

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

May 17, 1929

The Friday evening session of the Council convened at eight thirty-five o'clock, President Eastman presiding.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The first thing on our program tonight, I believe, is not on the printed program. It is one of the committee reports which was not printed -- the report on Hispanic Relations by Mr. Vance.

MR. VANCE: I am not going to read all of this report but simply give you some of the more important features of the progress of library cooperation of Hispanic people during the past year.

... Mr. Vance presented his prepared report with the following interpolation preceding the words, "The major efforts of the Committee:"

I may say I just learned from Miss Cutter of the Children's Section that that Section has collected some two hundred volumes of children's books and they are ready to go to Mexico provided we can secure the wherewithal to send them there. I should think that would not be hard to do in view of the importance of that kind of cooperation. (Applause)

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Mr. Vance, will you repeat your two specific recommendations? Do you care to make them as a motion?

MR. VANCE: "It is recommended that the

Council consider sympathetically the prompt extension of our cooperation in Mexico especially in the following: 'the interchange of library personnel'; 'the inclusion of Mexican libraries in the Library of Congress lists of special selections'; 'the exchange between Mexico, the United States and Canada of exhibits illustrating the cultural development of the respective countries'; 'giving every possible encouragement to the translation into Spanish of library publications issued in the United States which are likely to be useful in Spanish-speaking countries'; and 'a request to the Children's Librarians' Sections of the American Library Association to form a collection of children's books published in the United States (which, as I stated, has been done) and to send it, completely cataloged, to the Lincoln Library in Mexico'."

The other recommendation is:

"It is recommended that the Council endorse the proposal of the Committee that the establishment of a branch in Spain of the American Library in Paris be effected at the earliest moment."

I so move.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: You have heard the recommendations. It is moved and seconded that those recommendations be adopted. Is there discussion?

MISS CUTTER: If Mr. Vance will pardon my making

one change in what he said, the Committee has assembled, through gifts from the publishers, 100 of the 180 books we wish to send to Mexico. We said in the first place at the Children's Section we would send 100 children's books, from seven to fourteen, and later we decided that in addition to that we want to send a collection of picture books. We have the 100 children's books which were a gift from the publishers and the Children's Librarians' Section has very generously voted to share half the expense of the remaining books, some 75 or 80 picture books. The books are to be cataloged and then will be sent providing we get the other \$70 or \$75 which we want for the picture books. I just wanted to make that clear.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Are there any questions you would like to ask Mr. Vance or are you ready for the question?

MISS TYLER: I am really quite puzzled over these recommendations but it is because I am not informed, I realize that. Isn't that a rather large order for us to vote to establish a branch of the Paris Library in Spain? I don't quite get that, I confess.

SECRETARY MILAM: I think he had in there "encourage the establishment" of a branch of the Paris Library in Spain.

MR. VANCE: It is merely a recommendation of the Council, Madam President.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: An encouragement looking

toward the establishment of a branch. Is there any other question or discussion?

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

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Revision of Standards for Library Schools -- Mr. Craver, Chairman of the Board of Education for Librarianship.

MR. CRAVER: The Board of Education for Librarianship, in the course of its half dozen years of existence, has learned a few things, including among others the fact that some of its rules, which it has from time to time proposed to you and which you have been gracious enough to accept, don't work. The result is that we have come in here in a rather shamefaced fashion to say we have made some mistakes and will you please put us in the position to discontinue doing some of the things that we find don't work.

Of course, as we operate entirely under rules and regulations that have been accepted by this Council, we can't change our procedure until you have authorized us to do so. So we have this evening two things to bring before you.

The first one is a matter of accreditation, where we found one or two minor difficulties; that is, minor in the sense that they are not very great changes in our rules but not so minor in their effect upon the schools which find themselves in difficulty.

... Mr. Craver presented his prepared report

on "Accreditation of Library Schools" ...

MR. CRAVER: The other thing on which we would like a little change of emphasis is the question of degrees that are being conferred by library schools. The Board of Education has never had any opinion of its own except an innocent idea that the Association of American Universities ought to be an authority. So when the question was first presented to us, we went to them and asked them what they considered the proper procedure. They told us, after a year or two of deliberation, and we immediately adopted their ideas, presented them to you and got your approval. For some reason or other, they have decided to take another look at things, with the result that they now have given us another report on the question which modified a report that they gave us in 1925.

... Mr. Craver presented his prepared report on "Degrees Conferred in Completion of Library Curricula" ...

