

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 9, 1954

The regular September meeting moved up from September 24 came to order at 3:50 p.m. Members present: Mr. Felts, presiding; Mrs. Bailey; Mrs. Gage; Mr. Blackford; Mr. Gore.

Four contractors were present and five bids were opened by Mr. Felts. These included:

Christy & Foltz	\$15,960.00
Giese	16,122.00
Simmons	16,734.00
Grohne	18,883.00
Thompsons	19,618.00

After the contractors had withdrawn, Mr. Spangler and the members discussed the comparative bids. Mr. Spangler said he would study them and report back to the Board with his recommendation.

The Librarian reported that she had two items of importance (1) That she was notifying the Board of her intention to ask for Miss Garrett's resignation as Reference Librarian.

(2) That Mrs. Carroll had resigned as of September 15 and because of the short period of her service she had asked for permission to speak to the Board.

Mrs. Carroll was called in to discuss her resignation. Mr. Felts explained to the members that she had said she would expect no salary check from September 1 to September 15. This will repay the Library for the salary paid her during the period of her absense for her Mother's illness.

The Librarian discussed her decision to ask for Miss Garrett's resignation, She said that Miss Garrett had not been loyal to either her or the Library, had given grudging cooperation in the matter of the Pamphlet File revision and the Government Document Project.

Members of the staff were aware of the fact that she shirked her fair share of work.

The Librarian reported that it seemed impossible to undertake the Book Fair this year in view of the personnel shortage. On the whole the Trustees regreted that this seemed necessary and the former replied that she would make every effort to undertake the project.

It was reported that Miss Mavis Bly had been appointed to take the place of Miss Nelius Martin and that she would come on duty as a General Assistant on Sept. 1.

Mrs. Francis Lee Schlobohm had been appointed as clerk to assist Mrs. McNabb on the Bookmobile.

Negotiations are under way with applicants for the position of Assistant Librarian and Head of Circulation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Muriel E. Perry
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Secretary

Board of Trustees
September 24, 1954

The regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

Members present: Mr. Felts presiding, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Ridgley, Messrs. Blackford, Burgess, who was attending his first meeting, Rollins, and Schroeder, Gore.

The Minutes of the July 30th and the September 9th meetings stood approved as read.

The motion was made by Mrs. Bailey, seconded by Mr. ^{Gore} ~~Schroeder~~ and unanimously passed that bills for operation totaling \$1646.37, salaries \$5773.19, a total of \$7419.56 be paid.

Miss Fern Garrett, who had requested a hearing before the Board regarding the Librarian's request for her resignation, was invited into the Room at 4:05 o'clock. Miss Garrett presented her case and the Librarian was given an opportunity to explain her position. Mr. Felts thanked Miss Garrett for talking with the Trustees and assured her that she would receive a letter giving the Board's decision. She retired at 4:30.

After discussion, Mr. Felts summed up the Board's agreement that the Librarian has the authority to dismiss personnel when the reason is justifiable. He suggested that the Librarian consult with him in drafting a letter to Miss Garrett in which she could be informed that the Board considered it wiser to let matters stand as they are and suggesting that she submit her resignation.

He asked the Board's pleasure regarding any news releases since reporters might seek statements. It was decided that when Miss Garrett's resignation was received, the Librarian was to report it to the papers along with that of Mrs. Carroll.

A letter from Dr. Robert Downs, Director of the University of Illinois Library School was read and discussed. With this Dr. Downs had sent twenty-five copies of the Summary of Findings and Recommendations of the Survey for the Board's exclusive use. He said that the full working reports will be sent as soon as they are duplicated.

Mr. Felts reported that on their last visit Dr. Lancour and Dr. Stone had said that at least one member of the Survey group would be glad to meet with the Board to discuss their findings and answer questions. Mr. Felts read to the members a news release prepared by the Survey Team.

A discussion took place regarding publicity. It was the Librarians's opinion that the contract made it impossible for any news reports to be released except by the Survey Team. In the end it was decided that if anyone were asked about the matter he would answer that only a preliminary statement had been received which the Board was studying.

Mr. Felts spoke of the fact that the salary scale was one of the most important problems before the Board and he hoped this could be solved this Fall.

The Librarian reported that the Christy Co. had started the outside renovations yesterday.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 o'clock.

Muriel E. Kemp

Board of Trustees
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