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OCCASIONAL PAPERS

Number Nine (April 1950)

Basic Bookmobile Specifications

[These specifications were written and supplied by the Gerstenslager Company of Wooster, Ohio. They are presented in this series as of value to the profession and not necessarily with the endorsement of the University of Illinois Library School. Consideration will be gladly given to comparable specifications supplied by any other commercial firm. To save space, an asterisk (*) has been used here to indicate, under a heading for one size group, that information given under the same heading for the next previous size group is repeated.--Ed.]

Small Classification

(1000 - 1500 volumes' capacity; 10' - 12' in length from back of driver's seat to rear end; 72-5/8" in width from wall to wall with single rear tires and 86-5/8" with dual rear tires; and 6'3" in height from floor to roof lining at low point.)

Standard Equipment

Service doors: side entrance doors extreme front and rear of side panel on right side; 26" door opening equipped with steel safety-plate step-wells, 9" treads, bottom step folding down 12" from ground; doors equipped with ventilating window 12" x 18".

Rear end: panelled solid with 15" x 36", three section windows installed and with center section, 24" wide, ventilating.

Roof: all-steel turret-type roof equipped with two skylights, 18" x 20", constructed of safety plate glass sealed in rubber and waterproof; roof area insulated with 2" Fibreglas insulation and underside of roof beneath insulation lined with 20 guage auto body sheet steel.

Cab: compartment equipped with bucket-type driver's seat, adjustable and reversible; two windshield wipers, one rear view mirror, one sun visor, safety plate glass in windshield, rubber floor mat.

Lighting: body wired according to commercial electrical standards for 110 volt light system; six 24" fluorescent fixtures installed to give proper light diffusion; outlets for appliances installed front and rear; entry box for outside current located in upper left corner of rear panel with 100' special type extension cord for outdoor use, for connection to outside power source; body wired with 6-8 volt battery current and two dome lights installed for auxiliary use; all exterior marker lights, reflectors, stop and tail lights to meet all ICC requirements and individual state laws.

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Heating: cab area equipped with special bus and truck type heater and defroster equipment, furnishing 12,000 BTU when truck motor is running; Hunter gasoline heater, model UH-43 (30,000 BTU), installed on left side of body ahead of wheelhousing, in bottom shelf for proper heat distribution, with grille cover for air intake and exhaust. This heater may be operated independently of the truck motor.

Shelving: wood and steel shelving installed according to ALA standards, pitched at 15 degree angle, and with shelves covered with corrugated rubber mats to hold books in place; special sections include magazine racks, space for children's books and oversize books, and clothes closet in left rear corner.

Charge-out desk: to be built of 1" plywood back of driver's seat; 18" x 36" top covered with battleship linoleum to match floor; card well 12" x 12" built into right side of desk; shelves and drawers beneath desk top; 12" x 18" cupboard installed above desk for supply space.

Floor: double construction with 7/16" long leaf pine sub-floor, 13/16" kiln-dried, center- and end-matched hardwood top floor, and black waterproof paper between floor layers; wood floor covered with heavy duty battleship linoleum, metal bound around all open edges for maximum serviceability, and color of linoleum to harmonize with interior trim; floor level kept as near ground as possible by heavy gauge steel wheelhousings, square in shape and sealed water- and dust-tight.

Painting: one solid color chosen by customer, of highest grade automotive enamel, applied in accordance with standard commercial practice; understructure (including all chassis parts, all exposed body framework parts, and floor understructure) thoroughly coated with heavy asphalt waterproof coating; interior finished in enamel or varnish.

Lettering: applied to right and left side panels, front roof quarter, and rear panel in accordance with customer's approved sketch.

Optional Equipment

Gasoline electric light generator: An Onan generator, model 07DH-IR, 750 watt, 115 volt, 60 cycle, may be specified to provide 110 volt light current independent of outside sources. This generator is housed in a special steel compartment, in the rear panel beneath floor level, specially insulated and ventilated to keep noise and heat at a minimum. This generator is controlled by a switch located at the charge-out desk, and 110 volt current is instantly available.

