

NEW LIBRARY

FORMALLY OPENED

The new Public Library was formally opened last Monday evening at a reception tendered the public by the Tuesday Evening Club, at which time the books belonging to that organization were turned over to the city. It was a great occasion, and a happy one to the members of this club for their "hopes and fears of all the years" were that day realized. The club members, gowned in white, each wearing a red carnation, were all present and assisted in the care and entertainment of the guests. In the receiving line were Mrs. Lippard, Mrs. Ridgway, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Buell, Mrs. Marvin, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Sisson, Mrs. Spray, Mrs. Disman, Mrs. Rech, Mrs. Deen, Mrs. Mosgrove, and Mayor Buchanan.

It was nine o'clock when the president, Mrs. Lippard, called the large assemblage to order and spoke as follows:

"'Tis said, that 'A thing of beauty is a joy forever,' and I am sure that whenever any of us pass by this beautiful building our hearts swell with joy and pride. And now as the time has come when we, who have loved and cherished our treasure as a mother cherishes her only daughter, are to let it pass from our care, it is with pleasure akin to pain that we give up our guardianship. The hopes and the fears, the trials and delays that have accompanied our task have but endeared the building to our hearts.

"This is a proud moment for every Tuesday Evening Club woman. At last, after years of hard struggle, we see the culmination of all our efforts and our hopes. We have nurtured our child from it's tiniest infancy, and have watched it grow and develop until now it has expanded into the realization of our fondest hopes and dreams, and as it now passes into the care of others it is with a mother's love that we give it up, and with a mother's love will we always devote our best efforts to it. May it prove to be an ever increasing blessing, bringing pleasure to ourselves and hope and comfort to others. May each succeeding year broaden it's influence in the community. The books gathered during the years while we were waiting for this building to become a reality, are very dear to our hearts, and in giving them to you we feel we are committing to your care a priceless treasure.

"And you who have so generously aided us in making the realization possible, we extend our heart felt thanks, and we trust that for any sacrifice you may have made in giving this aid, you will be compensated a thousand fold by the benefits you and your children may receive in the years to come.

"Honorable Mayor, we present through you, the deed that conveys to the City of Salida this building and the lots upon which it stands, to have and to hold forever, and we only hope that, as the years go by, those having it in charge may say, 'They builded better than they knew.'

and then shall we know that it was worth while.' "

Mayor Buchanan, in responding for the city, introduced his remarks most happily by quoting:

"When America's eyes are fixed on many things,
The fate of empires and the fall of kings;
And quacks of state must each propose his plan.
And even children lisp the rights of man;
In this mighty fuss just let me mention,
The rights of women merit some attention."

After accepting the library, the mayor expressed his pride and pleasure in the occasion that had brought the people together and paid a graceful tribute to Mr. Carnegie, whose gift had made the building possible. Mrs. Duncan then read a greeting from Prof. Kesner, and the exercises closed with a prayer by Mr. Morphy of the Baptist church.

Everyone then proceeded to inspect the building and gradually drifted down to the Assembly room, where punch of a delicious quality was served and piano music furnished by a bevy of High School girls.

It was a matter of great regret that the generous donor of the lots on which the building stands, Mrs. Mary Ridgway, could not be present. Mrs. Ridgway was the Club's first president and has always been greatly interested in its work.

It is thirteen years since the first books were purchased as a nucleus for this public library, and a retrospect of the work to raise funds during that time brings kaleidoscopic visions of home talent plays, a Dickens entertainment, Lady Minstrels, suppers, picnics, entertainment courses, subscriptions papers, and a host of other money-making devices. And the result? A well stocked library and a property valued at \$15,000.00 owned by the city of Salida