MR. CRAVER: Perhaps I had better say that I can't find that the universities and colleges themselves have any very definite and fixed policy. I suppose the best thing we can do is let each institution follow the dictates of its own conscience.

Madam President, I would like to recommend, on behalf of the Board, the adoption of these two resolutions.

... The motion was seconded ...



MR. J. I. WYER: I regret to say that I was not in the room for the last minute or two and it is possible that Mr. Craver gave a reason or explanation of the significance of this move. I am only reporting that merely by reading the resolution, I don't feel that I can vote for it. I wish I had heard what he said in explanation, in support of it, if he said anything at all. The reason for that is that when I first read the recommendation, it seemed rather a reversal, as far as I have followed it, of the work of the Board, of the policy, up to date.

The Board of Education for Librarianship has come to the Council for approval of its action in the standards that were set; has required such approval according to its charter, and the standards have been set high.

The resolution, as I read it, seems to me to practically do away with any supervision or approval of the Council on the acts of the Board. In effect the Council says to the Board of Education for Librarianship, "Go ahead, apply your own standards, where you please, as you please," and in this particular instance it seems to me it reverses the policy of the Education Board and gives permission to do things that it has consistently been unwilling to do heretofore. If the Board wants to reverse itself, that may be merely an expression or evidence of broad-mindedness or a willingness to say, "We are wrong now; we want to be right for a while."

It does seem to relieve the Council from any necessity for approving in any way. If we give them a blank check or a blanket approval, we might just about as well do it once for all and not have them coming to the Council with requests for approvals that they really don't mean.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Mr. Craver, does Dr. Wyer read it correctly?

MR. CRAVER: I don't think so, Madam President. There is certainly no desire on the part of the Board of Education to get a blank check -- no check we signed would be cashed by anybody anyhow; it would have to be endorsed by the Council.

Dr. Wyer was not here, of course, when I tried to explain that we thought we had made some mistakes and we thought the thing to do was to come in and acknowledge our mistakes in the past and try to get straightened out.

I don't think Dr. Wyer need be very much alarmed. It seems to me that after all the Council has to give the Board of Education some leeway, some authority, to use its discretion. I rather feel that what you have to do is trust the Board and change the Board if you find the Board isn't making progress. You can't exactly pin us down to a strict mathematical formula. We couldn't stay inside of it if you did, no matter how great our intention to do so was. We don't want to run away from the Council, we assure you of that, but I think under the present

rule we are being unjust to certain institutions and this is the way we sought to get around it. If the Council wants to tell us how to revise the original rule that we set up, which you were kind enough to approve and put us under, perhaps it can be done. This is the best effort we could get giving the necessary leeway so that the Board itself could work it out.

I hope Dr. Wyer isn't afraid we are trying to open any doors to let everybody run in on the nice open schedule without any supervision or without any serious, definite attempt to fix and maintain records. Nothing is further from the minds of your representatives on the Board.

MR. J. I. WYER: My recollection, running back some years when I was more interested than now in what happens in the library schools perhaps, seems to recall the fact that the Board took the position that you don't want to encourage schools in non-teaching institutions at all. There was a time when schools which were not connected with teaching institutions were rather stampeded in the direction of teaching institutions and therefore I was rather surprised when this resolution came to my attention indicating that it distinctly did encourage the creation of schools in non-teaching institutions and was prepared to accredit them with precisely the same liberality as those that were in the preferred institutions.

Mr. Craver assures me by saying, in such terms that I understood him to mean at any rate, that they were wrong

when they stampeded the schools in the direction of teaching institutions so very vigorously and practically assured those that were not so connected that there was no future for them and that the Board has seen a new light and it believes that schools can be encouraged as this resolution will do.

On the other point, I would be with him at once in saying by all means let the Council give the Board full authority, full power, to do the whole thing. I think that with the care with which such boards are appointed, it ought to have the power quite independent of the Council; if the Council wants to have anything to do with it at all, it can take up the matter of criticism of its act after the act, if it likes. I fancy it never would have such occasion.

I should think it very salutary if the Council should give it full authority and never require it to bring its decisions or have its reports approved by this body. I have that much regard and respect for the personnel of the Committee throughout the years that it has been at work and I haven't the slightest fear that the doors are going to be thrown open for any fly-by-night or every fly-by-night agency for library training that may see fit to set up and apply to the Board for privilege to go ahead.

