

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

June 25, 1927

The Saturday afternoon meeting of the Executive Board, held at the Hart House, convened at two-forty o'clock, President Elect Roden presiding.

The following members were present: President Elect Roden, Messrs. Belden, Rush, Dudgeon, Walter, Compton and Milan, and Miss Tobitt.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: The next meeting of the Executive Board. I suppose that is in connection with the possible mid-winter meeting and I think we can take it for granted that there will be a mid-winter meeting. Shall there be an Executive Board meeting before that? Some of the members on the Board will be abroad until well after the middle of October. I don't expect to be back until the 21st.

MISS TOBITT: Is it necessary to meet before the mid-winter meeting?

SECRETARY MILAM: We can't tell now. I don't know of anything that has to be done that couldn't be done by correspondence.

MR. BELDEN: Why can't it be left to the discretion of the President if it is necessary to call a meeting before the mid-winter meeting. There must be one, I suppose.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: That can be done without action.

Communications.

SECRETARY MILAM: I have one that may be more important than I think it is. It is addressed to Dr. Locke and is signed by Dr. Ernest Esh (?).

... Secretary Milam read the letter from Dr. Esh ...

SECRETARY MILAM: This was not presented to the Association because it did not seem appropriate to bring the matter up at the general meeting.

MR. WALTER: That has been heralded as being a rather important sort of thing, somewhat on the type of the Leipzig Book Fair in 1914. It seems to me it ought to be considered at any rate. Have you seen the circulars?

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: No.

MR. WALTER: The circulars down in the basement were rather good. Esh is a man who is fairly well known and Oswald is well known on this side. In my mind it is the sort of thing that ought to be looked into before we dispose of it.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: I expect to be in Cologne about the middle of August or around the first of September and I would be glad to investigate that end of it. I am going to Leipzig, too, and they will know all about it. I don't know Esh but I know Oswald and I know Eisling(?).

MR. WALTER: Oskowitz is coming here early in the fall and we could ask him about it.



SECRETARY MILAM: We will refer this to the President for recommendation.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: Yes, I will report on that.

SECRETARY MILAM: Now we come to the thing we have just been talking about in the other room.

... Secretary Milam read a motion passed at the luncheon session ...

SECRETARY MILAM: Do you wish to investigate that yourselves or do you wish to refer that simply to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws?

MR. WALTER: If that is done, I believe in it entirely in principle but when it comes to application it is going to be extremely difficult for some of us who have no trustees, in the university and state libraries as a whole, because we are subjected to a decidedly rigorous auditing, and we may be absolutely unable to do a thing.

I see no reason why we shouldn't raise our five-dollar fee to ten dollars. I would simply do that by running it through. But if there is a sliding scale, I think the chances are one to twenty that I shall be able to do it.

MR. COMPTON: It has occurred to me that perhaps on making sliding scales you could include publication, that is certain publications, with more for the higher sustaining membership. Would that be at all practicable? We do

that now to a certain extent on two and four dollar members. We give more for four dollars. For example, if you had a one hundred dollar membership, you might include all of the publications for the year.

MR. WALTER: I believe in our case if you put in five dollars more in publications, we would pay you ten dollars more dues. It wouldn't necessarily be equivalent but there must be something which looked like an excuse for raising fees. Of course, I am only speaking for what I think is fairly common in colleges and universities.

MR. BELDEN: I think that is true also in many public libraries. You want to show that you are getting something fairly reasonable in return.

MR. WALTER: There at least must be some sort of an arrangement which we could push if we had to, and I am absolutely certain a sliding scale would not work.

MISS TOBITT: An increase in institutional membership would shut out some of the smaller libraries. Would you lose more than you gained? I don't know, of course, whether there are many institutional memberships from small libraries.

SECRETARY MILAM: There are a good many.

MISS TOBITT: It seems to me it is better to hold their interest than to increase this membership.

MR. BELDEN: Could you leave it at all to the



discretion of the library authorities? I think at the head of an institutional library we would like to pay the larger sum if we could. Wouldn't we do it without the A.L.A.'s saying, "You fall in such a class," or would the librarian and the authorities always accept the lowest possible sum? If I could have a bill for \$25 for the Boston Public Library for association membership, we would pay it without a murmur. Suppose the Cleveland Public Library could pay \$5 or \$25 -- I assume that they would pay \$25 but would all the libraries do that?

MISS TOBITT: I see what you mean.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: We are speaking on the recommendation based on your motion in the other room, Mr. Dudgeon, to arrange for institutional membership and the question is on the sliding scale.

MR. DUDGEON: Have you got as far as assuming that you will have to maintain the present rate for the minimum rate?

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: No, I don't think so.

MR. WALTER: You can get practically the same thing but don't for goodness' sake call it a sliding scale. You can classify it, which is exactly the same thing. I mean you can have class memberships. For instance, you can classify the small public library just as you do in tuition. We have certain kinds of tuitions but a sliding scale is a

little bit like a quota. You cannot use the word quota on the average university campus.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: The question, as far as it is concerned now, had better be referred to some standing committee. It could be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws of which Mr. Dudgeon is Chairman. That looks like the logical one. ✓

MR. DUDGEON: I would like to have a little expression of opinion. My own feeling is that for the little library -- I have in mind in my own particular work a library with an income of maybe \$1000 or \$2000 -- you would have to retain a minimum of \$5.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: Is that library likely to be an institutional member now?

