Council Meeting
June 28, 1922
The meeting was called to order by Mr. Azariah S. Root, President.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. President, at the meeting of the Council in December a committee was appointed to confer with the publishers in view of a communication from the publishers. The committee reported during the interim that they found the Secretary had already made an appropriate and sufficient reply to the communication from the National Association of Publishers.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The first report of the evening is the report of the Committee for Sponsorship For Knowledge, presented by Mr. George Winthrop Lee. This was the greatest report, it is a column and a half long representing something that has been hanging fire for about eight years. It is the first time that the Council has taken it up, and it may be taken up by the Executive Board and it may go through. It involves the appropriation of some money, I think, so I think I will read it, and if you have copies why, all the better. Mr. Belden is the chairman, but he couldn't be here, and he asked me to represent him.
Mr. Milam tells me that perhaps it can go through, it is simply part of the day's work, and endorsed by the Governing Board to appropriate a sum of money.

The Committee on Sponsorship for Knowledge recommends the following resolution: That the report be considered final, the Committee discharged and the Central office of the American Library Association take measures necessary to officialize sponsorships at least one hundred in number during the year beginning July 1st, 1923. Is there a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Committee?

A MEMBER: Mr. President, I move that the Committee be discharged and the matter of sponsorship be referred to the Executive Board.

THE PRESIDENT: Is the motion seconded?

MR. LEE: I second it.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Any remarks on that motion? If now we are ready to vote.

A MEMBER: May we have that motion?

PRESIDENT ROOT: The motion, if I have it correctly is: Resolved that the report be considered final, the Committee discharged and the Subject of Sponsorship For Knowledge be referred to the Executive Board.

There was no discussion and the motion was carried.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The second report to come before us is a corrected or revised report of the Committee on Education, to be presented by Miss Harriet Wood.

MISS WOOD: The report that was presented on Monday has been changed, and modified; the modifications being
based upon the discussion. It is hoped that in this revised form the Council may see fit to approve of it, because there are many librarians who are very anxious to have some statement from the Association. (Reads paper)

THE PRESIDENT: You have heard the report as it is recommended by the Committee. Is there a motion that it be accepted and adopted? I assume that Miss Wood moves that. Is there a second?

A MEMBER: I second the motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The motion is seconded. Are there any remarks?

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. President, I notice that there is one librarian for a thousand pupils, elementary or highschool. It is based on our experience that we need more librarians for a thousand highschool students than you will for a thousand elementary school students. In fact, you need two, in my judgment. I was wondering if it could not be modified.

MISS WOOD: That was a minimum, Mr. Wright. Many districts you will find it very difficult to secure one for every thousand.

MR. WRIGHT: The point I had in mind was that the needs of the two kinds of schools are different, and I think that the resolution as read would lead to the impression that there was no difference.

MISS WOOD: The thousand refers to the entire school system. There are many school systems that are very small. Of course the people who come from large cities do not realize the many places that have small systems, and maybe perhaps one or two hundred in the highschool, with the rest of the children in the grade school. The library idea
would seem to a great many people, that they think of school libraries only as high school libraries, and the Committee was very anxious to include the elementary school and make the district realize that they must provide adequate library service for the elementary schools as well as the high school, so that number was merely put down as a starting point, and it was the best we could do, considering national conditions and the great death of librarians.

MISS AMERN: Mr. Chairman, I was sorry this morning to hear Miss Wood say I was attacking her badly of late. I am not. We do not understand each other. It seems to me it would be a sort of a confused statement of conditions that we all recognize, surely, that library people are going to furnish these librarians for schools and colleges and universities. We have taken our position for many years that librarians are good things to have. Why are we passing a resolution that it is our opinion that the school authorities ought to do something? How would we like it if the school teachers, next week, in Boston, should pass some sort of a resolution as to what the librarians should do? Isn't it this, -- we all want librarians everywhere just as soon as we can get them, and why, at this time, when the question of government and extension of libraries, the relations between libraries and schools are in a state of flux, not settled one way or the other, why should the American Library Association pass a resolution that implicates or implies that there is something lacking in the government of the educational institutions? I believe the school people are coming to the realization -- Mr. Sharman Williams has sent out
an expression of opinion as to the school people, and we endorsed it last year. Now, why should we come in and resolve that the school people ought to do something that they are doing, gradually, and as rapidly, I think, -- of course it is only a personal opinion -- as they know how to do it, in some cases more rapidly? They learn by experience. I like Miss Wood's ideas generally and her library work has never been surpassed by anyone, but she has gotten something there that to me is a little big vague. I don't see why, just as I said the other day, I asked her "why", and I did not get any very clear answer why. I am sorry I have to vote against her, because I am interested in schools, I was interested in libraries and schools, and I was one of the people who helped found the Library Department, and I was an officer in it for ten years. I am going to Boston next week and I am still going to help, but I do not think it is up to the American Library Association to resolve as to what the teachers shall do or the school authorities, in matters that belong to the profession.