MR. RANCK: What sort of accredited degree or mark would these people have who graduate from a school that is not connected with a degree-conferring institution?

Everybody understands when you get a degree from Michigan or Columbia or those institutions in library science that certain standards of those institutions stand back of that. It seems to me there ought to be some kind of term or name for the degree to go with it. I don't quite see that that has been covered in the resolution.

MR. CRAVER: I don't think that is especially relevant to this discussion. That is the business of the school. I assume that what would happen would be that the graduate of that school would receive from the school a certificate saying that he had completed satisfactorily the course there. Beyond that he would have the fact that his school was on the accredited list. I think the fact that he hasn't had a degree is going to be a professional handicap to him but we can't overcome that. We can't go in the business of giving degrees. I say we can't -- I assume the A.L.A. doesn't want to do that. He will have from his school a certificate to the effect that he has completed that course; they will give him a diploma, a certificate, if they can't for some reason or other give him a B.S. or B.A. or whatever it might be.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Are you ready for the question. All in favor of those two recommendations will make the usual response. Opposed. It is carried.

MR. CRAVER: There was another recommendation --

the one regarding the degrees, for changing the regulations for degrees.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I put the two together, Mr. Cramer.

Mr. Ranck has a resolution.

MR. RANCK: Madam President and Members of the Council: In the fifty or more years in the history of the American Library Association, the Association from time to time has elected distinguished scholars and gentlemen to honorary membership. So far as I have been able to discover in looking through the records -- I haven't had the time to examine every page -- eleven persons have been so elected. At the present time, two are living and there are two honorary members. These two are Charles Alexander Nelson, one of the founders of the Association in 1876, and Mr. Frank A. Vanderlip who was so active in financing and raising the money for library war work in 1917 and 1918.

The other honorary members have included such persons as Henry Barnard, the first Commissioner of Education; Andrew Carnegie; Charles W. Eliot, for so many years President of Harvard University; Daniel Coit Gilman, the first President of the Johns Hopkins University; Ezekiel A. Harris, whose standing I don't know, I couldn't find out anything about him; S. Hastings Grant and Charles W. Jenks, who were members of the Conference of '53; and John H. Vincent, Bishop Vincent, the

founder of the Chautauqua Institution.

Those, Madam President, so far as I have been able to discover are the persons who have been honored by this Association and I am sure you will all agree with me that they were an honor to the Association.

I believe that there are other persons in the United States and in Canada who, from time to time, are worthy of inclusion in the list of honorary members.

In the January number of the Library Journal, Madam President, your fellow townsman, Charles Franklin Thwing, had a most interesting article on, "What are the Tests of a National Civilization?" He enumerated twelve tests and applied them to the United States. The first test that he listed in those twelve is whether people belonging to a nation are appreciative, show appreciation, of its past, of its history. The gentleman I propose for honorary membership at this time has done a work that is of supreme importance not only in the history of this country but in the history of the world so far as it relates to the World War.

I propose for honorary membership the name of Mr. Herbert Hoover, the founder of the Hoover War Library at Stanford University.

In the March first number of the Library Journal there was an article on Mr. Hoover and his library relations. Doubtless most of you have read it. You found there that he

not only established the Hoover War Library but he has been active in building up a great collection on engineering literature.

In this Hoover War Library which he started with \$50,000 and to which he has given his personal attention and is doing so now, he has built up one of the greatest collections in existence on the whole subject of the World War. In the Contemporary Review for April there is a most interesting article giving you some idea of the magnitude and scope of this great man and I take from that a few figures to give you some idea of it.

This library was organized at Mr. Hoover's suggestion and started in 1914 soon after the war broke out, realizing the importance of gathering all of this material. There is now in the collection according to the article by Mr. Lutz, who is associated in getting this material together, 1,000,000 original letters and documents, 21,000 manuscripts, 130,500 pamphlets, 56,000 printed volumes, 5,257 titles of newspapers, representing nearly 200,000 numbers. Of the various foreign languages, in the French language there are 10,000; in the English language, 9,000; in the German language, 7,000; in the Russian language, 12,000; in the Hungarian language, 1500; in the Italian language, 1,500; and in other languages, 4,500. Forty-seven nations are represented by their documents and over 1,000 learned societies have contributed

their documents to this collection.

As I said, Mr. Hoover gave his personal attention in starting this great work and keeping it up and I feel that it would be an honor to this organization, to the American Library Association, to elect him an honorary member to this body.

