



Books & Culture in 1909

-A look back in time-

HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1909-2009

HBPL

AND

THE CITY OF
HUNTINGTON
BEACH

CELEBRATE
100 YEARS
OF SERVICE



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BESTSELLERS AND POPULAR MUSIC OF 1909

FICTION

1. *THE INNER SHRINE*, ANONYMOUS (BASIL KING)
2. *KATRINE*, ELINOR MACARTNEY LANE
3. *THE SILVER HORDE*, REX BEACH
4. *THE MAN IN LOWER TEN*, MARY ROBERTS RINEHART
5. *THE TRAIL OF THE LONESOME PINE*, JOHN FOX JR.
6. *TRUXTON KING*, GEORGE BARR MCCUTCHEON
7. *54-40 OR FIGHT*, EMERSON HOUGHT
8. *THE GOOSE GIRL*, HAROLD MACGRATH
9. *PETER*, F. HOPKINSON SMITH
10. *SEPTIMUS*, WILLIAM J. LOCKE



In the publication of *The Inner Shrine*, Harper Publishers used anonymity to build up curiosity.

POPULAR SONGS OF THE YEAR:

1. *BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON*,
2. *CASEY JONES*,
3. *EVERY LITTLE MOVEMENT*,
4. *PUT ON YOUR OLD GREY BONNET*

MAGAZINES

1. DILINEATOR
2. MCCALL'S
3. LADIES HOME JOURNAL
4. GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
5. WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION
6. PICTORIAL REVIEW



DID YOU KNOW?

- May 3, 1909. The first wireless telegraphic press message was sent from New York to Chicago.
- The New York Times publishes the first movie review, a critique of D.W. Griffith's *Pippa Passes*.
- In 1909, the first radio station with a regular series of programs is begun by Charles D. "Doc" Herrold of San Jose, who powers his station by illegally tapping into the streetcar lines of the Santa Fe Railway.
- By 1909, the movies have become a \$40-million-a-year industry employing more than one thousand artists and craftspeople. There are roughly ten thousand "moving picture" theaters in the United States in 1909.

READ MORE ABOUT LIFE IN 1909...

BOOKS

America's Gilded Age: An Eyewitness History by Judith Freeman Clark

America 1900: The Turning Point by Judy Crichton

The Good Years: From 1900 to the First War by Walter Lord

Dawn of the Century: 1900-1910 by the Editors of Time-Life Books

Century of Service: A History of Huntington Beach by Mike Heywood

Huntington Beach: Gem of the South Coast by Diann Marsh

Huntington Beach, California by Chris Epting

WEBSITES

Infoplease article on the Year 1909
<http://www.infoplease.com/year/1909.html>

Brief Timeline of American History, Literature and Movies 1900-1909, Washington State University
<http://www.wsu.edu/~campbelld/amlit/1900m.html>

Today in History presented by the Library of Congress
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/archive.html>

Bestsellers of the 1900's
<http://www.caderbooks.com/best00.html>

American Popular Music 1900-1950 from Kingwood College
<http://kclibrary.nhmccd.edu/music-2.html>

EARLY HISTORY OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY 1909-1911

From the beginning the Huntington Beach Public Library has been an illustration of citizen concern for the community and its future generations.

Shortly before the city was incorporated February 1909, the possibility of opening a library was brought to the attention of the Board of Trade by two citizens, R.W. Blodgett and Mrs. R.H. Lindgren. Efforts of these two citizens aroused the interest of some local organizations and the Huntington Beach Women's Club called a mass meeting on February 15, 1909, to form a library association. This meeting resulted in a temporary organization being established and Mrs. Blodgett was asked to draw up a constitution and by-laws for the new organization.

Once the Public Library Association was established, friends in the community began giving books and other necessary things and a home for the new library became a problem. The board decided to buy an old office building which was to be moved and Mr. Reed guaranteed payment of \$50 for the roofless building. Mr. S. E. Hearn agreed to allow the

board to move the building to a lot at the corner of Walnut Avenue and Main Street for a nominal rent charge. Community involvement in the new library was particularly noteworthy during this period. During the time the citizens and the library trustees were busy readying the new library the city was officially incorporated and a board of trustees, the forerunner of today's city council, was elected.

On June 14, 1909, the president of the Public Library Association, Mr. Everett, appeared before the city board and offered to turn over the library to the city. The subsequent agreement called for the city to set aside \$300 for the immediate use of the library, to assume its debts and to support the library with tax funds. After Mr. Everett's appearance before the board, the city governing body enacted Ordinance 18, which established a public library.

Shortly after the city acquired the new library, Elizabeth Singleton and two assistant librarians from Long Beach came to the city and catalogued the books

free of charge. Their lunches and traveling expenses were provided by the Library Board of Trustees. Edith Brown of Long Beach became the first city librarian in July, 1909. At that time there were 338 volumes in the library, 228 were gifts while 110 had been bought new. The new library subscribed to twelve magazines and held hours of 10 a.m. to noon and 2:00 p.m. to 7 p.m. In August, Mr. Hearn, owner of the property where the library was located, notified the Library Board that the library had to move by the end of the year. In January, 1911, the library was moved to the intersection of Walnut Avenue and 3rd Street.

- Excerpt taken from the Dedication Booklet for the Huntington Beach Library & Cultural Center, April 5, 1975.

