

Trustees Meeting
November 28, 1952

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 3:50 o'clock.

Members present: Mr. Stafford presiding, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Gage, Mr. Blackford, Mr. Felts, and Mr. Gore.

The minutes of the previous meeting stood approved as read.

The Librarian's report for October was examined and ordered filed.

The motion was made by Mr. Blackford, seconded by Mr. Felts and unanimously passed that bills to the amount of \$2,537.37 for maintenance, \$398.59 for renovations and \$4,741.83 for salaries be paid.

The Librarian reported that the work on the scagliola columns had been completed with the exception of the bands around the column south of the main entrance.

The members agreed with Mrs. Gage that a note be written to Mrs. Garman telling her that the project was very nearly completed and inviting her to see the columns.

Mrs. Bailey questioned the Librarian about comparative figures of the Evans Branch and the Bookmobile. Mr. Stafford explained that the Branch had been on the agenda for some time. It was the consensus that the monthly reports showed that the Bookmobile was far more successful in reaching the people than the Branch.

The Librarian thought there were several angles to be considered. Was lack of use the fault of the library in not making the Branch a pleasant place to visit? Is it true that the population is not great enough to support a Branch? Mrs. Bailey believed the Association of Commerce has a map showing population spread. The Librarian was instructed to have more figures concerning the two agencies for study at the next meeting.

Mr. Felts suggested that a trial letter or balloon be published in the open letter box of the Sunday paper. Such a letter might ask the Trustees why Branch service was not ^{discontinued in favor of the Bookmobile} better. It might be that public reaction as to the value of the Branch could be ascertained by answers.

A reply from Mr. Bean of Remington Rand relative to the additional young adult stacks was read. In it Mr. Bean repeated that whatever decision the Trustees made regarding payment for the stacks would be acceptable. He still wondered, however, where he could have made a mistake of almost two feet in measurement of the stair-cases.

The Librarian explained that the building plans returned by Remington Rand had been those drawn by Harris Associates and were the actual plans used during the Renovations. Faulty measurements had therefore been given to Remington Rand and to the Sjostrom Company.

Mr. Gore explained that it was common practise to send plans to bidders whose firms were at great distances and that it was his opinion that the architect was responsible for the fact that an error had been made in measuring

for the young adult equipment.

The motion was made by Mr. Gore, seconded by Mrs. Gage and unanimously passed that a letter be written to Harris Associates explaining that through an error made in their blueprints, the library was faced with a bill of \$133.00. and the Trustees would appreciate knowing what they would consider their ~~fare~~ *fair* share of responsibility.

After discussion, the motion was made by Mrs. Gage, seconded by Mr. Gore and unanimously passed that the library pay in full for the extra shelving.

The Librarian reported that the Film Council of America had invited the library to take part in a year's experiment of previewing films. The Council would supply all films to be previewed by representatives of local groups and the library would make the films available through the cooperative set-up with the University of Illinois and the State Library.

She explained that the Film Council had made a grant of \$50.00 to Decatur so that no expense would be involved.

Mr. Stafford questioned whether library services were expanding too fast and whether the Council's offer should be accepted in view of lack of equipment and personnel. Mrs. Bailey believed that we should make every effort to make up for lost time in providing adequate service to the public. She suggested the possibility of some service group helping us acquire a projector and screen. Mr. Stafford thought it might be possible to get these from the regular budget.

It was the Board's concensus that the Council's offer should be accepted.

The Librarian reported that the order for the drinking fountain had been placed with the George Walker Company.

She asked permission to purchase a Gaylord book truck for the Young Adult Room. The members agreed that this was needed equipment.

It was decided to omit the December meeting because of Christmas.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry
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Secretary