MR. DUDGEON: Some of them are. My own would be up to \$25,000 income or a \$5 fee and then you could grade it up some way. You can't go up indefinitely.

MR. RUSH: I know one thing. The first thing I am going to do when I get back is send in the membership of twenty branches.

MISS TOBITT: Is that going to shut off our individual memberships?

MR. RUSH: It won't affect them at all. There would be \$100 in dues immediately, plus the central library, which makes it \$105.



MR. COMPTON: They will get the publications in those branches.

MR. RUSH: They are already subscribing for services that cost more than that from which they receive a small item a week or a bound volume a month.

MR. DUDGEON: If there are 500 branches in the country, it means we could capitalize \$50,000.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: What is your pleasure?

MR. DUDGEON: I would say that if that is done it should be referred to each member of the Board for suggestion on the sliding scale. That will be easier than holding the thing.

SECRETARY MILAM: When we get a tentative proposal, we can put that in the Bulletin and call for discussion on it.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: May I consider that a motion to refer it to the Committee on Constitution and By-laws?

MR. DUDGEON: I don't believe I would like to make that motion.

MR. WALTER: I will make the motion.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Dudgeon ...

MR. WALTER: If I may, I would like to suggest that Mr. Dudgeon take into account not only getting in the branch libraries but fixing it in some such way so that

those of us who are tied by official routine can pay more and not run the risk of not paying anything. From our standpoint, I doubt whether the income scale would be possible. But we ought to pay more money.

MR. COMPTON: I would like to ask Mr. Milam whether he thinks it feasible and desirable to consider giving certain publications according to the amount of membership? Is that too complicated or is it worth considering?

SECRETARY MILAM: I think it would be very complicated. There are few publications which we issue in series.

MR. WALTER: How much does the book list cost?

SECRETARY MILAM: Two dollars.

MR. WALTER: If you give us the book list, we could pay anywhere from five dollars to ten dollars extra.

SECRETARY MILAM: That can be taken into account by Mr. Dudgeon.

MR. COMPTON: How much do all of the publications amount to?

SECRETARY MILAM: Last year they amounted to \$25,000.

MR. COMPTON: I should think a library might have a sustaining membership of \$100 to take in all of the publications. Your highest sustaining membership would include all of the publications of the Association.



SECRETARY MILAM: That is another thought for Mr. Dudgeon. The highest sustaining membership would include all publications.

MR. DUDGEON: You are publishing those and getting them set up and while you say you are figuring on cost, as a matter of fact the additional numbers will not make a proportionate increase in cost.

SECRETARY MILAM: But the people who pay \$100 are probably people who have a standing order for everything.

MR. WALTER: You are killing the market. That is all.

SECRETARY MILAM: There is another thing I want to bring up that is closely related to this. Shall we eliminate the ten per cent discount on publications which is granted to institutional memberships? ✓

MR. DUDGEON: To get it before the Board, I move you that we do.

... Miss Tobitt seconded the motion ...

MR. RUSH: I want to say that most people who get it have forgotten it.

MR. DUDGEON: I had forgotten it.

... The question was put and the motion carried. ✓

SECRETARY MILAM: With your consent, I will make that perhaps six months distant, make it January 1 so there will be no misapprehension.

SECRETARY MILAM: It was voted that a memorial fund be instituted pending the amendment of the Constitution providing for perpetual memberships. ✓

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: In order that that may take effect, the Executive Board will have to act.

MR. BELDEN: I will so move.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Compton and carried ... ✓

SECRETARY MILAM: I question what provision we should make to protect the Board against too easy or simple arrangement here. There presumably ought to be some formality about this. Would you like to have the Secretary prepare a statement on the basis of which, presumably, the Executive Board would accept memorial memberships in somewhat formal fashion, and to consult then with the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws to see whether that would be inconsistent with what they would recommend for perpetual membership, and have the Executive Board take a correspondence vote to see if we have incorporated there our ideas?

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: Yes, there isn't very much warrant for the arrangement now.

MR. DUDGEON: Did the Board do anything in connection with this perpetual membership to direct the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws to prepare a draft?

SECRETARY MILAM: You have already passed the



motion and it will be understood that I will do that as I have said.

PRESIDENT ELECT RODEN: Yes.

SECRETARY MILAM: Do you want a motion referring this matter to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws? ✓

MR. COMPTON: I so move.

... The motion was seconded and carried ...

MR. DUDGEON: I will wait until I get that from you, Carl.

SECRETARY MILAM: "Voted, That it is the sense of this meeting that each person present make a sincere effort to make an effort to obtain at least one sustaining member." ✓

That doesn't require any further action.

MR. DUDGEON: Mr. Rush just gave voice to a phrase I like. Instead of calling it perpetual membership, he suggested that we call it perpetual memorial membership.

MR. COMPTON: Why not call it memorial membership?

PRESIDENT ELECT: Is there any other business?

... There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at three o'clock ...

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