P R O C E E D I N G S

COUNCIL

Fifty-Sixth Annual Conference

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

June 25 and 30, 1934

Hotel Windsor

Montreal, Canada

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C O U N C I L

Monday Morning, June 25, 1934

The first meeting of the Council of the American Library Association at the Fifty-sixth Annual Conference, Hotel Windsor, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, was called to order at ten-five o'clock by the President, Gratia A. Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The first subject for this Council meeting will be the presentation of a proposal for a National Plan. We are hearing a great deal about planning these days, and the library profession is not behind other institutions in working out and presenting something which we feel will be a plan for the future.

In January of this year the Executive Board had a long session at Chicago in which we discussed many matters relating to a National Plan. At that time the Executive Board appointed a Planning Committee consisting of Mr. Ralph Munn of Pittsburgh, Mr. Harry M. Lydenberg of New York, and Dr. Louis R. Wilson, with Mr. Milam. We are ready to make our preliminary report.

I am going to ask Mr. Lydenberg, a member of the Planning Committee, to present the course of action which the

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Committee have followed. Later Mr. Milam will take up with you in detail the points of the program which we are to present to you for action.

MR. HARRY M. LYDENBERG (New York City): Madam Chairman and Members of the Council: We have always had a library plan. I think every one of us realizes that no institution that has made the progress that the American Library Association has made could have failed to have a plan pretty well defined.

At this Executive Board meeting in January we asked ourselves whether it would be advisable to try to set down in concrete form some of the principles that we had followed partly instinctively and partly as a result of thought and discussion, in order that we might have them for the long range and some for the immediate future. The Committee asked Mr. Milam as Secretary of the Association and as Secretary of the Committee to put down in tentative form some of the conclusions that we felt could be accepted without question. Then as a result of that, Mr. Milam made a fairly extensive tour of the country, talking with people whose opinions he felt would be of value, gathering a group together in this place and that place, asking them what would be the library of the future, what they felt the library of the present ought to accept as guiding principles, gathering information in this

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way, in that way, in every way that came to his hand.

As a result of that, after he returned he sent out a tentative schedule and asked for criticism, comment, advice, suggestions, and he got them in plenty. It was my privilege to see them. Many of these suggestions that he sent out were undoubtedly provocative, intentionally provocative, and I feel that it was decidedly satisfactory to see the kinds of comments he secured, the wideness of scope of people who replied, and the general appreciation of the problem before us.

After that, the scheme was whipped over several times more. I make no mention of the numerous conferences that took place at Headquarters between the members of the Headquarters Staff, who also had been in contact with the members of the Association at one time and another.

By May, just about a month ago, this was beginning to take a little more recognizable shape, and a meeting of the Committee was held at Headquarters on the 30th of May. As a result of all this the tentative plan is before you.

On Saturday, an informal, unofficial group was called together and asked to look at this thing with the objectiveness, the detachment, that they had when a new problem was presented. As a result of that and as a result of the consideration of the problem by the Executive Board at its

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meeting yesterday, Mr. Milam has to present to the Council certain of the outstanding phases of this problem that we feel now may properly come up for discussion. The Council, you remember, is the policy fixing body, and the responsibility for our decision rests with the Council today.

This is by no means final, for undoubtedly the plan will have to be reworked and developed more extensively, but it is going to make an important element in future discussion and future development.

On behalf of Mr. Munn, of Dr. Wilson, the Committee, and Miss Countryman, we will be glad to hear Mr. Milam tell us about the particular elements that he wishes us to discuss this morning.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: There are copies of the plan for the use of the Council and they may be distributed.

Before Mr. Milam begins his report I want to say that we had, on Saturday, two sessions with members of state planning committees. When this matter of a National Plan came before the Committee, it seemed wise that each state should begin planning for itself, because after all the state is the final unit. A number of those present this morning were present on Saturday, and we hope they will be prepared to discuss the points that are brought up today and will feel free

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to do so. We will expect a ready response and discussion on these points.

We will now turn over the meeting to Mr. Milam, who will present this plan.

SECRETARY CARL H. MILAM: As has been explained to you by Miss Countryman and Mr. Lydenberg, the document which is before you is not a finished piece of work. We perhaps ought to apologize for the title, "Notes for A National Plan for Libraries," but we like it much better than if somebody were to call it "A Plan for Libraries". The further we get into the studies which the Executive Board started last January, the more certain we are that in general we should use now and perhaps continue to use indefinitely the word "planning" rather than the word "plan". We hope that there never will be a finished document.

The introductory material on the first page is not official. One or two members of the Executive Board - perhaps I might say one or two members of the Planning Committee - think it is pretty terrible. We are not going to read it, we are not going to ask you to act upon it, but we will permit you to read it sometime.

Page 3, you will observe, is devoted to Library Objectives. I am going to pass that for a moment and come to

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page 4. It should be said in the beginning, and emphasized I think very strongly, that no single paragraph of this statement is looked upon by the Executive Board as the last word or as a perfect statement, but it is nevertheless true that some of the statements here are morenearly satisfactory in the minds of the Executive Board than others, and it is some of the statements on which we would like the Council to act that we propose to present somewhat formally.

At the bottom of page 4, first column, is a little heading, "A Proposed Library System". Originally that heading was meant to cover all that follows in these notes, but in the various processes of revision it was allowed to stay in there as covering one paragraph, but ignore the heading. The paragraph is (and there has been an amendment):

"The library is an agency for education, culture, scholarship, and recreation. Its maintenance is primarily the function of the state and local government. But the inequalities of taxable resources among the several states, the importance of the library's objectives to the whole nation, and the need for national and regional cooperation especially among libraries for scholarship and research, lead to the conclusion that the federal, state, and local governments might well share the responsibility for library support."

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I think it may be well for me to read three or four additional sections and then come back for the discussion and possible action on each. That paragraph standing alone perhaps doesn't say very much and doesn't mean very much, but if you will turn now to page 5 and look at the second paragraph from the top, it reads (there has been a change):

"In order to provide adequate statewide public library service it will be increasingly necessary for the state to appropriate funds sufficient for a minimum program, to be supplemented as desired by local funds."

Then you will not find what I am about to say in your draft, in fact it has not yet been written into mine, but it has been agreed to write into the section on School Libraries on that same page, an endorsement of state aid for school libraries.

I will ask you to turn to page 6 (we are still dealing with financial support), the first column, second paragraph: "The federal government should recognize the inevitable inequalities in library facilities in the several states due to inequalities of taxable resources, and provide financial aid to the end that reasonable facilities to use and borrow books and other printed materials may be available throughout the nation; such funds to be allocated to the several states and

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territories through such state library agencies and on such terms as may be approved by the appropriate officer of the government."

I now propose, Madam President, that you consider the first paragraph of these paragraphs consecutively as I have read them, beginning with the paragraph on page 4 at the bottom of the first column.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You will notice that this first item on page 4 at the bottom of the first column really covers several of the points brought up which lead to the conclusion that the federal, state, and local governments might well share the responsibility for library support. I am not sure that adopting that would not be adopting the others, Mr. Milam, and before we adopt No. 1, the first point suggested on page 4, I am going to turn to page 5, the second paragraph in the first column, which reads: "In order to provide adequate statewide public library service," which is, we take it, the end and aim of the Association, "it will be increasingly necessary for the state to appropriate funds sufficient for a minimum program, to be supplemented as desired by local funds." In other words, that is endorsement of state aid to public libraries on a program prepared for the whole state. I should like to throw that point open for discussion. So

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far as I know the Council has never adopted any policy regarding state aid, although several states have state aid. May I now open it for discussion as to whether this Council wishes to adopt this as one of its policies.

MR. FRANK L. TOLMAN (Albany, N. Y.): Mr. Milam in the discussion of this proposition on Saturday very wisely called the attention of the planning committee members to the fact that, this was a very revolutionary proposition. It isn't a proposition that the state make a small or even a liberal appropriation to the state library system as it exists; it is a proposition for the recasting of our entire system of public libraries in its fundamentals, it is an adoption of the principle for libraries that has been accepted in the State of North Carolina for the support of schools. In North Carolina the schools are supported by the state for a certain term, and localities are enabled or empowered to make additional grants to bring up, in certain localities, the quality of instruction or the length of the school term. The state necessarily has complete control, although it may not always exercise it, of the administration of the system, the content of the school curriculum, the appointment of teachers. In other words, that type of organization means an absolutely centralized system of libraries, controlled and financed by the state, and the

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locality would simply have the function of providing additional and higher types of library service than is provided in the minimum program.

It is a very vital question for the librarians of large and small public libraries as we know them to consider. It means that the locality, instead of becoming the chief support of the library, becomes only a minor element in that support; it means that control of your library and supervision of your library is transferred from the municipality to the state; it means the creation of a system of libraries which may develop on a national line of centralization until we have a bureau of libraries that is in control, or largely in control, of the libraries of all the states.

I think it is relatively unimportant as to whether the libraries favor additional and different forms of library support. I think it a very vital matter for libraries to determine whether they favor an implied system of control which is revolutionary in the administration and history of this country.

To give a little example of what this means, in my own state of New York it means that we will go to the state legislature for a constitutional amendment to provide that the state shall have the obligation to support libraries as it

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does schools; it means a request for an appropriation of about $25,000,000 from the State of New York in order to assume the expenses of a minimum state program. I shouldn't object to that nearly so much as a state proposition as to the actual result that I fear will come from it, that the localities as soon as they learn that the library profession prefers state support to local support, will begin to lop off long before the state will make any such magnificent appropriation for libraries.

At this point, Madam President, I wish to make a request in reference to procedure in the consideration of this material. This section on the state's responsibility puts very large added obligations on the state agencies ordinarily known as library commissions. As President of the League of Library Commissions, I would request that the Council take no definite action in the approval of this section until the League in its meetings here has an opportunity to consider the implications of it. That means that I request that action on this section on the state's responsibility for library service go over to the Council meeting on Saturday in order that the various sections that are affected by these recommendations may have an opportunity to consider them.

SECRETARY MILAM: It is presumably the responsibility

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of the Council to decide whether the request just made shall be granted. In any case, there is no implication, I judge, in his request that would prevent a discussion of this section at this time. I am sure that several will wish to speak to the point raised by Mr. Tolman.

I should like to say that the Planning Committee and many other librarians who were consulted seem to have arrived at the conclusion that if we are within a reasonable length of time to have libraries for all of the people of the United States, it will have to be done on a more effective basis than our operations of the past twenty or thirty or fifty years. Libraries, of course, in many cases have just grown, and many of us are now apologizing a little bit for the little libraries that we helped to bring into existence years ago, but for fifteen or twenty years now, the Association has been on record and the profession has been enthusiastically in support of the county library idea. There are - what is it - 3,960 counties in the United States, and there are perhaps fewer than 300 county libraries. It has taken us twenty years to get ten per cent, and those were perhaps the easiest ones to get because to a large extent they are the relatively rich counties.

We have talked with students of political science

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about the trends in government, we have observed the activities and the endorsements of ideas by students in related fields, and there are two or three things to be said. One man whom I should prefer not to quote in his absence, who is a respected student of government and also a practical public administrator, said, "You are absolutely right. If you expect to have a complete library system in any state within any reasonable length of time, it will have to be through state assumption of responsibility."