As I understand it, the Council simply nominates and it will come before the Association at its business session tomorrow morning, if we should nominate him here, for election. I so move.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Vance and carried ...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Miss Tyler has a recommendation for the Council, I believe.

MISS TYLER: Madam President and Members of the Council: A matter has been discussed by a great many members of this Association as to what we might do to cooperate with Commissioner Cooper in his work with the Bureau of Education, and it has seemed very desirable to present a resolution with the hope that it will be approved by the Council.

Miss Guerrier was most active in this matter and she had to leave the conference yesterday. The matter seemed to be left somewhat in the hands of Dr. Bowerman and myself with Miss Donnelly's cooperation and that of Mr. Morgan in organizing this presentation, and we have put it in the form

of a resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the American Library Association urges the Federal Government to develop and organize the educational library which now exists in the Bureau of Education to a point where it will be able to render an enlarged service to the libraries and schools of the nation.

"The American Library Association also urges that provision be made for research and surveys in the field of library service including libraries in elementary schools, high schools, colleges, and teachers' colleges, and that skilled advice and trained leadership be made available to guide the rapid development which is now taking place in the school and public library fields.

"The American Library Association further urges that the Government widen the scope of its statistics relating to libraries and issue them at more frequent intervals and that the range of its published studies for libraries be enlarged to include bibliographies, service manuals and other library aids; be it

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Library Association Committee on Education be instructed to work toward these ends and that copies of these resolutions be sent to the President, to the Secretary of the Interior, to the Commissioner of Education, and to the Committee on Education of the Senate and the House of representatives of the United States Congress."

Madam President, I move the adoption of this resolution.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Vance and carried ...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Dr. Bowerman, I believe you had something to present.

DR. BOWERMAN: Madam President, there is a matter in the evening paper that I read just before I came down here that gave me a very great deal of interest and I think it will be of interest to you. I shall read the article, which is brief, in part at least, before offering the resolution based upon it.

"Secretary Wilbur announced yesterday that he had requested President Hoover to appoint an advisory committee on education to work out a program to be recommended to Congress which would permit the Federal Government to render the greatest possible degree of service to education. Dr. Wilbur said that he believed the committee should be composed of representatives of the great educational organizations and others interested in education, and that it should meet in Washington soon to consider all phases of the subject. He advocated a plan which would permit the Government to render the greatest possible service without disturbing that local self-government which is fundamental to the success of the nation."

This proposal, I think, adopts the proposal in

the legislature calling for a Department of Education, which, as is perhaps known, the present administration is opposed to through an announcement made by Secretary Wilbur, but it adopts that part of the proposed legislation calling for a council on education.

I seems to me that this body is one of the important representative educational organizations and I have therefore drafted this resolution to carry out the idea of securing or trying to secure representation in such a council.

"RESOLVED, That the American Library Association in convention assembled notes with interest and satisfaction the proposal of the Secretary of the Interior that the President of the United States appoint an advisory committee on education to work out a program to be recommended to Congress, such committee to be composed of representatives of the great educational organizations;

"RESOLVED, That since the American Library Association represents one of the major educational interests of the country, the desirability of including a representative of this organization be considered in making up such an advisory committee;

"RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the President, the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Education."

Madam President, I move the adoption of the

resolution.

... The motion was seconded by Mr. Ranck and carried ...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The Membership Committee has sent in a recommendation which the Secretary will read.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. Lloyd W. Josselyn left this resolution and asked that I read it to the Council.

"The Membership Committee of the American Library Association at its meeting today, May 16, passed the following resolution:

"That the Membership Committee recommend to the Council that a Committee on Sustaining and Contributing Memberships be appointed either as a sub-committee of the Membership Committee or as a separate committee and that the Membership Committee recommend to the American Library Association that the Association remit the initiation fee to all library school students or first year workers in the library profession desiring to join the American Library Association."

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Those were two distinct recommendations. Do you wish to take them up separately?

MR. BOWERMAN: Yes, separately.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The first, as you will remember, was a request that the Council approve of the appointment of either a special committee on sustaining and contributing memberships or a sub-committee of the present

Membership Committee. Does anyone wish to put that as a motion? The Membership Committee was quite anxious to have that approved.

MR. BOWERMAN: Do they prefer a separate committee or a sub-committee?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I don't think they expressed any preference.