MR. SEVERENCE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to clear up one point in regard to one librarian for one thousand pupils in school. I would like to speak on that. It seems to me that the American Library Association had a report on the standard library organization for high schools and as I recall in that report it is recommended to have a full time librarian in the high school for five hundred pupils -- I do not know whether that is right, but it is something like that. Now, we endorsed that, the A. L. A. endorsed
that, and the association of schools in the middle states, and in the northwest here, and in Maryland, -- I do not see why we should endorse this part of the resolution, anyway and I believe that the American Library Association ought to have established standards, and this is one of the standards which we can suggest for the school people who, we think are experts in library work, that is, in the school system where you have a thousand pupils, that there should be one person as librarian for the entire school. I think that part is right.

DR. HILL: It is not often, of course, that we stand on the same platform, but once in a while she is right and I acknowledge it. I think that this is an unfortunate resolution. I do not believe in resolutions unless they are going to accomplish something, and I do not feel we will get anywhere. It is not anything that we are going to do, or going to have anybody else do; it is something that we hope will be done. I would rather see this postponed until such time as we can offer something definite and tangible, and I would consider, too, that the proper place for such a resolution of this kind to be presented is in the Library Section of N. E. A. They are in close touch with each other, and the Library Section, it is not very large, would feel that they could speak more definitely and more favorably to the N. E. A. than this Association.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. President, it seems to me well for the Council Board to outline the policy of the State Constitution and the law for the next hundred years. The first part of this report outlines the policy. The
American Library Association believes that every student from the elementary school through the university should learn to use and appreciate books and libraries, not only that he may study to advantage in school, but also that he may continue through adult life to benefit from the resources of libraries.

To accomplish this there should be a supervisor of school libraries or supervisor for every school system -- city, county, township or district." I think this Association should approve that very strongly. Librarians should have enough students to take that very position. I move to strike out all the rest of the report.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Is that seconded? I guess we will have to have a talk on that, Miss Wood.

MISS WOOD: There is one thing that I would like to clear up, and that is this misapprehension that seems to be as to the dictation on the part of the A. L. A. to the school authorities. It happens that this particular resolution has been scanned by librarians, who are school librarians in city library systems, working with the schools. It happens to have been my history, and I speak -- the statement is made very clearly there that whether this work is done under the school system or under the public library systems in the cities and states meaning the library commissions of the states, or the state departments of education, the local school boards or the library boards, is something for those cities and states to determine. Cleveland is now operating such a system jointly; Portland is operating such a system, and many smaller cities. In
other places they are operating with cooperative committees. There are a number of different ways in which this work may be done, and this is entirely the opinion of the people who are doing school library work, both under school boards and under library boards. Both groups have been consulted and this is the best thought of the school library group of your organization. They are the ones who are behind it. This is not a one-person or even a group of the committee idea. It has been scanned by a number of people that are deeply interested in promoting school library work.

The A. L. A. -- the name of the American Library Association carries weight; the name of the N. E. A. carries weight locally, and these are struggling with local problems and if they can go back to their libraries and say that the A. L. A. approves of this. We do not care how you do it, do it in the school board or do it in the library board, separately or jointly, that is all that we would like to have, but we would very much like to have the backing of the American Library Association for the development of school work and for the solution of this problem.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Mr. Wright moves strike out all the latter portion of the resolution so it shall read as follows: "The American Library Association believes that every student from the elementary school through the university should learn to use and appreciate books and libraries, not only that he may study to advantage in school, but also that he may continue through adult life to benefit from the resources of libraries.

"To accomplish this there should be a supervisor of school libraries in every state and province, and a
school librarian or supervisor for every school system --
city, county, township or district." I understand that
is where you stop. It has been seconded. Are there any
remarks?