Insulation: In addition to the basic insulation provided by 2" of Fibreglas in the roof area, the same material may be installed in all side wall areas and in the floor area.

Ventilating skylights: The standard safety plate glass skylights may be equipped with special mechanism to render them ventilating. This mechanism is operated by a crank and seals itself in rubber when closed.

Roof ventilators: Evans type motor-driven exhaust ventilators may be installed in the roof to facilitate movement of air; quiet motors and smooth plastic blades make these ventilators practically noiseless. Control switches are mounted on instrument panel.

Tool box: A steel compartment may be mounted in the left-hand panel below the floor for storage space, for tools and for necessary service equipment. This compartment is enclosed with a door equipped with continuous type hinges and slam type burglar-proof lock.

Special paint: The exterior panels may be painted in more than one color as chosen by the customer.

Special full vision service doors: Service doors with full-length safety glass may be secured to give added natural lighting and improved appearance. These doors are equipped with chrome-plated hand bars both outside and inside. Heavy-duty door checks keep doors closed, and night locks secure them when bookmobile is out of service.

Hand rails: Chrome-plated hand rails are available to be mounted on the ends of shelving sections at each service door at entrance and exit.

Adjustable shelving: All or portions of the shelving may be made adjustable with standard library-type fixtures used to keep equipment uniform.

Book-ends: Each shelf may be equipped with specially designed book-ends to keep books firmly in place on the shelves. These book-ends are well engineered, yet simple and inexpensive in construction.

Seats over wheelhousing: The wheelhousings, on units where dual rear wheels are used, may be built up to the height of the second book shelf and covered with a hinged, upholstered seat. This seat is covered with textile grain leather to match the driver's seat. This space beneath the seat, created by its added height, may be used for storage.

Record cabinet: A cabinet may be built beneath the rear window with shelves to carry a supply of record albums. The top of the cabinet provides space for a record player. The appliance outlet at the rear of the vehicle provides an electrical connection for this purpose.

Battery charger: Where a gasoline heater is used without operating the motor, a battery charger is recommended. This equipment may be fastened to the battery posts and plugged into an electrical outlet in the garage. An overnight charge will build the battery up to peak power by morning, and consumes an inexpensive amount of current.

Special lights: Deluxe type fluorescent light fixtures may be specified, to improve interior appearance and to secure more diffused light. These may be mounted in two parallel rows or in one center row.

Sloping rear panel: To enhance appearance and provide additional storage space the rear panel of the bookmobile may be made to slope outward at a 9 to 12 degree angle. The bottom corner of the panel is turned inward on a 12" radius to conform with modern design. The extra space thus created between the back shelving and the rear-end panel can be utilized for storage. An opening into this space would be provided by a special door in the back panel.

Step-well covers: To provide full floor area when side doors are not being used a hinged cover may be installed over the wheel-well opening. In the closed position this cover is flush with the floor and covered with a matching floor material. It is reinforced to carry normal traffic. In the open position the cover

swings up and is secured against the end of the shelf section. A chrome-plated hand railing is mounted on the cover to facilitate entry when door is opened. The opposite side thus exposed is also covered with serviceable matching material, bound with chrome moulding.

Chassis Specifications

Capacity of 1000 volumes, 10' body; one ton conventional chasis rating; wheelbase of about 137" and cab-to-axle length of about 60"; 7.00 x 18 (dual rear) tires; 7 leaf, 39-13/16" semi-elliptic front springs and 2 stage, 12 leaf, semi-elliptic rear springs; double acting front shock absorbers; I beam type front axle and full floating rear axle; hypoid gears with a ratio of 5.14 to 1; hydraulic service brakes, 12" x 2" in front, 14" x 2-1/2" in rear, and with a braking area of 248 square inches; hand brake with a braking area of 147 square inches; 4 forward speeds transmission; head, parking, tail, and stop lights; 2 heavy duty truck batteries of 150 ampere hours each, hooked in parallel; and heavy duty, 50 ampere generator with low cut-in.