MISS RATHBONE: I would like to suggest that we make it a sub-committee. The present Membership Committee has been so active that it would seem almost a reflection on them if we did not.

I move, therefore, that a sub-committee be authorized.

MISS TYLER: I second the motion.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Is there any discussion? It occurs to the Chair that it is a rather different type of membership and might require quite a different type of personnel on that Committee. I think that was the reason it was suggested as an alternative by the Membership Committee itself.

MISS TYLER: It would seem that the President, in appointing a Membership Committee, would bear that in mind and appoint the type of people that go into that Committee.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: It might be largely composed of trustees, for instance, and they might not care to serve as a sub-committee.

MR. RANCK: I have forgotten whether there is a committee on endowment. If there were such a committee, would that be a good committee to handle that?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: There is no committee on endowment.

MISS TYLER: Madam President, if there should not be a sub-committee, it would seem to me this would be a matter to go to the Committee on Committees. But we have so very many committees now that it seems rather disturbing to create another committee on membership if a sub-committee could be borne in mind in appointing the Membership Committee.

MR. SPAULDING: Is it necessary for the Council to take action at this time to create a sub-committee of an existing committee?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: No, I don't think it is but it would be if it were a separate committee.

MISS FAITH E. SMITH: Wouldn't the nature of the work of this committee be financial rather than membership?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Has anyone else a contribution to make?

MR. RANCK: I still think it is largely a matter of finance you are after with a separate committee and therefore it seems to me it would appropriately go with a committee that has to do with that. There is a Committee on Finance but, of course, that has largely been an auditing

committee but you could enlarge the functions of that Committee and increase its membership perhaps and handle it in that way.

SECRETARY MILAM: The duties of that committee are defined by the By-Laws and the Constitution and could not be changed, I take it, by the Council but only by the Association as a whole.

MR. RANCK: Is there anything to prevent them from getting more money?

SECRETARY MILAM: Not that I know of but it isn't their job to get money.

MISS TYLER: Did the Membership Committee consider this membership feature by making this recommendation?

SECRETARY MILAM: The recommendation of the Committee is: "... that a Committee on Sustaining and Contributing Memberships be appointed either as a sub-committee of the Membership Committee or as a separate committee."

MR. DUDGEON: Has a motion been made?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Yes. The motion is that a sub-committee be authorized.

MR. DUDGEON: It seems to me it is very clear that the nature of this committee's work is active promotion of a certain movement that is on and I don't think it has any relationship whatsoever to the present existing Finance Committee. As far as I have observed, instead of being expansive they are repressive.

... The question was called for ...

... The question was put and the motion lost ...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Evidently the noes have it. Is there a substitute motion that anyone would like to make?

MR. J. I. WYER: I rise, not to make a substitute motion but to make an observation. There being a Committee on Committees, is the motion that has just been defeated or would another one like it be taken as instruction to that Committee to create or authorize the formation and make legal a new committee? Are we attempting to instruct our Committee on Committees, or would it be better to simply refer this communication from the Membership Committee to the Committee on Committees as involving procedure quite within its own jurisdiction and power?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I shall have to refer to the Constitution and By-Laws on that.

SECRETARY MILAM: The practice of the Association since this Constitution and since these By-Laws have been adopted and the wording as I interpret them permit the appointment of committees by the Council, which usually means by the President, the appointment of committees by the Executive Board, with or without reference to the Committee on Committees, and certainly authorizes the Committee on Committees to make recommendations concerning committees, whether the matter has been referred to that Committee or whether they originate the idea. I should say, therefore, that according to the

practice and the previous interpretation, this Council has authority either to appoint a committee or to ask the Executive Board to appoint a committee.

MR. J. I. WYER: Then, Madam President, I am perfectly willing to make a motion that the Council authorize the appointment of a committee with whatever title it is that is recommended -- the Committee on Sustaining and Contributing Memberships.

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

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The other resolution is: "... that the Membership Committee recommend to the American Library Association that the Association remit the initiation fee to all library school students or first year workers in the library profession desiring to join the American Library Association."

This recommendation is made as a result, I believe, of a statement of one of the heads of the library schools as to the difficulty on the part of some library school students to pay that first year's fee and that is perfectly understandable. Is there any one who cares to put that as a motion?

MR. J. I. WYER: I wonder what the sum is to be remitted -- \$1 or the entire first year's fee including the initiation fee?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The initiation fee, which is



one dollar.

MR. J. I. WYER: We are talking then merely about one dollar.

