

## THE DWIGHT PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Dwight Public Library was formally dedicated on October 12, 1926. Due to rain, the exercises were held in the Blackstone Theatre, instead of on the lawn in front of the Library.

Mrs. Dr. Dondanville, the president of the Dwight Women's Club was the presiding officer. She told of the club's activities and efforts in obtaining the money to build the beautiful building. There were musical numbers, a pageant and the speaker of the day was Mr. George Utley, Librarian of Newberry Library, Chicago.

The cost of the building was \$9000.00 and some of the individual contributors were:-

Col. F. L. Smith	\$1000.00
Mr. Ed McWilliams	1000.00
Mrs. J. R. Oughton	1000.00
Dr. J. H. Oughton	1000.00
Former residents	
Maj. C. J. Judd	500.00
Philip Ahern Estate	100.00
Mr. C. M. Baker, Chicago	50.00

A slight annual tax of one and eight-tenths mills on the dollar was levied for the support of the Library.

On January 31, 1927, the Library was opened to the public with Mrs. Litta Haise Martin as librarian and Miss Clara Hobbs as assistant.

There were 1800 volumes with more to be added. Dwight C. Morgan donated "The Early History of Illinois" in memory of his father the late Col. Richard Price Morgan. Mr. E. O. Welch donated a set of the Agricultural Year Books. The M. E. Sunday School donated their complete library. The library board expended \$500.00 for new books.

Now in 1954 there are about 6000 volumes. Mrs. Martin remained Librarian until May of 1946, almost 20 years, when Mrs. Effie Duffy took over the duties. Following her was Mrs. Grace West and for the past five years, Mrs. Lenore Hahn has been the Librarian.