MR. HENRY: Mr. President, it seems to me to get
around the difficulty that is dividing these parties that
would accomplish exactly the thing that Miss Wood wants to
accomplish and would accomplish the very thing that the
opponents of Miss Wood want to accomplish. I do not have
it in mind sufficiently but I can give it to you off hand
for that second paragraph. I think it should be placed
merely as a recommendation, that is if the American Library
Association would like to recommend to the N. E. A. as
a standard that this and this and this be done, so many
librarians, so many students, etc. But as it reads now
it does become just a little bit of a dictation from
a very small organization to a very large one. I think
we all admit to ourselves, and they will admit too, that
we as a group no really more about library work than they
do. They know a great deal more about group teaching
probably, than we do, but as a librarian recommendation
going into the school, I do not think we would in any way
be throwing criticism upon them, but rather simply suggest-
ing in an advisory way from the librarian's standpoint
about what proportion of librarians ought to be to the
schools. Now, if that second paragraph were put, "There-
fore, this Association would like to recommend as a stand-
ard to the N. E. A. such and such a thing". It seems to
me that would avoid the difficulty of seeming just a
little bit saucy, and still accomplish by recommending
to them a standard which probably, most of them have not thought of yet.

MR. SEVERENCE: I would like to speak on behalf of the high schools. We have debated on what the A. L. A. proposes to do, and it states in there what we recommend for high schools, I think, if I recall it was suggested that where we have a high school of five hundred students that they have a librarian who is devoting full time. I do not see why we should not suggest the same thing here in our library system. I can not see the consistency of turning down a proposition like this, either one way or the other.

MISS WERNER: I would like to comment on that first paragraph. If by this time the great body of teachers, superintendents and principals and what not, in the educational systems of the whole country have not yet understood what surely every librarian understands, that since the very first organization of the American Library Association it has held to the fact that all the children from elementary schools through the universities, those and a whole lot of other people should have access to libraries. I cannot see that, I have not got my glasses to read it, but we are proving the system, and have been proving it over forty years. Now, why pass a resolution of that kind? It cannot be for our own benefit; it must be for the benefit of people who have been told that since 1896.

MR. WRIGHT: If it was a good thing for you forty years ago it will be good now. We can say it again, and keep on saying it. Let me say in passing it is a good
idea in schools. The only thing I object to is going into the details. I would rather have one supervisor for a hundred thousand pupils than have no supervisor. When it endorses the supervisor idea, and we can prove it is a good one, then we may get two, and then we may get three, four or five. I think the idea of the whole thing is good, but I do not want to legislate in the constitution. If I go back to Kansas City and say to my Board, "We want a librarian just as good as we have now for those in school," and ask for sixty-five, that is what I would have to have, probably I would not get any.

MR. RODEN: I second the motion to adopt this resolution. I feel I ought to explain my vote in a way. This did not seem to be anything more than a declaration of the principles on the part of the American Library Association as to what this body thinks is a wise and good provision of library service in the schools. Six months ago we legislated similarly upon a question which affected our own interests a little more directly perhaps, and issued a declaration of principles on the standard of revenue for library support, which was mailed all over the country, as a wise and statesman-like document whose influence has been very generally felt and its influence has been all for good. I have no doubt that some city councils might say we were highly impertinent in suggesting to them what they should do for their local public libraries. The analogy, it seems to me, would be completed by the reference to school boards and schools who think we are impertinent enough in expressing our opinions as to what would be adequate provisions for library service in schools. I see no difference in the
two declarations of principle. Neither of them commit us; they are simply a platform, and neither are directly opposed to the two bodies, and surely any party or body has a right to resolve and state its opinions or platform without committing itself, either as to varying that platform afterwards and adapting it to circumstances; modifying the details in any way to fit local conditions, but after all going on record at least once even after forty years of discussion, going on record in its own proceedings that this is what it believes. I still adhere to my seconding of the motion.

MR. HENRY: I was not quite sure of the organization itself when I spoke before, but the secretary has handed me a copy of it. It seems to me that we can agree through the second paragraph down to "to accomplish this there should be a supervisor of school libraries in every state and province and a school librarian or supervisor for every school system, city, county, township or district."

I would like to move a substitute motion to Mr. Wright's motion, that at that point the matter be rewritten saying essentially this, -- I do not undertake to put it in final form now, -- "Therefore, we would like to offer a recommendation as a standard to the school people that such and such be done." My substitute motion is that we should offer this simply as a standard recommended from our judgment that is what should ultimately be done. It does not mean it will be done next month or next year, or in the next ten years, but it fixes a standard towards which people can work, and which we desire to have; but from my intimate knowledge of things up in my part of the world, I may say that nearly all of the teachers come from the East, that is,
east from where we are, and east from where you are, but I am thoroughly aware of the fact that the great mass of these teachers never thought for a minute that there should be a library in any school, and their opinion on library matters is not of great importance, and although it has been spoken of about forty years, it has not accomplished very much yet.