In Louisiana a proposal is now being seriously considered by the legislature to appropriate $2,000,000 for a statewide program of library service. In another state a survey planning committee on education for the state is apparently planning to include provision for a statewide minimum program of library service at state expense. I am told that the North Carolina plan for education has been seriously considered and is being seriously considered in from six to a dozen states, although it is only one or two years old.

However, I should like to call your attention to the fact that the Planning Committee does not wish, does not intend, to be dogmatic about this. It very carefully inserted in the words which I had written, a few other words to tone it down: "In order to provide adequate statewide public library

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service it will be increasingly necessary for the state to appropriate," etc. There is no statement there which by any interpretation could be considered as the American Library Association saying to Mr. Tolman that at any particular time New York State must take over the entire public library service of the state. We are recognizing a trend and suggesting or endorsing the idea that libraries should go in that direction. If we have been mistaken and have done more than that, somebody help us to correct it.

MR. FRANK P. HILL (Brooklyn, N. Y.): Madam President, in order to bring it before the Council I would second Mr. Tolman's motion, but I would like to make this amendment, that we continue the discussion and consideration of the subject this morning so that we may be better prepared to act on Saturday. Perhaps he will accept that amendment.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I didn't understand that Mr. Tolman made a motion, but he requested that we take no action this morning.

MR. TOLMAN: I am not making a motion at this time, Madam President.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will go forward, then, with the discussion of this matter of the principle of state aid.

I realize that the Planning Committee did not intend

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to enforce any immediate suggestions upon states, but that this would be a policy to be pursued gradually, and I want you to realize that.

MR. CARL L. CANNON (New Haven, Conn.): Mr. Tolman made one point which rather interested me, and I would like to ask a question of information. He compared the possibilities of the libraries becoming similar to the schools if the state took over or at least in his view became the principal support of libraries, leaving the communities to reduce the amounts appropriated. I should like to inquire if any one here can say what has been the result to the schools both as regards their standards and their personnel, and so forth, where the state has taken them over and has assumed the principal responsibility both for support and direction.

MR. TOLMAN: I think, Mr. Cannon, that it might be said in reference to North Carolina, which is the only state so far as I know that has actually done that, that the state has assumed practically the entire cost, the locality has been entirely relieved of any expenditure, and the local expenditure has been wiped out.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Is there anyone from North Carolina here?

MRS. MARY PEACOCK DOUGLAS (North Carolina): I am

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from North Carolina. I am not a member of the Council. I am officially the State Director of School Libraries in the State Department of Public Instruction.

Under this North Carolina plan, as Mr. Tolman has said, the local units are relieved of the necessity of providing something for schools. They have not been told that they may not provide a supplement, but it is necessary to have a local election to provide a supplement, and during the past year that supplement was negligible all over the state and there were only six entire units that did supplement the state fund. This has meant that the better systems of schools have much less to run on than they formerly had. It emphatically has not meant that the best systems are pulled down to the grade of the lowest systems, but it has meant a leveling of advantages over the state, and it has assured the teachers and the people who deal with the schools that the bills will be paid, to a certain amount, so there has been no question about whether supplies of various and sundry types would be sold to the schools, because payment for them is assured.

We also have in North Carolina a state division of purchase and contract which has assured us some rather good prices on a number of things. To date we do not have our school library books or equipment (I had better say supplies)

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included in there. We have gotten some good prices on some furniture that has gone into those schools.

The local units are in a position to levy for capital outlay and for debt service without a vote of the people. On the capital outlay come new library books, and a good many of the systems have levied rather substantial amounts for library books. In other places there has been no appropriation made there at all because the county commissioners in some instances struck out libraries as not being necessary for school teaching, and in those cases the local parent-teacher units or some such organizations have had to raise what money has been raised.

We don't know right now from statistics just how much money was spent for libraries during the past year. We of course know what little the state put in for replacements and supplies. That was about $20,000 for the approximately 800,000 children in the state. That is not very much.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: May I ask Dr. Wilson, formerly of North Carolina, to say something.

DR. LOUIS R. WILSON (Chicago): Madam Chairman, it would seem to me that the fact that North Carolina has been brought into this discussion is significant in that the action in that state is in the nature of a trend in government today.

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As Mr. Milam has indicated, a number of states are thinking more in terms of state assumption of public responsibilities than heretofore. The school program of North Carolina is, we will say, in line with certain other programs in that state and possibly in other states. North Carolina also assumed complete responsibility for the road program of the state and took over what in a great many states has been the duty of various counties - the support of a statewide road system, including a good many roads which formerly had been cared for through county or township aid.

Just what this thing does to the school system may be rather hard to say. The state, however, felt that although there was limitation during this present biennium, there were distinct advantages to be gained. If I would pick out one advantage, it would be that a definite state support for the school system was provided, increasing the statewide term from six months to eight months, that too in the face of the depression which began earlier, possibly, in the Southern States than elsewhere and has been rather pronounced. That is, in the face of the situation which has confronted all of the American states these last three or four years, the general school term has been increased from six months to eight months, and in that respect there is a distinct gain which all of the

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state welcomed.

In the minds of a good many people it has been a rather serious thing that only six of the localities supplemented the state program this past year. Unquestionably that number will increase very materially during this present year. There is the freedom for the locality to supplement its activities to the degree that it is financially able.

We are looking, however, when we look at this state, at possibly the extreme example furnished within the United States. As Mr. Milam has already pointed out and as the language of the paragraph quoted indicates, the idea that this Committee has had, the idea of the planning group on Saturday, and the idea of the Executive Board yesterday afternoon, was that we think of this in the terms of a general objective to be arrived at not today, not tomorrow, but in due course, the objective being to provide the forty or fifty million people in the United States who are now without public library service, with some minimum effective form of library service, a thing which with our present procedure is not being effected, or is not being effected as rapidly as might be on some other basis.

MR. JAMES THAYER GEROULD (Princeton, N. J.): I have no doubt that the Executive Board in presenting a recommenda-

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tion as revolutionary as this did so on grounds which seemed to them to be entirely adequate, and I hope we shall have from some of the members (and I refer particularly to my good and very level-headed friend Mr. Lydenberg) a statement of the reasons which in their mind would justify the decrease if not the extinction of local initiative in the development of libraries.

Democracy rests on individual and local education. It is a slow process at best, but it is something which cannot be imposed from above. No doubt we would progress more rapidly in state development of our institutions were those institutions imposed on us by some sort of dictatorship, but I don't think there are many of us who believe that in the end the result would be a more satisfactory one. I should hesitate very long myself before giving my assent to a measure which would remove from the local community the incentive to develop their own institutions.

I should be very glad, Madam President, if Mr. Lydenberg would give us his own views.

MR. LYDENBERG: Madam President, I am afraid my own views are a matter of trivial importance. This isn't a question of what I think; it is a question of what we think, what the Council thinks, is going to be best for the

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libraries of the country. Speaking for the Council, and not as an individual, let me ask if we as librarians are satisfied with the library situation in the country as it is today. Are we as librarians engaged in a work that is worthwhile? I don't hear you reply, but I know what you mean. Are we satisfied with the provision of this equipment, of this instrument throughout the country? I don't hear you reply, but I believe you mean to say no. We all hope for better distribution of more effective libraries throughout the country. What have we got a Board of Education in Librarianship for? What have we got these other instruments for improvement of library service for? Because we feel we are doing something worthwhile and because we want to see the activity increased.

We have had a fairly long opportunity for rugged individualism to show what it can do, and now we believe that if the state can say that the library is as important a part of education as is the formal instruction by schools, the rounding out of the education of the community will be improved. It is not a matter of taking away from the individual community its interest in its library, its pride in its library; it is an opportunity for the sharing of the communities throughout the state of their responsibility for

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government is very tired indeed, is it Admiral Byrd in Little America who is to uncover some resources for us? Frankly, I don't see where they are coming from. True, we are perhaps at the end of our road so far as rugged individualism is concerned, but it may be something more than the reasonable trend of the times to think in these directions that the next bigger unit will do our work for us. Perhaps it is the line of least resistance that we are taking; sometimes I think it is. This matter of equalization is a very humane and a missionary-spirited idea, and I think librarians are naturally impressed by it, we wouldn't be librarians if we didn't have a little of it in us, but somehow I wonder if equalization is as logical and as reasonable as it always seems to be. Is there never going to be any good excuse for living in a place because it has certain advantages that you may seek and enjoy? Just because good roads are good for us and the states have been helped, and should be, and all that sort of thing, is that any reason that that should apply to better electricity and better this and that and the other thing? It may be true for the essentials of life, and we like to think that books and reading are, but after all there are different grades of essentials. Personally I regret seeing this idea of equalization expanded

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to include everything that human wants seem to include. I frankly don't see any end to it, and for my part I think it all comes back to us in our own little towns and cities where we live, because in the end we pay for it.

As to libraries, if a town or city like Springfield, Massachusetts, through its own initiative brings out and develops one of the notable libraries of the country, is that any reason that a town or city in some distant part of the country should be helped to do the same thing? The point has been raised that sometimes in equalization there may be a leveling down tendency. It seems to me for that reason, and the one Mr. Tolman referred to, while this is the time to discuss this matter, personally I feel that we are thinking out loud and dreaming about something that probably we won't have to worry about for a while.

MR. HENRY BARTLETT VAN HOESEN (Providence, R. I.): Coming from the same town, I have to confess that I am a little bit sorry to hear Mr. Sherman placing books and libraries in the same luxury category with electric lights and so on. In the matter of missionary work, of course it pays us to do something for people before they come to us. We have a number of Middle Westerners and Far Westerners in Rhode Island at the present time, and I would be glad if some of

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them had had the same education where they came from as they could have had if they had been born in Rhode Island.

One of the difficulties not with democracy, but with a federal scheme of government, is the inequality of things, from divorce laws to educational opportunities, and I don't believe that we are going to maintain our state and local rights unless somehow or other we do equalize things of that sort.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I don't like to call attention to the fact, but I think every speaker has been from the East. I should like to hear somebody from the West or South.

DR. ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK (St. Louis, Mo.): Madam President, although formerly from the East I have now been in the West for something like a quarter of a century, so I think perhaps I can qualify. I come from a very bad library state. We have a vast stretch of country there where there are no libraries and where the people don't care a continental whether they have any libraries or not. We librarians in the state a few years ago by dint of superhuman effort succeeded in getting the legislature to pass a good county library law. Since that time, not one county in the State of Missouri has taken advantage of that law. They can legally have a county library if they want to, but they don't want to.

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The state legislature is made up very largely of people from these towns. They are going to think exactly in the legislature as they do at home. I don't see that there is very much good in turning over the power to the state when the people who exercise that power are going to be the same people who in their home towns don't care a continental about libraries. I believe we have got to start things at the bottom and have got to do an enormous amount of missionary work, and it is that missionary work that we must concentrate on. We are not going to get the states to do anything when the people who exercise the power in those states don't care.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Will someone talk to the question of why it is different to give direct state aid to libraries than to schools? I should like to hear further from the West.

MR. CHARLES H. COMPTON (St. Louis, Mo.): I was born in the West, I have lived in the East, but I think I can qualify from the West. I quite agree with Dr. Bostwick, but I cannot see how adopting this principle in any way affects the fact that we have to have a great deal of publicity for it to attain it. What I think we are trying to do in this plan is to have an objective and to find out where we are going. We have had federal aid for perhaps a hundred years. It has

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been increasing. About three years ago the head of our Community Service in St. Louis was utterly opposed to federal aid for relief; he called it a dole. We have got all over that and we recognize that we have had to have it or we would have had a perfectly chaotic state in the United States. I don't believe that federal aid for relief is any more important than federal aid for libraries. I, for one, believe that libraries are essential, and I am surprised that anybody in the Association would not admit that.