MR. MUNN: Madam President, library school students are an established class and easily recognizable and I certainly endorse that feature. In regard to the second clause there of remitting the initiation fee for all those in the first year of service, would that mean administrative troubles to determine who they are? Is the clerical assistant who becomes a professional assistant in her first year of service after four years of clerical work?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Is there a member of the Membership Committee present who could explain the discussion that took place in the Membership Committee concerning that?

MISS FAITH E. SMITH: The understanding was that this would include the clerical workers, the young workers who are on small salaries, and the junior members.

SECRETARY MILAM: To answer the question which Mr. Munn stated, Mrs. Johannesen and Mr. Dooley, who are responsible for the administration of that work, say that the first half of this would be easy; the second would not be.

MEMBER: What would you do with people just coming in as heads of libraries in the profession?

SECRETARY MILAM: I wonder if the members of the Council would like to know what the wording of the By-Law is

which affects that?

Having stated that the annual membership dues are so and so, then: "For all new members of the Association and all who rejoin after a lapse in membership, there shall be an initiation fee of one dollar."

That is from Section 1 of the By-Laws.

MEMBER: How are you going to explain to the people who have not had library training in your library and get the smaller salaries than the people who come from the library schools that they must pay the dollar and pay their dues and the others do not do so?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I presume that is one of the things in the minds of the Committee when they made that last clause. I was present at the last part of the Membership Committee meeting and one of the members reporting on her work of the year brought out the fact that many of the untrained members of library staffs have never felt that the A.L.A. was a thing for them at all or that they were wanted in it. I think the Membership Committee as a whole felt there was an unworked field there which should be cultivated and that they probably considered this one means of getting in new memberships of that class.

MR. SPAULDING: We are talking to no motion and it occurs to me it might be possible to remit that fee on the written recommendation of the librarian or the head of a

library school letting the membership pass through the hands of another person.

MR. MUNN: I offer another suggestion: that the Library Journal has given and still does give a lower subscription rate to minor assistants. Might we fix that at a certain minimum salary, leaving out any personal arrangement for a recommendation from the librarian? We might say, "Students in library schools or assistants receiving less than any determined amount."

MR. DUDGEON: What is the language referring to the library school?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Will the Secretary read the recommendation?

SECRETARY MILAM: "... that the Membership Committee recommend to the American Library Association that the Association remit the initiation fee to all library school students."

MR. J. I. WYER: If that is passed, will it require an amendment to the By-Laws?

SECRETARY MILAM: Unless the Council assumes that it has authority to remit what the By-Laws compel us to collect.

MR. J. I. WYER: We are establishing a dangerous precedent if we go to work shooting the By-Laws to pieces.

MR. RANCK: I move that this matter be referred

back to the Committee.

Personally, I should want a good deal more information on it.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Should it not be referred to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws?

MR. RANCK: I think we ought to have more information about how this thing is going to work out.

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

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: There is a report, I believe, by the Chairman of the Committee on National Parks, Mr. Smith.

... Mr. Smith presented his prepared report ...

MR. SMITH: Consequently, to expedite the possibility of action along these lines, I present this resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the American Library Association Council heartily endorses the proposal of the Committee to invite the Roosevelt Memorial Association to sponsor Roosevelt Memorial Libraries in the National Parks."

I so move.

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

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I doubt whether even all of the members of the Council know who is responsible for work at headquarters and I have asked if the department heads of the A.L.A. who were present could be here tonight and be

introduced by our Secretary, who is very glad to perform that introduction now. (Applause)

SECRETARY MILAM: From left to right on the bottom row: Mr. Drury, adult education; Mrs. Dixon, memberships and endowments -- that is, special memberships and endowments. I suppose if that special committee should be appointed which was discussed a little while ago and was approved, she would be a sort of Executive Assistant to that committee. Miss Hostetter, Board of Education for Librarianship. Miss Merrill, Library Extension. If you have lost count, that slender young woman in the middle is Miss Dorothy Roden, Editor of the Bulletin and in charge of publicity. If you like what comes in the Bulletin, don't give the Secretary credit for it; give it to her. If you like the exhibit downstairs, give the credit to Mr. Fontaine. If your publications or your Book List do not arrive in proper order, blame him; he is in charge of that. Most of the credit for membership goes to the membership committee but a little of it goes to our Mrs. Johannesen. Finances disbursed and office management, general efficiency, Mr. Dooley. Editor of publications and representative of the Committee on Relations with the Hispanic People, in charge of the A.L.A. exhibit at Rome, Miss Emily Miller. (Applause)

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: That concludes our business so far as it has come to the Secretary or the President. Is

there anything further?