It is only once in a great while that we have a superintendent of schools who comprehends that there should be a school library. But you can read school literature through by the ton and not once in a thousand pages will you ever even find the word library occurring in our school literature. So it seems to me it would not do any harm, and it might do them some good by just offering a suggestion for the standard, for the end to be worked for. We will not get it now, probably most of us will not live to see it, but it will come by and by.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Mr. Henry moves as an amendment to Mr. Wright's amendment, that we add to what he has proposed the following: We therefore recommend as a minimum service standard that there be at least one full time school librarian for the enrollment of a thousand elementary and highschool pupils, -- that is what I understand?

MR. HENRY: Yes, we recommend it as a standard. I think I have offered it as a substitute to Mr. Wright's motion.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Is this amendment seconded? The question is an amendment to the amendment of Mr. Wright to add these words: "We therefore recommend as a minimum
standard that there be at least one full-time school librarian for an enrollment of one thousand elementary and high school pupils."

MR. HENRY: That is a substitute motion.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Mr. Henry offers this as a substitute motion to the motion of Mr. Wright. I understand Mr. Henry wants the other part also.

MR. HENRY: If I were doing it for myself I would cut that page in two, just in the middle. That is just to include the short paragraph, after that recommendation of minimum standard. "Whether the school library supervisor or librarian shall be employed by school or library authorities, separately or jointly, is a matter to be determined by state or local conditions."

PRESIDENT ROOT: You add that to what I read?

MR. HENRY: Yes, I add that to what you read.

Seconded by Mr. Severence.

PRESIDENT ROOT: It is seconded. The question then is on the adoption of the amendment to the motion of Mr. Wright's amendment by adding to the portion which he proposes to adopt the following sentence: "That we therefore recommend as a minimum standard that there be at least one full-time school librarian for an enrollment of one thousand elementary and high school pupils. Whether the school library supervisor or librarian shall be employed by school or library authorities, separately or jointly, is a matter to be determined by state or local conditions."

Are you prepared to vote on that amendment?

MR. RANCK: As I understand this, there is reference to
training and normal schools is omitted in this substitute
motion. I want to know just exactly what it is about.

PRESIDENT ROOT: All the remainder is omitted that
is here, so far as I am concerned. The other point is that
this association and the N. E. A. have recommended one li-
brarian in a high school for every five hundred pupils. Now
we are coming to change to that to a thousand elementary
and high school.

MR. RANCK: I would like to have that thing clearly
set forth so we do not come back to the old thing in August.
I had forgotten about that. I am fully convinced as far as
it relates to high schools, one in a thousand is inadequate.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Are you ready to vote on the amend-
ment to the amendment? All in favor of adopting the amend-
ment proposed by Mr. Henry to the amendment suggested by
Mr. Wright will say "aye".

(Response "Aye")

PRESIDENT ROOT: Opposed, "No".

(Response "No")

PRESIDENT ROOT: The chair thinks it is carried.
Would you like a division? The amendment is carried.

The question now comes on, the question of the
adoption of Mr. Wright's amendment as amended by adoption
of this amendment by the council, which is practically the
first three paragraphs, omitting the recommendation. Are
you ready to vote on that? All in favor of adopting the
amendment of Mr. Wright will say "Aye". Those who are
opposed will say "no". I think it is carried. The only
question now is there a quorum of the Council voting? Will
those who favor the proposed amendment please rise? Twelve
voting in favor. Those opposed please rise. Only one.
There is only one, making a total of thirteen, and a quorum is twenty. Will the members of the Council who have not voted either way please stand? All members of the Council rise so we can see if there is a quorum present. (Counting twenty-four present) The amendment has been adopted by a vote of twelve to one. The question now comes on the recommendation of the committee as amended. Are you ready to vote on that? All in favor that the American Library Association believes that every student from the elementary school through the university should learn to use and appreciate books and libraries, not only that he may study to advantage in school but also that he may continue through adult life to benefit from the resources of libraries. To accomplish this there should be a supervisor of school libraries in every state and province and a school librarian for every school system -- city, county, township or district. We therefore recommend as a minimum standard that there be at least one full-time school librarian for an enrollment of one thousand elementary and high school pupils. Whether the school library supervisor or librarian shall be employed by school or library authorities, separately or jointly, is a matter to be determined by state or local conditions." Are you ready to vote on the report as now amended? All in favor will say "Aye"; opposed "No". It is a vote. The next is the report of the Committee on Membership.

MISS AHERN: I have heard an animated discussion behind me as to whether one member of the committee on Membership is an officer of the A. L. A. I would like to have it that policy-
PRESIDENT ROOT: I think Mr. Milam can answer that question.

MISS AHERN: The question came up about a person who was asking a person the question of membership in the A. L. A. at a state meeting. He was called an officer of the Association, and I contend he was not an officer of the Association.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. President, the secretary in preparing the Handbook does not list the members of the committee under the heading "officers".