It seems to me that if we make any study of federal aid in this country or state aid in foreign countries, as Dr. Bostwick brings out very well, we will find it has been a principle that has been adopted and has been in practice and has worked out well. Anyone who reads MacDonald's book on Federal Aid will find that the service has been made more efficient and that it has been administered so all the terrible things that Mr. Tolman has pointed out just didn't happen. I don't see that anything in this plan indicates what he feels is going to happen.

I do agree in one respect with Mr. Sherman, only one, and that is that this isn't going to happen for quite a while, but I think if we as an Association should take some definite action along these lines it will happen a whole lot

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quicker than it will if we simply talk about rugged individualism.

MR. TOLMAN: I wish to make it perfectly clear that this is not an issue between state aid and no state aid. The issue is between one kind of state aid that is a very common and prevalent one and the one that our honored next President is advocating, and the so-called North Carolina system.

This is what the plan says: "In order to provide adequate standards of library service" --

SECRETARY MILAM (Interposing): No, it says "adequate statewide public library service".

MR. TOLMAN: "Adequate statewide public library service, it will be increasingly necessary for the state to appropriate funds sufficient for a minimum program, to be supplemented as desired by local funds."

In nearly all of the states we have a stimulating fund which is provided by the state to localities or provided by federal funds to states to stimulate libraries or some particular line of development under conditions that the locality develops and works under its own control.

All of you who know anything about what is generally called trends in government know that our political scientists in using such language as is here used mean an entirely

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different kind of state aid from that which we now have and which might well be very greatly increased.

The proposed plan makes the state responsible for the minimum program of education or libraries. If it assumes that responsibility it must supervise, and our political scientists expect, in all instances, this plan to work out, as it has in North Carolina, with a very large amount of state control and supervision, and particularly (and this is the nigger in the woodpile) to let the locality out of its tax obligations. The North Carolina plan was put through as a shifting of the tax burden from the locality to the state, and if you want to transfer the obligation of the support of your library from your locality to the state, then you should support this proposition.

SECRETARY MILAM: Do you object to the shifting of tax responsibility from local communities to the state? I thought that was pretty generally accepted as desirable.

MR. TOLMAN: It is not accepted in our state.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Mr. Tolman is speaking for New York State, I understand.

MR. LOUIS J. BAILEY (Indianapolis): I represent one of the more western states, and I feel that it is not a theory, but a condition. In our state we have tax organizations which

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are anxious to reduce the local burden on the property tax. Laws have been passed making the maximum limit $1, and $1.50 in urban districts, so that it has been necessary for the state government to install a sales tax and an income tax so as to distribute the burden over the whole state.

The courts have declared that libraries are a part of the public system of education. The state has aided the schools in paying the teachers, the state general fund is supporting teachers to the extent of $600 a year, paying their salaries. Our libraries under these tax conditions have been reduced at least fifty per cent as an average; some have not been reduced so much, and others more than fifty per cent. Perhaps as times are better and valuations increase, there might come additional funds for the support of libraries, but the condition at present is that there must be some aid to libraries to maintain adequate standards or even good standards.

Our committee on legislation is considering this matter and trying to evolve some form of state aid for the support of our libraries, in the same manner in which schools are supported, or to some extent in that manner. I feel that the adoption of a resolution of this sort and recognition of it by the American Library Association would be a help. Whether you adopt it or not, we are going to consider this matter from

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the standpoint of our state necessities and are going to do the best we can with or without your assistance.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I am afraid we shall have to draw this discussion to a close, there are so many other points in this plan to discuss.

Out of deference to Mr. Tolman's request we will not take a vote upon it this morning.

I should like to turn back to the paragraph which I passed on page 4, at the foot of the first column. Let me read it and see if you are willing to take a vote on it.

"The library is an agency for education, culture, scholarship, and recreation. Its maintenance is primarily the function of the state and local government. But the inequalities of taxable resources among the several states, the importance of the library's objectives to the whole nation, and the need for national and regional cooperation especially among libraries for scholarship and research, lead to the conclusion that the federal, state, and local governments might well share the responsibility for library support."

Do you want to act upon that paragraph and give it your approval or disapproval?

MR. GEROULD: I move the adoption of the paragraph as read.

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

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MR. SAMUEL H. RANCK (Grand Rapids, Mich.): My opinion is that this paragraph would not remove the administration and control of libraries from the local community and center it in the state.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: That is the way it reads.

SECRETARY MILAM: The paragraph you have just adopted was recommended for adoption by the state planning committees in their meeting on Saturday. The paragraph that we have been discussing for an hour was also recommended for adoption, but is postponed.

That same group proposed an amendment and recommended it to the Council. It has not been phrased, but is simply presented as an idea, namely, it endorsed the idea of state aid for school libraries, to be written in under the section School Libraries. Do you wish to take any action on that?

MR. RANCK: I move the adoption of that section, with the idea that it include minimum state support for libraries in all schools.

MR. BAILEY: May it be read?

SECRETARY MILAM: It has not been written. Presumably you would entrust the phrasing to the Executive Board. If you are not willing to do that you would not vote for the motion.

MR. BAILEY: Could not that be formulated by

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Saturday's meeting and presented on Saturday?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We understand the League of Library Commissions wish to consider the first paragraph we were discussing before we act upon it. We simply postponed it in order that they might have it under consideration. But this matter would practically be the adoption of the same paragraph we have had under discussion, but relating only to school libraries, that is, the principle of state aid to school libraries.

SECRETARY MILAM: It does not involve the same idea of state support of school libraries, but in this case it was state aid of school libraries, which is a little different.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: That is right.

SECRETARY MILAM: If there is any question about adopting it without having it phrased we will not do it.

MR. MILTON J. FERGUSON (Brooklyn, N. Y.): Has this been considered by the School Libraries Section or those who are especially interested in school libraries?

SECRETARY MILAM: Not officially so far as I know.

MR. FERGUSON: Do you think it might be well, following the suggestion that Mr. Tolman made, to refer this to that group and then to act upon it Saturday?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Miss Kennedy, do you wish this

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referred to the School Section?

MISS ANNA CLARK KENNEDY (Albany, N. Y.): The School Section will discuss it on Thursday, but I am not prepared to say whether there will be sufficient representatives from the school libraries of the various states to give you any representative opinion. If you wish, we will try it.

MISS MARY U. ROTHROCK (Knoxville, Tenn.): Madam President, I think we are getting off on the wrong foot when we allow ourselves to break this proposed National Plan up into sections and then ask special groups of our membership to pass upon those sections. If this has any value at all it is as a national and not as a sectional viewpoint. It seems to me that many of the members of the League of Library Commissions are present in this group this morning, I know that many of them were present during the discussions on Saturday, and I did not hear any suggestions then that they be allowed time for further consideration and for recommendation to this body. It hardly seems to me that the members of any special group of the Association would want to be allowed the opportunity to make recommendations for their own sections rather than to participate in a discussion from the standpoint of the profession as a whole.

While I am here I would like to say this, too. It

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has been very enjoyable to me to observe how New York State is sold on the idea of states' rights and local independence. (Laughter) Seventy years ago some of us felt that way and at that time New York didn't.

MR. SHERMAN: I think at this time in all seriousness it should be said that my reaction to this draft of a plan was one of great respect. I had a great admiration, as I read it through twice, for the work that has been done on it. Because we are discussing it or poking a hole in it here and there or referring it to some group that may be able to give it more deliberate thought or specialized experience, it shouldn't shake our confidence in the work that has been done. I should not want anyone here to think that those of us who have spoken in this meeting have anything but respect for the work that has been done.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The state planning committees met on Saturday and discussed this with great seriousness and gave their judgment in favor of the points that we are referring.

MR. CHALMERS HADLEY (Cincinnati, Ohio): My own judgment is, as I sense the feeling of this meeting (this may be a mistaken conclusion on my part, but at least it is my own, probably others may share it), that we will make a mistake if

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we ask for a vote at this time or on Saturday for any of these sections. If we get a favorable vote, I fear that all we will have will be a collection of rather innocuous and platitudinous paragraphs that will not be vital and will not affect the library situation of the country. I believe with the planning board that it is right in sensing the trends in government, but I do not believe it is wise to ask this Association to vote at this Conference on such fundamentally different and sometimes radical changes as have been proposed. I fully share in Miss Rothrock's suggestion that we should not dismember this fine report by basing our ultimate action on possible sectional actions. I think that we will have much better discussion, a much safer feeling, we will be more open-minded and we will be much readier at a future date (and I know of nothing pressing in this for a year at least), if action be deferred and this be simply a discussion meeting pro and con.

MISS HARRIET E. HOWE (Denver, Colo.): Viewing this from the standpoint of our Colorado situation, but also viewing it from a national standpoint, I am perfectly willing, if Miss Kennedy wants to take this back to the school group to see whether or not they approve of the idea, but I should like very much to have some action at this Conference that we can

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take back to our state planning committee, because our legislative sessions begin during this coming winter, and our state planning group is busy on legislation which they wish to propose.

MISS KENNEDY: I am not a member of the Council.

SECRETARY MILAM: You are a member of the Council as Chairman of the School Section.

MISS KENNEDY: If it is the wish of the Council to refer it to the Section I should be glad to have it considered. As an individual may I say that it seems to me in leaving this to be worded by the planning committee or the Executive Board to include the idea of state aid for libraries, we are not doing anything new. We have accepted the principle of state aid to schools in the United States. I was merely thinking of the Section's responsibility and that we should be glad to consider it if we can be of help. As a school librarian I think that state aid definitely and positively should be given.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Is there any sentiment opposing state aid for schools? How many would like to vote this morning? There are a good many hands up.

Before we vote, may I make an announcement which Miss Kennedy's remark brought to mind. The chairmen of committees are members of the Council.

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SECRETARY MILAM: The Chairmen of all Sections, the Presidents of all affiliated societies, and the Chairmen of all Standing Committees are ex officio members of the Council and should be sitting in the front pew.

MISS HOWE: I move that we adopt this section, to be worded by the Committee.

SECRETARY MILAM: That motion has already been made and seconded and is before the house.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You have heard the motion, that we accept a paragraph on planning for direct aid to school libraries, the paragraph to be worded later by the Committee.

... The motion was put to a vote and was carried ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I will ask Mr. Milam to pass on to the next point.

SECRETARY MILAM: I should like to take just a moment to explain to Mr. Hadley why we are presenting some of these things for adoption. The fact is that in many states there is very keen interest in certain legislative matters or other organization matters which involve questions of this sort, and they say to the Planning Committee, to the Executive Board, and to the other officers of the Association, that if the Council does go on record as favoring so-and-so, state certification, for example, strongly, they can use it exactly as they

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use the dollar per capita resolution. They say, "It means something to us that the Council has spoken." In many of these things we certainly are not ready to endorse anything which brings as much opposition as the first proposal of this morning. I think it would be unwise to attempt to force a vote on it. I think we would want to talk about that some more. But if we can agree on some of these things, I think it would help the state groups to go ahead.