Capacity of 1500 volumes, 12' body; one ton, forward control chassis rating; wheelbase*; tires*; 7 leaf, 39-13/16" x 2", semi-elliptic front springs and 2 stage, 12 leaf, semi-elliptic rear springs; shock absorbers*; axles*; brakes*; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; and generator*.

Medium Classification

(1500-2500 volumes' capacity; 15' - 16' in length; 86-5/8" in width; and 6'6" in height.)

Standard Equipment

Service doors*; rear end*; roof*; cab: cab compartment equipped with two bucket type seats, one for driver and one for helper, both seats are adjustable and reversible. Two windshield wipers, two rear view mirrors, two sun visors, safety plate glass in windshield, and rubber floor mat.

Lighting* except that eight 24" fluorescent fixtures are used in this class of vehicle; heating*; shelving*; charge-out desk*; supply cupboard: back of driver's seat with upper and lower sections, and each section of two shelves and a door with friction catch. Top of lower section to be of equal height to top of charge-out desk, and opens out to meet charge-out desk, forming full service area across front of bookmobile.

Floor*; painting*; lettering*; battery compartment: relocated, with special door, in side panel or cab floor for convenient servicing.

Optional Equipment

Gasoline electric light generator*; insulation*; ventilating skylights*; roof ventilators*; tool box*; special paint*; special full vision service doors*; hand rails*; adjustable shelving*; book-ends*; seats over wheelhousing*; record cabinet*; battery charger*; special lights*; sloping rear panel*; step-well covers*; auxiliary desk: where the bookmobile librarian desires to divide the service area an auxiliary desk may be built at the rear of the bookmobile similar to that used in the front, and with a bucket type seat as used in front or an upholstered two-passenger seat built directly beneath the rear window.

Outside service panels and shelving: where added book capacity is desired without increasing the overall dimensions of the bookmobile the exterior panels of the body may be converted into two section doors which open into special shelves facing outward. These doors are equipped with braces which hold them safely in position when open, and with a slam type lock with removable handle. The upper door section is equipped with a fluorescent light fixture to provide light for dusk or night operation. This feature will increase book capacity by 25%.

Chassis Specifications

Capacity of 1500 - 2500 volumes; 1-1/2 ton conventional, flat face cowl chassis rating; wheelbase of about 179" - 185", and cab-to-axle length of 108" - 115"; 7.50 x 20, 8-ply (dual rear) tires; 7 leaf, 39-13/16" x 2", semi-elliptic front springs; 10 leaf, 46" x 2-1/2", semi-elliptic rear main springs, and 6 leaf, 31" x 2-1/2", semi-elliptic rear auxiliary springs; shock absorbers*; axles*; hypoid gears with a ratio of 6.17 to 1; hydraulic service brakes, 14" x 2" in front, 16" x 3" in rear, and with a braking area of 330 square inches; hand brake with a braking area of 215 square inches; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

Capacity of 1500 - 2500 volumes; 1-1/2 ton, cab-over-engine, flat face cowl chassis rating; wheelbase of about 158" - 161" and cab-to-axle length of 108" - 115"; 9 leaf, 40" x 2" front springs; 10 leaf, 46" x 2-1/2" rear main springs and 6 leaf, 31" x 2-1/2" rear auxiliary springs, shock absorbers*; axles*; hypoid gears with a ratio of 6.17 to 1; brakes as in the paragraph above; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

Large Classification

(2500 - 3500 volumes' capacity; 18' - 24' in length: 86-5/8" in width; and 6'8" in height.)

Standard Equipment

Service doors*; rear end: panelled solid with 18" x 48" three section window installed, and with center section, 24" wide, ventilating.

Roof*; lighting* except that ten 24" fluorescent fixtures are used in this class of vehicle; heating* except that in units longer than 20 ft. two model UH-43 heaters are used, one on each side of body and located to give proper heater distribution; shelving*; charge-out desk*; supply cupboard*; floor*; painting*; lettering*; battery compartment*.