MISS AHERN: That is what I say.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The chairman of the Membership Committee does not seem to be here. We will now hear from the chairman of the Committee on Work With the Foreign Born.

MRS. LEDBETTER: We understand it to be the general platform of the A. L. A. that the use of books and libraries is a good thing for everybody, and that the public library should be so administered that all parts of the community have equal opportunity to enjoy its uses. The first two paragraphs of the platform which we suggest simply enunciates that principle. The second two tell of the specific methods which we think are necessary in order to extend the use of those books and libraries to those portions of our community who have the misfortune as it often seems to be born in other countries, and who have come to this country for the sake of the opportunities which are supposed to be available here.

I would like to read to you, as a proof of the wisdom or our policy, if I may say so a condensation of an editorial which appeared in last Monday's Edison Post, in
Cleveland. The last two paragraphs are the ones that I want you to receive as the climax of this statement. It was an editorial in the most conspicuous place in the paper. It is entitled, "How To Find Your Way To Us".

"A few Americans both men and women have endeavored to know the Poles living in this country from their own observation, and not from the daily papers, if interested at all are only wishing to get votes or in some way make a sensational "write up" suitable for police or court cases. To the first group belongs Mrs. Eleonor (Elzbieta) Ledbetter, librarian of the Broadway Library, Broadway and East 55th Street.

"Mrs. Ledbetter has endeavored not only to know us but she has written her two long articles in the Library Journal published for the use of libraries and devoted only to the work of librarians; in these she is presenting ideas to her colleagues and co-workers on how to know and bring Poles to the libraries. She practices what she preaches. The author at the beginning of her articles introduces a short and well written review of Polish art, literature, and history, pointing out to her colleagues the most prominent writers, historians and men of ability in the Polish nation. Further the author informs and presents to her colleagues how and why a certain class of books are bought for the Poles, calling their attention to the fact that a Polish workman after a hard day's labor needs a good book for recreation, and this is usually a good book of fiction, while his American brother, having more time wishes for short stories of scientific or technical research.

"Further Mrs. Ledbetter points out how to best bring
the Poles to the library and gain their confidence. Defining the word democracy, the use of democracy, and pointing out that the spirit of democracy (to the best advantage) could be applied to the Poles. The librarian, therefore, must not only be courteous and willing to help; she must know the social life of a Pole and study the physiological side of her readers.

"Though the articles of Mrs. Ledbetter are mainly for the librarians, yet through her writing we can feel much sympathy and understanding for us, proving to others that we are worth knowing.

"If other Americans would follow Mrs. Ledbetter's example, if they would endeavor to know us not only from our "bad" characteristics, but from a really democratic viewpoint there would be no necessity to bring up the question in Congress of 'How to Americanize', for the Poles would proudly become the citizens of the country in which democracy is practiced in so true a spirit.

"Such a one is Mrs. Ledbetter, through her true sympathetic interests in Poles can win more citizens for this country than ten secretaries who, not for the sake of understanding, but for the sake of 'political pull' wish to turn out the largest of 'made to order' citizens."

We believe the policy we have outlined in these resolutions can endorse that sentiment in the foreign born portion of our population, and for that reason we wish they may be adopted as a platform by the Council.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The Committee on Work with the Foreign Born recommends the adoption of the four statements which are contained on pages 71 and 72 of our report.
Do you wish to have them read before you vote on them?

A MEMBER: Yes.

PRESIDENT ROOT: First: The public library should be absolutely democratic in regimen and administration, giving equal service to the whole public regardless of the place of nativity. Where funds are insufficient, preference should be given to those portions of the community having least opportunity at their own command.

Second: In order to provide the service which is the just due of all taxpayers, and which is an essential part of the educational and recreational functions of the public library, the immigrant people should be provided with reading matter which they can use, both in easy English books and in books and periodicals in the native tongue.

Third: Assistants should be trained for work with immigrants as a special field of library work, and encouraged in the study of racial understanding and of immigrant literatures and of the characteristics of immigrant cultures. Library schools should incorporate work along this line into their regular courses.

Fourth: In communities having considerable immigrant population, the library should be given prominence as a social institution, and should be made in actual fact a community center. We recommend in this connection the free use of library rooms for clubs, public meetings and the like; formal invitations to organizations such as societies, lodges and study-classes for carefully planned visits; and also that libraries take the initiative in the public introduction of official representatives of European countries, such as consuls and visiting members of legations,
and of distinguished European visitors of races locally represented. The public library is admirably situated as a place for informal public receptions which, in the entertainment of distinguished guests may naturally bring together and foreign born elements of the population, to the great increase of mutual respect and appreciation.