I don't know about the next one, page 6, second paragraph, first column:

"The federal government should recognize the inevitable inequalities in library facilities in the several states due to inequalities of taxable resources, and provide financial aid to the end that reasonable facilities to use and borrow books and other printed materials may be available throughout the nation; such funds to be allocated to the several states and territories through such state library agencies and on such terms as may be approved by the appropriate officer of the government."

If you ask the Planning Committee exactly how that is going to be done, the answer is, we do not know, but we are willing to put ourselves on record up to this point. The question is, are you?

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PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The matter of federal aid to libraries is open for discussion. If I am not mistaken, the Council at one time went on record as favoring federal aid. In that case I believe it was for rural libraries. Am I mistaken in that?

SECRETARY MILAM: That is right.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I think you have already passed on the principle of federal aid to rural libraries.

MR. VAN HOESEN: On page 4 in the second column you say "and the need for national and regional cooperation especially among libraries for scholarship and research." I am trying to connect what is said on page 4 with the recommendation here on page 6 with reference to libraries for scholarship and research.

SECRETARY MILAM: What is the difficulty? What is your point?

MR. VAN HOESEN: On page 6 it says, "provide financial aid to the end that reasonable facilities to use and borrow books and other printed materials may be available throughout the nation." On page 4 you say, "especially among libraries for scholarship and research." Many libraries for scholarship and research are not public institutions, and if you wish to carry out the system which you outlined here,

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especially for this group of libraries, this recommendation for government support falls flat unless some new laws are passed. You are leaving out of consideration all privately owned institutions. If you are thinking, as you say on page 4, especially of libraries promoting scholarship and research, you are leaving out a number of libraries of that type.

SECRETARY MILAM: How can we bring them in?

MR. VAN HOESEN: I move you consult the Association of Research Libraries on that point.

It is all right for the school libraries to waive the privilege of discussing in their section in favor of discussing here, but I don't feel that the same thing applies when you deal with research libraries.

MR. FRANK K. WALTER (Minneapolis, Minn.): The last paragraph on page 5 I think also fits into that. "Universities and colleges, especially those supported by the state, should be prepared to meet the library needs of research workers throughout the state," etc. I should like to know what is meant by the word "prepared". If it means that everybody should be encouraged to ask the state university for everything he or she wants, you don't have to do it, they already do.

SECRETARY MILAM: Wouldn't you rather wait until we come to that section? Does that apply to the section before?

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MR. WALTER: Yes it does apply, absolutely. If Mr. Van Hoesen's section applies, it does here. You can't have a coordinated system of research libraries which throws it back on the state university as this paragraph apparently does, unless you change that to say "should be enabled to meet the library needs of research workers". I am sorry, Mr. Milam, to interject this, but it would be a situation that would be impossible unless you correlate it.

SECRETARY MILAM: That will be pertinent when we come to that section. I confess I don't see why it is pertinent to the particular section on federal aid at this moment.

MR. WALTER: Will you kindly expunge my remarks from the record?

SECRETARY MILAM: Oh no!

MR. WALTER: I still think it is pertinent.

SECRETARY MILAM: I should like to know whether people are in favor of the paragraph on page 6, which begins, "The federal government should recognize". Those other points are expanded. My understanding from Mr. Van Hoesen is that he thinks we will not be able to do this without doing some other things, passing laws, and so on. I think the Executive Board and the Planning Committee would say yes, of course, just as I tried to say if you ask us how this is to be done;

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we have said all that we are willing to commit ourselves to up to this point, but we think the other things are perhaps just as important and may be even more important when we get to them.

MR. VAN HOESEN: If this resolution is passed in its present phraseology, the governmental authorities will assume that all privately endowed institutions are excepted, not included. Maybe you don't want to include them, but that is why I cited your page 4 where you say "especially scholarship and research institutions". Do you want to exclude privately endowed research libraries?

SECRETARY MILAM: I don't think we do. I don't see anything in here that excludes them.

MR. VAN HOESEN: Simply because the law is all the other way. I am a Governor's delegate, and I know that the Governor would assume that this resolution was not contrary to existing laws and would carry it out according to existing laws.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Of course, we haven't presumed to draw any laws yet.

MR. VAN HOESEN: The laws are already drawn and you accept them.

SECRETARY MILAM: If any legislation in Congress were ever to be proposed for state aid it would be new legislation,

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it would not be the laws that are on the books. That law itself would presumably make some specifications as to the way in which the funds were to be used. The point you are raising, it seems to me, could not be answered except by presenting to this Council the draft of the bill itself, and we don't know enough to do that yet. I think you are perfectly safe in adopting that, because we certainly do not exclude anything.

MR. VAN HOESEN: No, but I claim that this group would be automatically excluded. If you don't want them excluded you ought to put in a safety phrase somewhere, that this is not meant to exclude any particular group of research libraries. I haven't any amendment to suggest at the present time, but I am sure that the way things go this will be the result, just as they went in some states in the distribution of CWA work, and the FERA; in some states privately endowed institutions were able to get some help and in other states they were not.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We have no legislation to present to you, and I believe that this paragraph is simply a statement of policy. I am going to ask that a motion be put first, to which we can talk.

MR. CHARLES H. COMPTON: I would move that we adopt this paragraph.

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... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Page 6, second paragraph, first column, relating to federal aid; it has been moved and seconded that we adopt that paragraph. We will now proceed to further discussion.

MR. TOLMAN: I would like to call the attention of the Executive Board to the fact that they have provided a procedure in the last part of that paragraph which probably will not conform to the ordinary procedure of governments, and I am not sure just who the appropriate officer of the government is, whether the national or the state, and whether consideration has been given to the fact that action on the part of both federal and state government through the legislature would be required before administrative action could be taken.

I am very glad to say that personally I am very much in favor of federal aid. I am not at all opposed to state aid. I want just as much as you can get, and if you ask for state aid on the same principle as you are asking for federal aid I would be supporting it instead of trying simply to show you what you are voting for, because you may remember that I am not opposed to anything yet this morning. But officially, as an official of the state government of New York State, I am absolutely and irretrievably opposed to federal aid for any

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purpose, any expansion of that aid. It is the policy of New York State to oppose such expansion primarily because New York State is now paying through federal taxes more than a good many Western states are paying for their own support. I am not going to say anything more. I am with you and I am against you.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: All in favor of adopting the paragraph on federal aid please say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

SECRETARY MILAM: Page 7, second column: "Certification of librarians should be provided for by state law in all states where it is now lacking, as a means of improving library service through raising the standard of library personnel and preventing the appointment of unqualified persons."

MR. ALFRED D. KEATOR (Reading, Pa.): I move we adopt the paragraph.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Is there any discussion?

... The question was called for, the motion was put to a vote and carried ...

SECRETARY MILAM: In this division the officers of the Association and the Planning Committee propose that we

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submit to you next the entire section under "The State's Responsibility" preceding the sub-head "Public Libraries".

"For libraries, as for schools, the state should assume responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of adequate service for all inhabitants.

"In each state there should be a state library agency charged with the function of developing and coordinating library service throughout the state. Competent leadership by such an agency requires not only special training but also strength of character, forceful personality, administrative ability, and freedom from harmful political interference on the part of those connected with it.

"In every state where two or more separate state library agencies exist, efforts should be made to bring about such consolidation or cooperation as is in line with good administrative practice and as will improve library service.

"The state library agency should serve as the central lending library for the state, coordinating all the book resources of the state, as a means of supplementing local library facilities. Pending the establishment of complete library service for the state, it may need to serve isolated readers or groups of readers directly."

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: There are a good many impor-

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tant things in that group of paragraphs.

MR. RANCK: I move the adoption of that section, which is marked 6 on my copy.

... The motion was seconded ...

MR. SHERMAN: I should like to move an amendment, striking out the first paragraph.

MR. TOLMAN: May I call your attention to the request that I made that the entire paragraph under "The State's Responsibility" as well as that under "A Proposed Library System" be discussed but that the League might have an opportunity to consider that entire paragraph, which is essentially bound up with the other, before action is taken.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: There are three things before us: an amendment, a motion to adopt, and a request to postpone.

MR. RANCK: With the consent of my second I am willing to withdraw that motion in favor of Mr. Tolman's request.

SECRETARY MILAM: I would like to suggest that the Council decide whether this should go over. There seems to be difference of opinion. Some feel this group ought to reach conclusions if it could, it has all sorts of people here, that there are several League of Library Commission members here, and that we ought to try to reach conslusions. There are others that think it would be discourteous to do so. I think

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you might dodge the issue yourself, Madam President, by making the Council decide that for you.

MR. CARL L. CANNON: I make a motion that out of courtesy to Mr. Tolman's request and since the Council will have an opportunity to vote upon it at a later date, this paragraph be laid over to the next meeting of the Council.

... The motion was seconded ...

MR. MATTHEW S. DUDGEON (Milwaukee, Wis.): I arise to a point of order. You have before you a motion to adopt, a motion to amend, and a motion to refer the whole matter for consideration to the Library Commissions. Your last motion can be put directly and if not referred then the other motions still have their vitality and you can proceed to amend and adopt.

MR. SHERMAN: The amendment has no vitality, there was no second.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Mr. Cannon made a motion to refer. It is moved and seconded that this paragraph be referred to the League of Library Commissions and a vote of the Council taken at a later date.

All those in favor of postponing it will say "aye", contrary. It is carried, and this paragraph is referred to the League.

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SECRETARY MILAM: Bottom of page 4, "Public Libraries".

"Each state should have a system of public libraries available for all its population. A comparatively small number - say five hundred - large public library systems might provide better service for all the people in the United States than is now available except in a few cities and counties. Each system might serve a large county or several counties or a large metropolitan area. The emphasis should be on the natural area of interest, irrespective of city, county, or possibly even state lines. Each community would have a branch of the large library system or a community library federated with other community libraries in a large system."

I take it this is in the same group of paragraphs Mr. Tolman has asked to be referred. Is that correct, or did you mean to refer simply the first section?

MR. TOLMAN: The first section, and in addition the following paragraph, "In order to provide," etc.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: This, I understand it, is an endorsement of the regional idea, the development of regional libraries, which may cross counties, which may even cross state lines if it is so desired, an experiment which I believe is going on in the New England States.

MR. FERGUSON: As I believe this is one of the most

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important items in the whole program, I should like to have the privilege of moving its adoption.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is a very important paragraph, and I believe you see the trend of the meaning in it. It is moved and seconded that we adopt this paragraph.

... The question was called for, the motion was put to a vote and carried ...

SECRETARY MILAM: Jumping one paragraph, now on page 5: "Laws permitting or requiring the establishment of such library systems should be enacted in all states now without them." It is almost automatic, I think, that we adopt that.

MR. RANCK: I move we adopt it.

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

SECRETARY MILAM: "In every community where there are two or more libraries serving the public (as, for example, public, school, municipal university, and state university libraries) efforts should be made to bring about such consolidation, cooperation, or division of responsibility as will promote economy and improved service."

MR. COMPTON: I move its adoption.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We are just getting right

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along.

SECRETARY MILAM: Don't let us get along so fast that anybody will be sorry we did it.

"School Libraries." We propose the adoption of the first sentence only: "Because the daily use of library materials is indispensable to the modern American program of elementary and secondary education, every child should have access within his school to a variety of well chosen books and other printed materials."

MR. RANCK: I move the adoption of that.