MR. RANCK: Madam President, I don't know how the others feel about it but I regret personally very much the discontinuance of the printing in the annual reports of those in attendance at the annual convention. I think that list is of considerable historic and other value. I know it costs a good deal of money but I wondered and some others have wondered whether it would be possible to restore that.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: That is a matter, I suppose, for the Secretary to speak to. It is a matter of office business.

SECRETARY MILAM: About two or three years ago when we were considering how we could keep the deficit for the proceedings and the handbook and the bulletin from running into thousands instead of hundreds, or running up to a thousand instead of just above five hundred, some member of the staff considering this matter at headquarters presented three or four proposals of how we could reduce the cost.

These were all submitted to the Executive Board, as I recall it, first for discussion and then on the basis of the discussion, by correspondence -- I think it was by correspondence -- the matters were submitted for a vote. This was one of the things that the Executive Board decided was not worth what it cost, in its opinion at that time. I think the cost was estimated at about \$400.

We made a great many inquiries at the time to find out who used it and, so far as we could tell, there were not more than a few score perhaps -- perhaps not more than a few dozen in the whole country -- who really made very much use of it, according to our information.

We also investigated the practice of other associations and did not seem to find in the proceedings of the N.E.A., Departments of Superintendents, or any others, lists of people who had been present. We may have been mistaken in our recommendations from headquarters and apologetically I say that the Executive Board might have been mistaken. Those are the facts.

This year you have the directory of people who registered up to Tuesday night in the newspaper that was published on Wednesday morning. You will have tomorrow morning, I judge, a four-page edition with the names of a few hundred more who have registered since. You can keep those, if you wish. If you instruct us to reprint them in the proceedings, it will cost us \$400 or \$500 more, which to the headquarters staff does not seem to be justified and did not seem to be justified to the Executive Board when we discussed it with them.

MISS TYLER: Madam Chairman, I don't know whether I am picking up a can of dynamite in what I am going to say or not. If so, I apologize. But a number of people have been quite disturbed over the fact that we were asked to vote on

only one nomination for each office. They always couple with any protest they have made the statement that they could not possibly have made a better choice of officers than the Nominating Committee did. I want to say personally that I think it is a wonderful ticket that was nominated but, after all, many people are wondering just why we were asked to vote and we were wondering just why those ballots were sent out when there was just nothing to do about it anyway.

I have wondered whether it was a matter on which there might be an expression of opinion. I discovered that the young members of the Association, such as the library school students, were feeling awfully important about casting a ballot for the first time for the election of officers and they were puzzled. They said, "Why, now, just how do we vote about these officers of the Association?"

And I said, "Well, you just vote." (Laughter)

Probably the rest of you didn't have that experience. I wondered if the Nominating Committee cared to know that there had been some amusing experiences and some wonderment at the expense of sending out a ballot for the purpose of returning it without any notations of any consequence on it.

A member of this Association who couldn't come to the meeting said to me -- she lives in Cleveland but she isn't a member of Miss Eastman's library -- "I wonder if anybody

will have anything to say at the A.L.A. about this funny ballot we have?"

And I have rather wondered and so just to have a little diversion (laughter) I made a few jibes at my friend, Miss Rathbone, who is on the Committee, and I thought I would rather like to know whether anybody else had had this rather surprising point of view brought to their attention, Madam President, with apologies. (Laughter and applause)

MR. MERRA (?): With a thought to giving expression to this subject, I wish to offer the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, That a special Committee of the American Library Association be appointed to consider the revision of Section 10 of the By-Laws of the American Library Association."

That will give an opportunity to this committee to work out the opinions of people who have views to express similar to those presented by Miss Tyler and it seems to me it would save the Association from going through the solemn motions of electing its officers. It seems that the procedure as now carried out, while satisfactory in a good many respects, nevertheless does not give a great many people an opportunity to express themselves on this question, and for that reason I offer that resolution.

MR. J. I. WYER: It occurs to me that perhaps

there is a suggestion in connection with the last two proposals that have come before you. The postage of two cents on about 10,000 members, plus two cents postage for the return of the ballot, would pay for the listing of the names in the proceedings.

SECRETARY MILAM: And be much less trouble.