It is recommended that these four planks be adopted as the A. L. A. platform for library work with the foreign born. Is there a motion?

MISS TYLER: I move we adopt the recommendation.

MISS HAZELTYNE: I second the motion.

PRESIDENT ROOT: It is moved and seconded that the recommendations be adopted. Are there any remarks?

MR. ANDREWS: I will say I think these resolutions might be materially cut down. The fourth one is not merely a resolution, but an explanation of the resolution, which is a rather unusual order.

MR. SEVERENCE: I think Mr. Andrews has spoken to the point that I had in mind. It does not seem to me wise to adopt resolutions of that kind. They should be rewritten. I am not prepared to vote for them as they are.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Any further discussion? If not are you ready to vote?

MISS TYLER: I think we will all agree as to the purport of the resolutions being what we would like to approve of, but I think quite likely that if they were made much simpler and briefer it would be easier for us to present them as a platform. It seems to me that the last recommendation is very long and involves a great deal. I wish the chairman of the committee to understand
that I am in sympathy with her plans and purpose, but I move the adoption of the resolution in order to get it before us and discuss it, and personally I much favor it, but I would like to see them simplified.

WES. LEDBETTER: I will say I did not draw these up as resolutions for a platform to be adopted. When I sent in the report of the Committee, I sent these as general suggestions; it was the suggestion of the Secretary of the Association that it might be presented as a platform for adoption, and I did not give any consideration to whether -- I did not handle the report afterwards. I told him to put the sentence in and did not give any consideration as to how it would read as such a platform. I think there is a great deal of justice in what you have said, particularly in relation to the last paragraph, but so far as all elements of the community deriving benefit from our libraries is concerned, I have heard many, many librarians say in library meetings we have never done anything for the foreign born in our communities because we have not had enough money for ourselves."

I will withdraw the motion and will move that those be referred back to the committee to be simplified before they are adopted as a platform.

MR. SEVERENCE: I second the motion.

(This was agreed to)

PRESIDENT ROOT: The motion is that the resolutions be referred back to the Committee for simplification and report. Are there any further remarks? If not all those in favor of the motion will say "Aye". Contrary "No".
It is a vote.

Mr. M. G. Wyer, who is chairman of the committee on Federal and State Relations could not be here tonight, but he has sent in a report, and Mr. Milam will read it.

SECRETARY MILAM: This is a communication transmitted by Mr. M. G. Wyer, and which was addressed to the Committee on Library Training, June 27, 1922. (Mr. Milam reads communication) Transmitted to the Council for recommendation by the Committee on Library Training.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The communication is before you. What do you wish to do with it?

BR. HILL: It is submitted for recommendation. I move that the report be laid on the table.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Is the motion seconded?

A MEMBER: Yes.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Any remarks? If not all in favor of laying the communication on the table say "Aye"; opposed "No". It is a vote.

Mr. J. Y. Wyer, -- there was a matter referred to his committee, and it was hoped he would be able to report tonight. I do not see that he is here. There are a number of resolutions which have come in not dealing with questions of committees, but dealing with other questions, which ones submitted by Mr. Solberg, and by Mr. Bowker in regard to the long service of Mr. Sollberg, and another with reference to the conditions in the Government service of library workers. Mr. Warren made a suggestion of a resolution which might be adopted by the Council with reference to the Lavant proposal. I think there is one other resolution -- is the committee on resolutions prepared to report in re-
MR. WRIGHT: There has been no meeting of the Committee on any resolution.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Under the constitution no resolution other than those can be brought before the Association except after approval of the Council.

MR. WRIGHT: There will be no resolution then.

A MEMBER: (Mr. Roden) Would it be in order to introduce a resolution?

PRESIDENT ROOT: Certainly.

MR. RODEN: It occurred to us only a few hours ago that it was desirable to introduce a resolution on the Louvain Library, and a copy has been prepared. Resolved, that the American Library Association desires to record its deep interest and cordial approval of a project for the restoration of the library of Louvain as a free gift and testimony of fellowship from the librarians and other bodies representing the scholarship of America, etc.

Resolved further that a copy of the resolution be transmitted to the committee whose names I do not have.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Mr. Roden offers this resolution for adoption.

MR. ANDREWS: For adoption or approval?

PRESIDENT ROOT: For approval by this body for recommendation to the association.

MR. ANDREWS: I second the motion.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Any further marks? If not all in favor will say "Aye"; opposed "no". It is a vote. Is there any other business to come before the council? It may be necessary to call a third meeting of the council to
pass on these resolutions, one or two of them, particularly one with reference to Mr. Sollberg -- I know a great many of us will be glad to vote, but if so there will be new notice given, otherwise there will be no other business.