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

SECRETARY MILAM: On the opposite side of that page, second paragraph from the bottom (and here I think Mr. Van Hoesen's and Mr. Walter's remarks are particularly appropriate) we propose the adoption of only one paragraph:

"University and other libraries for research should be closely coordinated (by voluntary cooperation and planning) with each other and with college, state, and large public libraries to avoid unnecessary duplication and to increase the availability and accessibility of needed books, manuscripts, and related materials to research workers in all parts of the country."

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do Mr. Van Hoesen or

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Mr. Walter want to speak to this?

MR. WALTER: I am afraid the adoption of these have made any remarks not pertinent, in fact they might even be interpreted as impertinent.

The only objection I would like to record is to "voluntary cooperation".

SECRETARY MILAM: I would like to say that that was written in just before printing at the specific request of Dr. Bishop. I am saying that because he is not here. You are free to discuss it though he is not here, but I should like you to know that those words were added by W. W. Bishop.

DR. GEORGE B. UTLEY (Chicago): I should like to take the privilege of making a motion for adoption of that paragraph, inasmuch as that is substantially what we are trying to do in Chicago, and it seems to me that our experience there has shown that the same thing would be wise in any large center where there are educational specialty research libraries and other institutions which are trying to do educational work.

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

SECRETARY MILAM: I should like to present my public apologies to Mr. Walter if I offended him a moment ago by telling him I thought thatwas not appropriate for discussion.

MR. WALTER: I am not offended. I simply think you

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are mistaken. (Laughter)

SECRETARY MILAM: It was suggested that we present to you under "National Responsibilities" the first, third, and fourth paragraphs in one group, so if any of you wish to make a motion on a single paragraph, I am sure the President will accept it.

"The federal government should assume responsibility for nation-wide leadership in the library movement through a library division in whatever department or bureau is responsible for general educational, cultural, and recreational activities.

"Our national library has achieved distinction in its service to Congress, scholars, and libraries throughout the nation." This next sentence has a very serious flaw in it which we didn't catch in time to correct. "This service should be maintained and developed in such a way as to extend these services in an increasingly effective way.

"Under some national leadership such coordination and division of responsibility for special collections and special services should be established, involving all national, university, and other research libraries, as will tend to make the materials of scholarship equally available to people in all parts of the country."

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PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Probably the most important sentence is the first one.

MR. RANCK: What is the serious omission?

SECRETARY MILAM: Not omission, just bad phrasing in the last sentence in the second paragraph which I read: "This service should be maintained and developed in such a way as to extend these services in an increasingly effective way." I think we can improve that sentence.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The first paragraph is very important, the development of some leadership in the national government which would have control of federal aid and development of the library movement. Will someone make a motion first which we may discuss?

MR. COMPTON: I move the adoption of this paragraph.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you wish to include, Mr. Compton, the three paragraphs? I called your attention especially to the first one because that is really the establishment of the machinery.

MR. COMPTON: I think it is better to pass the first.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Your motion includes the first one.

MR. COMPTON: Yes.

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MR. TOLMAN: I should like to inquire whether it really adds strength to this proposition to provide that this national library bureau be created in whatever department is responsible for general educational, cultural, and recreational activities. The whole tone of this report and its recommendations in reference to the state set-up is to combine the library and the administrative office. We have recommendations coming constantly now, of course, from all of the research bureaus to combine the state agency and the state library in one bureau or office in the Department of Education. When the American Library Association comes to make a recommendation for a distinctly new national service exactly similar on a national scale to that which is already rendered by library commissions in the state field, instead of combining it with the national library organization already existing, it is put in another bureau entirely outside of the library bureau. I am just wondering as to whether that point has been fully considered.

SECRETARY MILAM: That was at one time written in as the U. S. Office of Education. It was then proposed by certain people who were consulted, the Library Extension Board member, I think, that it be made the Library of Congress. We discussed the possibility or inevitability, I don't know which,

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that sooner or later the national government will concern itself with museums and the fine arts and the other cultural and recreational activities as perhaps the older governments are already doing and as our government has not yet done, and that when the time comes for that to happen it would be a misfortune for the library to be up on the hill and not with all the others.

The members of the Planning Committee said: Do we know that is going to be the Office of Education? So we put in these words as conveying the same idea, perhaps, that you have in mind, Dr. Tolman, if it were done tomorrow, but also making it possible to say what we want to say if day after tomorrow there should be a reorganization of the federal government.

MR. MILES O. PRICE: I should like to call attention to what I regard as an unfortunate wording, "library division". That in the government implies that you are under the chief clerk of a bureau and that implies that the chief clerk is your immediate superior. I arise to remark that the ordinary chief clerk in the government service is by no means the person to have power over a movement of this magnitude.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: What would you suggest?

MR. PRICE: I would suggest that whatever agency is

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set up the library part should have the rank of a bureau under the government. There are plenty of small bureaus in the government service of considerably less magnitude than a movement of this sort should or would be.

SECRETARY MILAM: You propose, then, that the word "division" be changed to "bureau".

MR. PRICE: Yes indeed, for reasons I have stated, which are very important.

MR. ALFRED D. KEATOR: I think you could leave out the words "or bureau" and make it department or division.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Would you make it read "in whatever department"?

MR. KEATOR: That isn't the use of the word "department" in the governmental sense, but in the sense of whatever division handles it.

MR. PRICE: I think if you are going to use words that apply to the federal government you ought to use them in the sense in which they are used in the federal government, otherwise you are going to get in a lot of trouble. I think the word "bureau" should be used because there are plenty of small bureaus in the government.

SECRETARY MILAM: Read it the way you think it ought to be.

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MR. PRICE: "Through a library bureau in whatever department or independent organization" - that word "organization" is wrong, "independent office".

SECRETARY MILAM: Establishment?

MR. PRICE: They call them offices, I believe.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: "The federal government should assume responsibility for nation-wide leadership in the library movement through a library bureau in whatever department or independent office is responsible for general educational, cultural, and recreational activities."

MISS JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE (Brooklyn, N. Y.): May I ask of those more familiar with the organization in Washington than I pretend to be, whether there isn't more than one organization there concerning itself with cultural and recreational functions? My impression is that a number of different departments have such organizations and that this might be rather ambiguous.

MISS ROTHROCK: I should like to suggest a possible phrasing as follows: "The federal government should assume responsibility for nation-wide leadership in the library movement through a library agency in association with other agency or agencies responsible for general educational, cultural, and recreational activities.

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PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you mean there are other organizations concerned with culture and recreation?

MISS RATHBONE: I think so, yes. I asked the question. My impression was that there was work of that kind done through the Children's Bureau, for instance.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Will you leave the wording of this? We want to get the right wording if any kind of bill is formulated. Are you willing to vote on the content, that the federal government assume responsibility for leadership, whatever way the Planning Committee may later find it necessary to word it?

MISS RATHBONE: Why not stop right there?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: "Responsibility for leadership in the library movement"? As far as the policy is concerned, that would be the policy accepted by the Council, the wording to be framed later by the Planning Committee after considerable study, possibly. May I just put, then, not the actual wording, but the policy of the paragraph, which does state that we want leadership in some kind of a bureau at Washington. Are you willing to leave it that way?

MR. PRICE: I am perfectly willing to do that, and I would suggest when the final phrasing is drawn up that Dr. H. H. B. Meyer might be suggested as a consultant who is

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thoroughly familiar with the situation.

... The motion to adopt the principle involved was put to a vote and carried ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: As to the other two paragraphs, the one relating to the national library and the suggestion that its service be developed further, and that under some national leadership coordination and division of responsibility for special collections such as would tend to the improvement of the materials of scholarship, do you wish to make a motion for the adoption of those?

MR. ERNEST J. REECE (New York City): I so move, Madam President.

... The motion was seconded ...

MISS ROTHROCK: What is the significance of that "some" at the beginning of the second paragraph? Why not leave out "some" and say "national leadership"?

SECRETARY MILAM: I think the intention was to avoid conveying the idea that it must necessarily be governmental leadership, and we thought by putting in that word (I am not too clear in my memory) we would indicate that this might be wholly voluntary, I think, under the leadership of the A.L.A., the Social Science Research Council, or what have you, as well as the government, recognizing the need for some coordination.

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DR. BOSTWICK: Then by saying "national" you confuse it. Why not say "Under some nation-wide leadership"?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I think we can accept that. All in favor of accepting these two paragraphs say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

SECRETARY MILAM: Page 7, "The Library and Its Public". How many have read that? Would you like to have it read, or are you willing to vote yes or no on it without its being read?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is pretty good material. I think you may like to lift it for publicity. I suggest that Mr. Milam read it.

SECRETARY MILAM: "The library should become a more dynamic institution, which will assume its full share of responsibility for stimulating curiosity and reading interest to the end that the educational and cultural objectives of the country and the community may be advanced. It must be aware of the adult education movement and of the interest in informal education of all sorts, and do its full share to provide leadership and service.

"Books should be more accessible. The library's welcome should be universally understood. The librarian and library assistant should know how to help all sorts of readers

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of all ages. In school every child should acquire the habit of reading and of turning to books and libraries for information. Books must be available quickly and easily. Regulations should be simple. There should be staff members whose chief work is outside the library establishing helpful relations between the library and organized groups and individuals. Where necessary, books should be delivered to the home.

"Every citizen should be conscious at all times of the intellectual and cultural opportunities offered by the library, as the result of continuing publicity for its books and services, through newspapers, radio, moving pictures, distribution of reading lists and reading courses, through book discussion groups, lectures, and other meetings in the library. He should think as readily of the library as a place for education, informal education, as he now thinks of the school. He should learn to think of the library as the indispensable supplement to the school, a place where anyone can find not only the materials but also the skilled personal advice and counseling necessary to effective self-study. The library must perfect and extend its advisory personnel and service.

"Because some kind of after-use of what one reads is needed to make it one's own, the library should foster formal and informal discussion among readers, and aid in any other

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practical way to complete the educational process which begins with reading.

"The library should seek to deepen the public's conviction that it is an educational institution by cooperation with other educational agencies, supplementing their educational offerings with reading suggestions, and promoting the use of such agencies as a supplement to its own service.

"The librarian must not become a propagandist. He can, however, encourage reading on subjects of vital importance to the community and he can help each reader to find the books which are best for him. The reader's freedom and the library's right and duty to furnish material on all sides of controversial subjects must, at all costs, be preserved." (Applause)

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Unless we have the right relationships with our public we can hardly hope to put over any of the things which we have been adopting. I think this also involves the formation of citizens' councils, friends of the library, all sorts of public groups which we should get around us to support us if we hope to put over our program. It is for that reason that it seems to me these paragraphs are important.

Do you wish to adopt them as part of the proposed plan?

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MR. JOHN B. KAISER (Oakland, Cal.): I move the adoption of the statement read.

... The motion was seconded ...

MISS RATHBONE: I want simply to call attention to a very small part of this, but it seems to me of late I have been reading a great deal about the comparatively small number of people who will ever acquire a reading habit, and if we say that in school every child should acquire the habit of reading, I am afraid it will throw us open to some criticism. Would it not be better to say every child should have the opportunity to acquire the habit of reading, without assuming that every child can acquire the habit of reading?

MR. VAN HOESEN: I have just one criticism, which applies only to the caption "The Library and Its Public". It seems to me it ought to be "The Public Library". There is always a certain discrepancy in reports of this sort attempting to cover all sorts of libraries. As I read this, these paragraphs seem clearly to apply to all public libraries.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Would you like it to read "The Public Library and Its Public"? Of course, there is always that line across the meaning of the word "library".