Optional Equipment

Gasoline electric light generator*; insulation*; ventilating skylights*; roof ventilators*; tool box*; special paint*; special full vision service doors*; hand rails*; adjustable shelving*; book-ends*; seats over wheelhousing*; record cabinet*; battery charger*; step-well covers*.

Chassis Specifications

Capacity of 2500 - 3000 volumes, 18' - 24' body; 13,000 - 17,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, conventional chassis rating; wheelbase of about 190" - 229" and cab-to-axle length of 118" - 158"; 8.25 x 20 (dual rear) tires; 7 leaf, 45" x 2", semi-elliptic front springs; 10 leaf, 52" x 2-1/4" rear main springs, and 6 leaf

rear auxiliary springs; shock absorbers*; axles*; hydraulic service brakes, 14-1/8" x 2" to 16" x 2-1/2" in front and 16" x 3" in rear; hand brake; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

Capacity of 2500 - 3000 volumes, 18' - 24' body; 13,000 - 17,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, cab-over-engine chassis rating; wheelbase of about 170" - 212" and cab-to-axle length of 118" - 158"; 8.25 x 20 (dual rear) tires; springs as in above paragraph; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

Semi-Trailer Classification

(3,000 - 5,000 volumes' capacity; 24' - 32' in length; 86-5/8" in width; and 7'0" in height.)

Standard Equipment

Service doors: double doors in low center of right hand side panel of body; each door 26" wide and with full-vision glass, chrome-plated hand rails inside and outside, heavy duty door checks, and night locks; each door opening equipped with a steel safety place step-well, 9" risers to steps with bottom step folding down 13" from ground; and chrome-plated guard rails flanking step-wells on interior.

Rear end*; roof* except that four skylights are used in this class of vehicle; lighting* except that twenty 15" fluorescent fixtures are used in this class of vehicle; heating: three Hunter gasoline heaters, model UH-43 (30,000 BTU), installed in bottom shelf area with steel grille concealing heater and providing for intake and exhaust of air; these heaters are powered by batteries connected to truck generator and have battery charger for use in replenishing stored power.

Shelving* except that clothes closet is adjacent to charge-out desk; charge-out desk: a double-duty desk (of standard library specifications) built opposite the service door to control the entire book area.

Floor*; painting*; lettering*.

Optional Equipment

Gasoline electric light generator: An Onan generator, model 105BH-1A, 1500 watt, 2 cycle, 115 volt, 60 cycle engine, may be specified to provide 110 volt current for lights and appliances. This two-cylinder model is quiet and free from vibration, and is entirely automatic and starts when a 60 watt incandescent lamp load (or its equivalent) is exerted on the line. This generator is housed in a special steel compartment, in the rear panel beneath floor level, insulated and ventilated to keep noise and heat at a minimum.

Insulation*; ventilating skylights*; roof ventilators*; tool box*; special paint*; adjustable shelving*; book-ends*; seats over wheelhousing*; record cabinet*; battery charger*; special lights*; sloping rear panel*.

Chassis Specifications

Capacity of 3000 - 5000 volumes, 24' - 32' body; 16,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, conventional chassis rating; wheelbase of about 137"; 8.25 x 20 (dual rear) tires; 9 leaf, 40" x 2", semi-elliptic front springs; 10 leaf, 46" x 2-1/2", semi-

elliptic rear main springs and 6 leaf, 31" x 2-1/2", semi-elliptic rear auxiliary springs; shock absorbers*; axles*; hypoid gears with a ratio of 6.17 to 1; hydraulic service brakes, 14" x 2" in front, 16" x 3" in rear; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

Capacity of 3000 - 5000 volumes, 24' - 32' body; 16,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight, cab-over-engine chassis rating; wheelbase of about 110"; 8.25 x 20 (dual rear) tires; springs as in above paragraph; shock absorbers*; axles*; hypoid gears with a ratio of 6.17 to 1; brakes as in above paragraph; transmission*; lights*; batteries*; generator*.

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