It is moved and seconded that the Committee on Resolutions report suitable recognition of the long service of Mr. Sollberg. All those in favor will say "Aye", opposed "No", it is a vote.

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. President, do you know that the Chairman of that committee has left and the papers were turned over to me and are in my desk in my room. I did not know that I was to be the chairman of the Committee, and asking for some instructions for this evening from our secretary, and we arranged to try to get a meeting for tomorrow.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Miss Wheelock, the Chairman of the Committee on Book Binding. Is Miss Wheelock here?

MISS WHEELOCK: (Miss Wheelock read a paper covering the financial statement of the fiscal year ending June, 1921)

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, we spent $16,423 for binding. During the fiscal year which began July 1, 1921, we spent to date $10,051 plus $4900 --- nearly $5000 in outstanding orders. The report covering January has not come in. If the books come in for binding at the rate that has prevailed during the past two months we shall spend $20,000 or perhaps $22,000, or from $4,000 to $5,000 more than last year. This is not due particularly to the circulating and usage, but as near as we can determine, to the fact publishers use poor paper and covers and put the covers on in a very unskillful manner. We have gone into the subject, and that seems to be the explanation. In some cases books only cir-
culate six or seven times before they are returned to the library for binding. It would seem to be indubitable that all libraries must have the same experience as we are having here. In the second place I wish to ask what do you think, would there be any use in taking this up with the publishers, and in drawing a protest against the poor materials used? Certainly we pay enough for our books nowadays, and we ought to get a substantially made product. In your opinion can anything be accomplished by an official communication from the American Library Association to the American publishers? One letter which came to me came through Mr. Milam; he enclosed this to me and also a copy to Dr. Raney, on the committee on Book Binding. (Letter read) This letter speaks for itself. (Miss Wheelock reads a number of letters)

I have a very nice letter that was received from Grosset & Dunlap. (Reads letter) That is the first admission that any publisher has made that the experiment was not a success, and we find that it was not a success too.

While it is rather strange that in 1919 and 1920 they discontinued the use of that, that in 1922 we should still be getting those books in Bindex imitation cloth. Now, as a result of this I had considerable correspondence. This letter which Mr. Mylam sent to me, -- he sent one also to Dr. Raney, as Chairman of the Book Binding Committee, and also to ___________, and as result of this cooperation of these two committees we have by agreement prepared the article which came out, -- the bulletin which came out in the recent Library Journal, the one of June 15th, including the reply from Mr. Melcher of the Secretary of the National Association of Book Publishers. As this bulletin was published late for
all librarians in general to read it thoroughly and satisfactorily, I am taking this means of bringing it more definitely before the Council, hoping to get some expression of opinion and feeling in regard to this very vital question in order that we may approach the publishers in an effective way.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Miss Wheelock asks for an expression of opinion in regard to the poor quality of publishers binding, from any member of the Council present.

MR. RANDY: Some of the facts that she has brought out this evening have likewise been referred as well to the Committee on Book Binding, because it involves the prices of books, as well as material in manufacture. So the reference which has been made in the June number of the Library Journal, there is some need of cooperation between the two committees. The full text, however, of that communication was prepared wholly by Miss Wheelock, with general suggestions from us for stating such things. The ball starts rolling with the charge against two publications, which appears to be English. One of them is "Who's Who", not the American "Who's Who", and the other is Murray's English Dictionary, issued by the Oxford Press. While committees on this side may be taxed for not seeing the defects on the other side and having all the charges against London and New York, still however, much material has come to the committee on Book Binding which finally, in the comment made by the Secretary of the National Association of Book Publishers, seems to be this: It is charged and admitted that as a war practice in order to keep the books bought, that substitute materials were employed, and the degree of the grade of workmanship
was lower, with the penalty unless that were done, in the publishers’ opinion that the American buyers would not continue to buy. I do not know if that situation is at all peculiar to the United States, but I imagine it may be more or less true of the war period of all countries; whether that would justify the United States as much as the others would be a question of dispute, but it is clear that their admission was to the effect that in place of good paper first poor quâthoey was used, then paper instead.