DR. BOSTWICK: It is all right to say that a child should acquire the habit of reading. We always should do a

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lot of things we don't do, but we doubtless should do them. Can't we keep that?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will refer that suggestion, anyway, to the Planning Committee.

MISS LUCILE F. FARGO (New York City): May someone outside the Council who is very much interested make just one remark? I should like to mention the phraseology in the top paragraph on page 8, the second sentence: "He should learn to think of the library as the indispensable supplement to the school." I wonder if we aren't beginning to think of libraries as indispensable elements in public education.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: How would you phrase that?

MISS FARGO: In some such way as I have suggested - "an indispensable element in education".

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Shall we refer that to the Planning Committee too, with the understanding that they will reword that?

All in favor of adopting this section say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

SECRETARY MILAM: Page 8, "Library Research - Study of Readers."

"Continuous research, experiments, and studies should be carried on locally, in regions and nationally, to improve

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library organization and methods, to aid in making reading a more nearly universal method of continuing self-education, and to insure constant improvement of the library's contribution to the changing needs of society."

MR. RANCK: I move we adopt this paragraph.

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

SECRETARY MILAM: "Library Planning Committees.

"In each state there should be created a committee of librarians and others to plan for the development of library service within the state."

I think it would be discourteous not to mention in this city the fact that this is made "state" and not "state and province" after consultation with Canadian librarians who were competent to speak for their group.

MR. LOUIS J. BAILEY: I move the adoption of that paragraph.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: As you know, there have been a good many state planning committees already at work in many of the states.

MISS SARAH B. ASKEW (Trenton, N. J.): In order that that might not conflict with the paragraph under "The State's Responsibility" which is to be held over, could not this

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paragraph be differently worded? As they are now they conflict, for in one you put the responsibility for the library development upon the state and in the other you say that a planning board shall be created to plan for the library development of the state. In order that they may not conflict, could that not read, "In each state there should be created a committee of librarians and others to cooperate and plan with the state agency in the development of library service within the state."

Your point 6 and your point 15 conflict.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: In point 6 it says that there should be a state library agency, and you think that conflicts with point 15?

MISS ASKEW: In one you say, "In each state there should be a state library agency charged with the function of developing and coordinating library service throughout the state." In the other, there shall be established a planning committee to plan for the development of library service throughout the state. I think we should word them so they do not conflict. In one we say that the state shall be responsible for the development of library service throughout the state; in the other we say that a library planning committee should be established to plan the development of library service throughout the state. That is giving to two different

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bodies, one a governmental and one a voluntary body, exactly the same function. Why not have a clause in it saying to cooperate and advise?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I would say that the last one, No. 15, is a committee of librarians and others to plan for the development; they would not carry it out at all. It is the other state agency that carries it out.

MISS ASKEW: If you have one to do the planning and the other one to carry it out, you are dividing it between two agencies, you are making the state agency merely the servant of the planning committee, and they have not the planning of it but they have the carrying out of it.

MR. HAROLD F. BRIGHAM (Louisville, Ky.): May I ask Miss Askew if it would help to add to the last paragraph of the whole docket, simply the phrase "in cooperation with the state library agency"?

MISS ASKEW: That is what I ask. He has worded for me the thing I was trying to say.

SECRETARY MILAM: At the end, Mr. Brigham?

MR. BRIGHAM: Yes. I offer that as an amendment.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Suppose there isn't any state agency.

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MISS ASKEW: You have already said there should be.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The planning committee may have to go to work and find a state agency.

MISS ASKEW: "In each state there should be created a committee of librarians and others to plan for the development of library service within the state." If you leave it that way you put it up to a voluntary committee to plan and to the state agency to carry it out. Now if we make it read that in each state there shall be created a committee of librarians and others to plan for the development of library service within the state in cooperation with the state library agency, should one exist, that will cover it.

MISS ROTHROCK: I think Miss Askew is trying to get this plan to do her work for her. It seems to me that that state agency, if it is on its job as it is in New Jersey, would see to it that the cooperation came about without its being written into the plan.

SECRETARY MILAM: I think it is perfectly fair to say that the Planning Committee had no intention of doing what Miss Askew says the statement does, and if there is the least question that it could be misunderstood in the way that she is understanding it, then I think it ought to be changed, and I would like to accept Mr. Brigham's suggestion as one member

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of that group, subject to modification or adjustment, deciding where those words are going to fit in. The idea is certainly sound. We don't want to take away from one and hand to the other; we want them to work together. That is exactly what is happening, of course, wherever they are in existence today.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Are you willing to leave this to the Planning Committee to word that suggestion?

MISS H. MARJORIE BEAL (Raleigh, N. C.): Can't you change the word "others" to "citizens"? Citizens are going to be very important in this, and I don't think we should call them just "others".

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will refer that to the Planning Committee.

Are you in favor of the general idea contained in this paragraph, that in each state there should be created a planning committee, with such modifications as have been suggested?

MISS ASKEW: Wouldn't you add to it, please, the thing that Mr. Brigham suggested before you put it to a vote?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Mr. Milam just said they would add it, "in cooperation with state agencies," and that they would change the word "others" in such way as citizens would not be offended. All those in favor of this paragraph

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be brought before us on Saturday morning?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I understand not. We have a very full program on Saturday. Of course, Mr. Tolman's question of state aid will come up on Saturday. Dr. Wilson's motion was that the Executive Board be authorized to put the objectives and the plan into wording in accordance with the motions passed.

MR. RANCK: The objectives are the things that concern us most, rather than the machinery. I don't believe it would take very long on Saturday morning to go over these objectives. I think we ought to know what they are.

DR. WILSON: If Mr. Ranck feels that way about it there is no reason why that part might not be considered Saturday, but the point I am making is that we do not have time this morning to go into their consideration. I accept that.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The consideration of the objectives, then, will come up on Saturday. Dr. Wilson has accepted that in his motion.

SECRETARY MILAM: I do not have the official vote of the Executive Board of yesterday afternoon, but it was voted there that the Board should ask the Council to endorse what Dr. Wilson has proposed, plus one further item, namely,

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and to take such steps in line with approved policy of the Association to make the planning program effective; that is, you authorize it to work for federal aid, now that you have endorsed federal aid, within the approved policy of the Association. Would you accept that as an amendment?

DR. WILSON: Yes.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You understand what the motion involves. All those in favor will say "aye", contrary. It is so voted.

MR. ERNEST J. REECE: I am curious as to those sections which have not been touched this morning. Are they left over for consideration on Saturday? I have not checked through, but I am thinking, for example, of the section on "Books" on page 6 and "Buildings and Equipment" and "Internal Organization" on page 8.

SECRETARY MILAM: The Executive Board has been thinking of planning. We have asked you this morning to endorse and adopt certain paragraphs as an adequate statement of your present opinion of where we should try to go. In certain other matters, as, for example, in college libraries, we have not asked you to adopt a thing, we have not written anything that we are prepared to recommend, we are willing to put it before you and let you look at it, but we don't ask you to

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approve it because we don't think it says quite all it ought to say. All these other paragraphs will continue to occupy the attention of the Planning Committee. They are subject to adoption if anybody wishes to move that they be adopted, but these sections which have been brought to your attention, and the statement of objectives, are the only part which the Planning Committee think is ready for Council adoption, but that does not take them out of the statement; they are just in there for what they are.

MR. REECE: Then this action this morning stands as a series of approvals rather than as a unified program.

SECRETARY MILAM: Yes, that is what we understand.

Miss Rathbone will not be here on Saturday and she has a very important report to present.

MISS JOSEPHINE A. RATHBONE: As evidently Saturday is going to be also extremely full of discussion, I feel less embarrassment in intruding upon you something relating to our practical problems of the immediate present. May I ask how many of you have read the report of the Committee on Schemes of Library Service? Not a very large proportion, but perhaps enough so that I shall not go into that in detail, and I am going to make my observations extremely brief.

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I want to emphasize, in the first place, the fact that the Committee is more aware of the defects and shortcomings of its report than any of you who could have read it in the most critical spirit could possibly be. It is not a complete report, it is not a finished report, it is not even an accurate report within itself, but it is the best that the Committee could do in the time at its disposal. The Committee feels very strongly that this is a beginning and only a beginning, and with the hope of a very immediate establishment of a department of research and statistics in the A. L. A. organization, we wish to turn this matter of Schemes of Library Service over to them.

The second point that I want to emphasize is the fact that perhaps the most important part of the Committee's work is not in print. As a basis for the chart which appears on page 357 of the Committee's report, showing the number of assistants of each grade that can be used in a library of a given class, in order that that should rest upon something rather than mere guess-work the Committee has made up complete and detailed schedules of service for every library from Class 3, having only one librarian, through Class 13, which includes the largest libraries in the country. So far as I know that has never been done before, that is a detailed

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schedule showing the number of assistants of every grade with their salaries, conforming to a given budget, that is the minimum A. L. A. dollar per capita budget, also checking back with the circulation of that library so that the burden upon each assistant should not be too great. This plan does measurably and imperfectly present that.

The schedules have not been printed; they are so full that there was no space this time; they may possibly be printed in the future if enough of you want to see them, but they will be available at A. L. A. Headquarters for consultation.

The Committee is fully aware also that no schedule of this kind for any class of libraries will meet exactly the conditions of any individual and particular library, any more than the A. L. A. Catalog meets the book needs of any particular community, but we feel that it will be helpful in the reorganization or the setting up of library service, and we realize that worked out more carefully, made more consistent with itself, made to conform as time goes on to the changing conditions, the work itself has a certain amount of value.

I therefore urge that the Council accept the report of the Committee as a report of progress, discharge the Committee, which feels that it has done all the work it can do on this, and make some provision for the work to be carried

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on in the future.

MR. CHARLES H. COMPTON: I should like to read a resolution which includes what Miss Rathbone has recommended, perhaps in somewhat fuller form. I was for many years a member of this Committee - I am not at present - and I think I know somewhat of the difficulty of making any such report. I certainly congratulate the Committee on the work that they have done.

"WHEREAS, The Committee on Schemes of Library Service has presented a valuable report for consideration and action, which report it is convinced will need constant revision and adaptation to changing conditions, and

"WHEREAS, The Committee asks that it be discharged and its work assumed by some other agency, now therefore be it resolved:

"1. That the report of the Committee on Schemes of Library Service be adopted as a report of progress;

"2. That, as it has requested, the Committee be discharged;

"3. That its former functions be assigned to the Committee on Salaries and Employment to carry out;

"4. That the Association express its appreciation of the difficult and important piece of work the Committee on

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Schemes of Library Service has accomplished;

"5. That the recent action of the Executive Board in adding an assistant in charge of statistics to Headquarters Staff be enthusiastically approved; and

"6. That in view of the unavoidable emphasis on finances in library administration today, the value of balanced salary scales, of proportionate costs of staff in various departments, and of unit costs in all other types of library service are so foremost that the work of the present statistical assistant should be enlarged to a department of research and statistics of the A. L. A."

I move the adoption of this resolution.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The President wants to add also that she has been a member of this Committee for many years and knows what a very valuable, detailed and difficult piece of work that is.

The resolution accepts the report, discharges the Committee, and turns the work over to the Salaries Committee. I would like Mr. Milam to summarize these points.

