the books, but we have been promised one in the near future.

Toward the end of the month we received the first copies of our leaflet about Library Service in Vanport City. Everyone finds them interesting and informative. We hope they will have wide distribution.

Shortly before Christmas the Librarian read a Christmas story at a well attended neighborhood Council meeting. It is a great pleasure to meet these women and to hear them discuss their problems. It is also a good opportunity for us to remind the women of Vanport that the library is ready to serve them.

When we look back over the special requests we have taken during the month, we realize how truly cosmopolitan are the tastes of the Vanport people and how we must keep this fact in mind in building up our collection. Several volumes of Jules Romain's great opus "Men of Good Will" have been asked for repeatedly. The Koran, Freud's "Interpretation of Dreams", books on antiques, a life of John Randolph of Roanoke, Sears Roebuck catalog, Brontes "Villette", Ripley's "Believe it or not" are some of our requests. Numerous people here are studying to become citizens, and some of them have asked our help in providing books which will aid them in learning about our history and government.

We continue to check the daily check-out and transfer list, and we must admit that we are not surprised at the large number of people returning to their homes each day.



Most people feel that they can speak freely (if not out loud) in the Library, and we are sorry to say that too many of them dislike Oregon and all Oregonians. Knowing this it spurs us on to make the Vanport Library a place where they will feel that they have been given a truly hospitable welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eleanor Touhey*  
Eleanor Touhey, Librarian  
Vanport Public Library

Books Cataloged during December:

Vanport Public Library:	297
Vanport School Libraries:	465
Total	<u>762</u>