Miss Wheelock’s investigation seems to indicate at least that the difference in cost between poor cloth and that is, paper was nominal, say a couple of cents, between poor paper and poor cloth was only a couple of cents, and between good paper and good cloth it was only a couple of cents, so the expenditure seems to be hardly justified on that score, that is, if the grain of the cloth of the books was run across the back instead of up and down to prevent splitting. That is not a matter that any publisher can fail to comply with at all; it takes no more cloth to run down in one direction than it does in another. You will see, if you pull down a volume from the shelf after binding the back you are liable to split the volume. It is therefore, at the present time, if it were at all defensible as a war measure to use paper instead of cloth because of the scarcity of cloth the reason, as is now on all sides admitted to be no longer existing, so we can properly support the Committee on Book Binding in its request that good cloth shall now be used, and that bad cloth be discarded. However the crux of the situation lies not in the cloth, lies not in the binding, but lies in the paper, as Miss Wheelock points
out, and it is only recently, I believe, to be fair to the publishers, that paper has come down materially. It went up to enormous heights; I believe they claim it went up to three hundred per cent, and with a proportionate increase of the price of the volume, and in consequence the publishers were striving in every way possible to divide with the consumer that enormous increase in the cost of production and specialized in paper. Now paper has come down very materially, and there is no longer any reason -- the great reason, the compelling reason why the recommendation of the committee should not be followed, which is the use of a flexible liber paper which would be wholly serviceable.

On the question of sewing, I understand the Committee on Book Binding is quite unanimous in stating that books will hold together far better in the case of all paper if the modern invention known as over-sewing is put into the binders. It has been possible in the last year for us to lay out three or four thousand dollars necessary to put in that machine and that stitching reduces staff very considerably, and at the same time has given us ten per cent reduction in our binding costs.

Apparently, then, the Council would be quite safe in asking a resolution to the effect that it give support to the Committee on Book Binding in its efforts to better the materials and the workmanship of edition work on the part of the publishers.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Do you move that as a resolution?

MR. RANEY: Yes.

MR. HENRY: It seems to me that the Association is
a little late in saying that Murray's Dictionary is bound in strawboard. It seems to me it has never been bound in anything else and I have known it seventeen years ago.

MR. RANCK: I think the most effective way would be to have kept some data on publishers' bindings, and it seems to me if we can get that data for a considerable number of libraries on the life of books of certain publishers that are concrete cases of that kind and a considerable number it would be very much more effective than a general statement of this kind. Our experience is that some of the publishers have not cut the character of their bindings as others have, and I think we should be in a position to make our protest definite and concrete against the publishers who have turned out this bad work. We have records of certain publishers, of their books which have circulated ten times before they have had to come back to be rebound and repaired, often only five or six times. We took this up with one particular publisher, whose name I will not mention here, and he became very indignant that his work, -- and we simply transmitted the figures of the records of his bookbinding as compared with the binding of some of the others, and he thought that we were not courteous or polite in bringing his attention to such facts. It seems to me that is the most effective way to get at this thing, and that it should come from more than one library, and if it did come in such a way, in the name of the American Library Association, I think they would pay attention to it.

And, in this connection, it seems to me that when we can say to the American publishers, that the American people,
that the libraries of the United States and Canada too, the members of this Association, libraries that are represented in this Association, spend so many hundreds of thousands and millions of dollars a year for books, then we are in a position to make our protest still more effective.

MR. RANEY: While I am not stating the whole case, being somewhat familiar with the matter, I thought I was pretty generally prepared to formulate a thing which would accomplish our specific object.

She has in fact debated the method which our Committee suggested to her, -- that the method of approach be impersonal, a general bulletin such as appeared in the Library Journals, which was intended to come as a call for further data to be contributed, that is the way it was a call for further data, from libraries and contemporaries. There has gone in final form to the Committee a list of complaints, and the specific names of publishers and works as have been brought to the attention of the Committee. Those facts at the present time are in the hand of the Secretary of the National Association of Book Publishers, and specific instances have been sent by him to the publishers concerned, and along with it, to all the members of the National Association of Book Publishers a copy of the binding specifications of the A. L. A. Committee on Book Binding, and the correspondence has been acknowledged. The Secretary stated that the book binding specifications were sent to all the publishers, and specific instances have been brought to the attention of those charged, and the Committee at this moment were asked to continue their efforts for further results.

PRESIDENT ROOT: I ask the Secretary to read the
resolution as submitted by Dr. Raney, that the Council is asked to adopt.

SECRETARY MILAM: That the Council endorse the Book Binding Committee in its efforts to better the materials and workmanship employed by publishers in the editions.

PRESIDENT ROOT: The motion is made and seconded. Are you prepared to vote on it? If there is no further discussion, all those in favor of the adoption of the resolution will say "Aye"; opposed "No". It is vote.

MISS WHEELOCK: I would be glad to receive any specific notes of faulty bindings from anyone. It would be very helpful.

PRESIDENT ROOT: Is there any further business to come before the Council? If not the Council is adjorned.