SECRETARY MILAM: That the report of the Committee be adopted as a report of progress, that the Committee be discharged, the functions assigned to the Committee on Salaries

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and Employment, that we express appreciation of the difficult and important piece of work done, approve the action of the Executive Board in employing a statistical assistant, and last is a statement of the importance of the whole business.

MR. REECE: I should like to make a possible amendment, that the Committee consider whether a more appropriate or significant name might not be proposed for the present Committee on Salaries in view of this.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you make that a separate amendment?

MR. RANCK: Miss Rathbone asked for the acceptance of the report, and the resolution would adopt it. There is a little difference in the significance.

MISS RATHBONE: I am willing to accept the wording of the resolution. I spoke impromptu.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is to be adopted as a report of progress.

MR. RANCK: I just wanted to be sure we understood it.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You have heard the resolution. All those in favor say "aye", contrary. It is adopted.

SECRETARY MILAM: There are two other groups who wish to make reports this morning.

MR. FRANKLIN F. HOPPER (New York City): Yesterday

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morning the Library Extension Board and the Board on the Library and Adult Education had a joint session and gave very careful consideration to the disappearing book stocks in the public libraries and the curtailed book buying power everywhere. It being Sunday, we even gave prayerful consideration to the subject, and we decided to draw up a statement to submit to the Council which we hoped the Council would adopt and which would reach the newspapers.

This is the statement:

"A serious shortage of books exists in public libraries everywhere, due to increased demand and decreased income during the last four years. Former book stocks are worn out, new books cannot be purchased; thus the library has lost in part ability to keep its readers in touch with current developments and is not now rendering its full contribution to national recovery.

"Trustees of every library are asked by the Council of the American Library Association to call this acute situation to the attention of appropriating bodies and urge more adequate funds for books.

"Such an increase in book funds should not be made at the expense of personnel equally necessary for effective service."

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There was another item, Madam Chairman, that came before the joint meeting of those boards, which will be reported on by Mr. Lester.

I make a motion that this be adopted.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is moved and seconded that the Council adopt this resolution offered by Mr. Hopper. All in favor say "aye", contrary. It is so voted.

MR. CLARENCE B. LESTER (Madison, Wis.): That there might be no favoritism, the other Chairman concerned in this joint meeting was asked to present this other matter. I have the following to present as the result of what we think was a very fruitful discussion. This is concerned with the matter of the use of white collar workers under the federal set-up in libraries. It is not before you, and I will read it, and then move that the Council approve this statement.

"It is the opinion of the Council of the American Library Association in session at Montreal, June 25, 1934, that many work relief projects of a highly desirable and useful type can be set up in libraries to utilize effectively the services of educated and trained persons from many professions, including librarians now unemployed and without adequate means of subsistence. Libraries generally have demonstrated that they

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"5. Statistical workers to study financial, loan and other records in order to assemble information needed in planning more economical and efficient service.

"In view of the opportunities libraries offer for the profitable employment of many skilled professional workers, the Council urges that the services of greater numbers of the more able professional workers be made available, even if they are not completely destitute."

Madam President, I move the approval of that statement by the Council.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: If there is no discussion, all those in favor of accepting this will say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

Are there any other matters to come before the Council? If not, we stand adjourned.

... The meeting adjourned at one o'clock ...

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C O U N C I L

Saturday Morning, June 30, 1934

The second session of the Council was called to order at ten-fifteen o'clock, President Countryman presiding.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The first report which we will hear this morning will be the report on Research by the United States Bureau of Standards on the Preservation of Records, which will be given by Mr. W. W. Bishop.

MR. W. W. BISHOP (Ann Arbor, Mich.): Madam President, Members of the Council: I shall not attempt to read the extremely detailed and scientifically accurate report which has been made. A number of the members of the Council had the privilege of hearing Mr. Scribner at the luncheon of the Public Documents Section a few days since, and certainly others of us have read the reports issued by the Bureau of Standards.

Madam President, in 1900, I think it was, the Association met in this city, and I have never recovered from reading in Dr. Garrison's Life of Dr. Billings the somewhat illuminating comment which Dr. Billings made in his diary at the end of his first day presiding over the Association. He said, "There are some eight hundred librarians here, and a more self-satisfied body I have never met in all my life."

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(Laughter)

When I first read that I was inclined to think that this was a bit of high-hat on Dr. Billings' part, but the longer I have been in library work the more I am taking to heart that comment on our own characteristics. Here, ladies and gentlemen, we have gone on for years and years and years, piling up, piling up, arranging and recording at enormous expense, what is going to be in the course of a very few years a mass of rotting and decaying wood pulp.

Some years since some members of this Association and other people interested in historical research, sensing this condition, inaugurated a study of papers and binding, and the effect of atmospheric conditions, of humidity, of dampness, of undue dryness, and so forth, on them. Later subvention was granted by the Carnegie Corporation under the guidance of a Committee of the National Research Council, for the continuation by the Bureau of Standards of more careful and more detailed, more thorough investigations of papers, their decay, their permanence or impermanence of records, of bindings.

Some of us participated and contributed to these studies by sending books, by making atmospheric and humidity readings. We did it at the University of Michigan for something like two years by sending material that had been exposed

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to conditions in our library.

That Committee has made a report which I hold in my hands and which I will submit to the Council but which I will not attempt to read.

That Committee has also published various articles and there is a bibliography of these articles attached to this report.

Our British brothers have published an extremely interesting and illuminating report on book papers. They have printed this report on papers of supposed varying degrees of durability, and if you haven't copies of it you certainly should get them.

A grant has come to them, but as Mr. Scribner told us very well indeed, the studies are by no means completed. There is a great deal more that needs to be known and to be studied as to the effect of conditions of the air in our libraries upon book papers and upon book volumes. There is a great deal more that needs to be known as to the proper means of combating unfavorable conditions, particularly the prevalence of sodium dioxide in the atmosphere. There is a great deal more that needs to be known as to means of actually keeping dust away from books.

There is much more that needs to be studied as to

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the constituent fibers which go into paper, and as seems probable even some of our rag papers on which we have prided ourselves, unless the fibers are treated in advance chemically will break down almost as quickly as certain of the wood pulp papers which we have condemned so freely.

In fact, this report which I hold and the documents which have been printed show beyond peradventure the need of further investigation and study. Therefore, I am asking the Council if they will accept this informal report and perhaps take action along the lines of these resolutions. It may be in order to present them here.

"RESOLVED, That the Council has followed with keen interest the published results of the studies on the preservation of books and records made by the Bureau of Standards under a grant from the Carnegie Corporation and the guidance of a committee of the National Research Council," of which committee our Mr. Lydenberg was a very active member, "and further,

"That it is plain that further studies in this same important field are highly desirable and of pressing necessity, therefore the Council expresses its warm thanks to the Carnegie Corporation, to the Bureau of Standards, and the National Research Council for the work already done and urges a further

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grant for the continuance of these studies."

I move this resolution be adopted.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will now proceed to finish the matter regarding the items on the planning program, that were not finished at the last meeting. There are two or three items that were held over. I will ask Mr. Milam to read the items on the planning program that we may finish that.

SECRETARY MILAM: There were three matters considered on Monday and delayed pending consideration by other groups, particularly the League of Library Commissions and the National Association of State Libraries.

If you have copies in your hand of the Notes for A National Plan, turn to page 5, second paragraph in the first column.

You will remember that that was finally amended before it was presented, and it now reads: "In order to provide adequate statewide public library service, it will be increasingly necessary for the state to appropriate funds sufficient for a minimum program, to be supplemented as desired by local funds."

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: May we have a motion first in connection with this before we enter into discussion?

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MR. RANCK: I move the adoption of that paragraph.

... The motion was seconded ...

MR. TOLMAN: Madam Chairman, the League of Library Commissions at its meeting last night voted unanimously to support the present proposed formulation of this section of the report.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You have heard Mr. Tolman's statement that the League of Library Commissions voted unanimously to recommend this paragraph.

MR. SHERMAN: I didn't know that this was going to prevail. I spoke against it the other day. I am still opposed to it, but I am not voting.

MR. LESTER: I would like to get one more voice on record. My standing in the Council is as a representative of the Library Extension Board. May I remind the Council that the Library Extension Board doesn't come to a consideration of this matter anew. If you will look at our reports from the beginning you will see the action which has been brought by that Board for your consideration at various times and you will know that we have given close attention to this matter of the state's relation to the support of public libraries. I merely wish to get into the record now, if you please, that the Board is firmly convinced that at the present time this

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statement we have before us should have our support.

DR. BOSTWICK: I wish to offer a substitute motion to this that is now being considered, namely, that decision on this matter be postponed until the next meeting of the Council.

MR. HILL: Madam President, I second that motion.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You have heard the substitute motion that this be postponed and presented at the next meeting of the Council - or the mid-winter meeting?

MR. HILL: The next meeting of the Council.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I will put the substitute motion, that this be postponed until the next Council meeting.

MISS RATHBONE: May we ask the reasons for that postponement?

MR. HADLEY: At the first meeting of the Council, Madam Chairman, I made such a suggestion, and I am still impressed with the desirability and the judgment shown in postponing final action on such an important matter and on which there is still decided difference of opinion. The furthest I personally can go for support would be support by the local community to be supplemented by the state, not the reverse order, and I do think at a comparatively small meeting of the Council on a question that is so radical we should be very

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slow to take such a step as is proposed at this time.

DR. BOSTWICK: Mr. Hadley has stated very succinctly the reasons for my motion.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Are there further remarks on the substitute motion? All those in favor of the substitute motion for postponement will say "aye", contrary. May we have a show of hands? All those who are in favor of postponing this matter until the next Council meeting please stand. Will those who are in favor of taking this action this morning please stand?

... The motion was carried by a vote of 21 to 16 ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The substitute motion prevails and the matter is postponed until the next Council meeting.

MR. LESTER: May I ask, so that we may be clear, whether I am correct in assuming that the other matters laid over are so closely tied up with this that the whole matter of the deferred action on this report now goes over to the next Council meeting?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I think I will ask Mr. Milam to read the rest.

SECRETARY MILAM: My interpretation, Mr. Lester, is that there was only this one section before the Council when

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that vote was taken and that action will have to be taken on the others either separately or collectively.

The second matter which was postponed was state aid to school libraries. You will find that on the same page, School Libraries, but there had been no formal approval of the state aid proposal. This is now presented.

"State aid to school libraries has proved its value in a number of states. Such aid should be greatly extended."

MR. HILL: Madam President, I would like to move that the whole subject of this planning be deferred to the next meeting of the Council so that we may have time to consider it more carefully and more in detail.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is moved and seconded that we postpone all matters - do I understand relating to state aid?

MR. HILL: All matters relating to national planning.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: You mean anything further in this plan?

MR. HILL: Yes.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is moved and seconded that all the rest of the matter relating to national planning be postponed until the next Council meeting.

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MR. DUDGEON: Does this mean that we should cease all action of committees and boards that have this under consideration? Would that be the policy as adopted by the Council, or does that mean the final consideration?

MR. HILL: Final action.

MR. DUDGEON: That does not mean to interfere with the preparation?

MR. HILL: No indeed.

MR. COMPTON: I am not quite clear in my own mind yet exactly what that means. The Council took action at its former meeting in regard to certain provisions of the national plan. I want to know whether Mr. Hill's motion in any way affects those actions that were taken at the meeting on Monday.