I think the members of the Council may be interested to know that the Committee on Elections and the Secretary of the A.L.A. have entertained themselves and perhaps educated themselves by compiling a summary of the complaints that were made either on the ballots or in separate communications, and we have eight closely typewritten pages which have been brought to the attention of one or two officials concerned which will be carefully placed in the hands of the Nominating Committee as soon as it is appointed. It is an entertaining document with which, I think, almost any reader will have some sympathy.

MEMBER: I think one of the members whose name was up for Council said she would much prefer to be defeated than have her name thrown in the waste basket.

MR. WALTER: Frankly, I think that this discussion has been mighty helpful but I am a little bit doubtful about the expediency of rushing into a hasty amendment of the By-Laws. I don't know who the Nominating Committee is going to be. I am almost inclined to think that if you get together

any sensible Nominating Committee, the initiative you have taken tonight will have some effect.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: We are talking, I believe, without a second to that motion.

MR. WALTER: Frankly, I hope the motion will not be put. I know that you are surprised to find me in the role of a reconciler. I think the discussion will produce the desired effect without any action by us.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Mr. Merra, would you be willing to wait one year and trust the Committee to study the results of eight pages of complaints and put the motion next year again if the new Nominating Committee errs as badly as this one has?

MR. MERRA: I would be glad to leave it before the Council as it is, feeling that it has been brought before them in the proper way.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I believe it would be safe. I think there are enough members of the Council who will not forget to bring it up next year if it is not taken care of.

MR. WALTER: May I say -- I am speaking from some slight personal experience, having been a member of the Nominating Committee at two rather critical periods in the history of the Association; possibly the only contribution I have ever made to upbuilding the Association -- that there are questions coming up which those of you who have never been on

nominating committees don't know anything about at all. There are times when a multiplicity of nominations is absolutely desired, when healthy competition is an excellent thing. There have been times in the history of the Association when picking out the two best candidates that the Committee could possibly find would have meant disaster.

I, for my part, would rather trust to a Nominating Committee to study the situation and give an expression of opinion. I must confess that a ballot with only one name on it is rather clear. I should think the Secretary could cast it. In general, I really do think it is much better to leave it to the discretion of the Nominating Committee. I think Mr. Ranck will bear me out when I say that sometimes a group, such as the Nominating Committee, can get together and arrive at a conclusion which is perhaps better than hasty legislation possibly brought about by an inspiring audience like this one.

MR. DUDGEON: I would like to ask whether the record shows that that motion was seconded.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: The motion was not seconded.

MR. DUDGEON: What was the motion?

MR. MERRA: "That a special Committee of the American Library Association be appointed to consider the revision of Section 10 of the By-Laws of the American Library Association."

MR. DUDGEON: I will second the motion and then

move that the motion be passed at this time for later consideration.

I don't know that that is the exact wording but my thought is that it be postponed for later consideration and be placed upon the program at some future time.

MISS TYLER: I move that the resolution be tabled.

MR. WALTER: I second Miss Tyler's motion.

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: It is moved and seconded that this resolution be tabled. It can be taken from the table at any future meeting of the Council.

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

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Is there anything further?

MR. SPAULDING: In placing the name of Mr. Hoover in nomination for honorary membership a few minutes ago, the names of other honorary members of the Association were read and it came out that the speaker and probably many others did not know the reason for some of the previous elections. There was a very definite reason at the time. I recall in the case of Mr. Harris, if I am not mistaken, he was one of the participants in the '53 Conference and at one time all those then living who had participated in that Conference were elected honorary members.

It seems to me that we might find someone among our various commissioned headquarters staff who could keep

permanent records containing such data as is available on all those who were elected to honorary membership in the Association. Let us not forget them.

MR. DUDGEON: Was that suggestion that they keep a record or publish a record?

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: Keep a record. That was merely a suggestion?

MR. SPAULDING: Just a suggestion.

MR. DUDGEON: No doubt it is in the records.

MR. RANCK: There are learned societies and other societies that keep a full list of all their honorary members, carry it along in the record. So long as the number we have is so small, it wouldn't take up very much space or add greatly to the cost of printing but it would show to the members at once who, in the whole history of the organization, have been elected honorary members and why. I think we could carry that brief statement along.

... Secretary Milam made several announcements...

PRESIDENT EASTMAN: I did ask whether there was any further business. I will ask it again.

... There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at ten-fifteen o'clock ...