MR. HILL: Madam President, that was not my intention. It was merely that the final action of the Council might be taken at the next meeting of the Council and not at this meeting.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I understand that final action has been taken on a great proportion of it.

MR. HILL: But it wouldn't apply to those that have already been passed.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Your motion simply applies to these two or three paragraphs which have not yet had final

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action.

MR. BRIGHAM: May I suggest that particularly from the point of view of the Southern area, if I interpret that correctly, it would be most unfortunate if action of this nature continues to prevail. I think it is most unfortunate that the substitute motion prevailed from the point of view of the South. We are looking forward to a meeting in October when action by this Council could be translated into action benefiting the Southern states, in my opinion, very greatly. I therefore wish to speak against the motion.

MR. COMPTON: I feel that it would be good to take action at this time. However, I doubt whether we should take action if we are divided on it. I think that it is too important for the Association not to be almost unanimously for it. If we are to defer it until December I think it will be very unfortunate for the South, but if we cannot agree at this time almost unanimously, I personally am not in favor of action.

MR. LESTER: I am quite in accord with Mr. Compton's statement, but I would like to suggest to the mover of the last motion the fact that in various states official state planning boards are at work, or planning committees, under whatever name they may be working, sponsored by the state library associations. I happen to have heard in one of our discussions a statement

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from one of the Western states (the Southern states have spoken of some phases of it) that this particular section which has been last proposed, namely, the one relating to school libraries, would be of great assistance in work in that state. I wonder whether it would not be wise for us to consider the matter still pending, at once take action, which Mr. Compton suggested, on those on which there is practically unanimous opinion, and postpone merely those parts on which there is great difference of opinion.

MR. HILL: That would be the effect of my motion, so I agree with Mr. Compton and Mr. Lester.

SECRETARY MILAM: Will Dr. Hill permit this question? If your motion prevails, it will stop a further presentation of planning items today?

MR. HILL: That is right.

SECRETARY MILAM: Then you could not agree with Mr. Lester, who wants the other items presented, tested out, and if they meet almost unanimous approval, adopted. Am I misunderstanding both of you, or which one?

MR. HILL: I think you are.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. Lester, was it right that you wanted the other proposals presented item by item and considered?

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MR. LESTER: The Secretary has stated my point exactly.

SECRETARY MILAM: Then, Madam President, it would be impossible to adopt Dr. Hill's motion and also approve Mr. Lester's suggestion. I am not arguing for either one; I am merely stating the meaning.

MR. LESTER: As a matter of information, I wonder whether Dr. Hill assumes that this report is being considered part by part, and that then a vote on the matter as a whole is to be taken. In that case, it may be that that is the point of his motion.

MR. RANCK: As I understand this school libraries proposition, it is carrying forward into the libraries in the schools what the state is doing in most of our states with reference to the other work of the schools, and it seems to me it would be a very curious position for the American Library Association to be unwilling to go along with the schools so far as libraries are concerned in this particular matter.

MISS ROTHROCK: Some of us have been here since last Saturday considering these matters relating to planning. Most of us had been thinking over and discussing matters of planning for libraries and for other social, cultural, and educational activities before we came here. Perhaps the fact that we have

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been here since last Saturday contributes to our tendency to postpone things this morning. It seems to me, though, when we are as near to a point where we can take action as I believe we are this morning, it would be a pity to lose the unity of thought, the consistency of our discussions, by postponing it for several months.

It has been suggested that action would be of particular benefit to the Southern states. I am not opposed to any benefit which may come to the Southern states, but I hardly think the benefits of the Council's taking a position on these matters would be confined to those states. If we could agree this morning on the points upon which we can agree, then we will have that much behind us and will not complicate that next Council meeting by carrying over a number of items which after all are not highly controversial.

MR. BISHOP: I was not able to be present at the earlier meeting of the Council, so I am in ignorance of what other matters still were postponed today. I don't believe the mover of the motion for postponement would be at least opposed to a statement of the remaining items still in controversy.

MR. JOSEPH F. MARRON: I would like to offer a substitute motion that the A. L. A. Council endorse a program of national planning for library service and that further

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applications of it be given detailed consideration in the several states and state associations.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Just what do you mean by that?

MR. MARRON: That puts us on record as endorsing before the country a national plan and leaves the way open for all the consideration that is still to come. That is the way I feel about it.

MR. SHERMAN: We have had a couple of wonderful field days here and some very pleasant scraps, but I quite agree with Miss Rothrock. We apparently have been able to agree, we did last Monday, on a number of important principles. The only one that has disturbed me has been postponed, so naturally I am satisfied, and it seems to me that we are losing a lot of valuable time, as Miss Rothrock so well brought out, if we leave this meeting this week and go through all this business again some other time. I hope her suggestion will prevail, that we agree upon the things that we can agree upon.

MR. COMPTON: I agree thoroughly with what Mr. Sherman says. It seems to me that if we are going to delay this until December we are going to slow down action. You took action on very important parts of the program on Monday. The only thing that we disagreed upon is the one that has been

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deferred. Why can't we endorse the other parts and go ahead? That is my hope.

MISS HARRIET D. MacPHERSON: A good many of us have been here since last Saturday, as has already been stated, and have given this thing very careful consideration. I wonder if there will be better representation at the mid-winter meeting. Since a good many of the people who have given this most careful consideration may go off Council today, I should think that that was a point.

MR. WYER: I wasn't here Monday, and I am not quite clear as to the status, but I understand in addition to the item which has been postponed there are but two others that are awaiting consideration. It seems to me, being so near the end and having had as much attention as it has had, it is in order to go through and take up the other two and either approve or postpone. I therefore should vote against the motion of Dr. Hill, which I believe is the one at the moment before the Council, hearing no second to the substitute.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: There is a substitute motion.

... The substitute motion was not seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Will Mr. Milam please state the question so we are perfectly clear on what we are voting?

SECRETARY MILAM: My understanding is that Dr. Hill's

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motion is to postpone all further action at this meeting with reference to planning. If you vote for the motion we go on to another topic; if you vote against it we present the other matters on planning.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The vote, then, is upon postponement. All those in favor will say "aye", contrary.

... The motion was lost ...

SECRETARY MILAM: We revert, then, to the proposal on state aid for school libraries. "State aid to school libraries has proved its value in a number of states. Such aid should be greatly extended."

MR. BISHOP: May these other matters still in controversey be at least read before we act upon this one?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will do that, Mr. Bishop.

SECRETARY MILAM: Turn to page 4, The State's Responsibility. The entire four paragraphs constitute the item which was deferred.

"For libraries, as for schools, the state should assume responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of adequate service for all inhabitants.

"In each state there should be a state library agency charged with the function of developing and coordinating library service throughout the state. Competent leadership by such an

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agency requires not only special training but also strength of character, forceful personality, administrative ability, and freedom from harmful political interference on the part of those connected with it.

"In every state where two or more separate state library agencies exist, efforts should be made to bring about such consolidation or cooperation as is in line with good administrative practice and as will improve library service.

"The state library agency should serve as the central lending library for the state, coordinating all the book resources of the state, as a means of supplementing local library facilities. Pending the establishment of complete library service for the state, it may need to serve isolated readers or groups of readers directly."

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The adoption of this portion and the state aid to the school libraries was postponed to today.

MR. RANCK: As I recall, the statement of objectives was also postponed.

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, it is my recollection, I can't be too sure of it, that there was a motion to approve state aid to school libraries and it was seconded and that that is the motion which is before the house.

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PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: All in favor of that motion will say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

The next matter, then, is The State's Responsibility, which Mr. Milam has just read, on page 4, the second column.

MR. SHERMAN: I should like to move the adoption of all paragraphs except the first. I except that because I think it harmonizes closely with the exception that we have postponed to the next meeting of the Council.

SECRETARY MILAM: I should like to present a fact for your consideration. Approximately the same question was raised by one member of the Planning Committee on May 30 when this program was put into this form, and the statement as it now stands was drawn up as nearly as possible to represent present facts and to propose nothing except the continuation of those facts. "For libraries, as for schools, the state should assume responsibility," etc. It was, I think I am correct in saying, (Madam President was present) the opinion of the Committee that you could just as truthfully say, "For libraries, as for schools, the state has assumed responsibility." I present that for whatever it is worth.

MR. SHERMAN: I respect the judgment of the Committee, but I can't accept its interpretation. If you put the word "maintenance" in there and turn that responsibility over to the

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state it carries with it a meaning that I think goes far beyond the committee's explanation.

MR. WYER: It would please me better for a reason that I shall state in a moment if Mr. Sherman's motion should propose the postponement of the entire Section 6, the reason being that I have in hand a resolution that I was expecting to report and shall read at the proper order of business, from one of the oldest of the affiliated associations connected with the A. L. A. I do not happen to belong to it and had nothing to do with the passage or formation of this resolution, but it was handed to me with the request that I present it to the Council. That indicates that there is a feeling of objection or of criticism or of dissatisfaction, perhaps a better word, with parts of this Section 6. That would seem to indicate also that it falls under the statement in the program of the Association today that action by this Council will presumably be requested only if there is fairly general agreement on each proposal. With a resolution such as I have here and shall read later, that would seem to indicate that there is not perhaps fairly general agreement, it being an important affiliated organization.

For that reason it would please me, and I presume the Association that is expressing dissatisfaction, if the

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whole section could be postponed.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Would it not be wise for you to read that now if it bears on this subject?

MR. WYER: If that is in order. This is on the stationery of the National Association of State Libraries: "Resolved, that the National Association of State Libraries requests that in the future its President be named a member of any committee appointed to consider the development of state libraries." Signed by Margaret C. Norton, Secretary-Treasurer.

MR. DUDGEON: I wonder if Mr. Sherman would consent to the severance of his motion, that without deferring the first section we simply take a vote of approval on the other three sections. If he would consent to that we could take a vote on that and then come back to this first section.

MR. SHERMAN: If it will facilitate matters I will withdraw the motion.

SECRETARY MILAM: Will you state it as it should be?

MR. SHERMAN: I move that we adopt paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the section on The State's Responsibility.

MR. DUDGEON: Do I understand, then, that the motion before the house with Mr. Sherman's consent is approval of those three?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: That is what I understand,

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that the vote will now be upon this section under The State's Responsibility, not including the first paragraph.

... Mr. Sherman's motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: All in favor of adopting the three paragraphs under The State's Responsibility, not including the first, will say "aye", contrary. It is carried.

MR. RANCK: I move the adoption of that first paragraph.

... The motion was seconded ...

MR. RANCK: Madam Chairman, in discussion the other day it was brought up that there are in this country some forty million people without access to any library service, and that it was the duty of the state to provide in some way that those forty million people, one-third of the total population, should get service of that kind. That is what I understand is back of this particular paragraph. Am I correct?

MR. SHERMAN: I don't want to prolong my participation in this affair, but I cannot possibly conceive how we can interpret in our form of government, responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of any function without carrying with it the financial obligation. Things don't go in our country without money, we all know that too well, and while the spirit of this might be in the line of missionary

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work and inspiring other people to do the work, I don't believe it will ever work out that way, and I think if this is once passed it will be so understood, that there will be a financial obligation. I think it is inconsistent to have postponed action on the other principle and to pass this at this time.

MISS RATHBONE: It seems to me there is quite a different principle involved there. We have always considered that libraries were a function of the state.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: If there is no further discussion we will take a vote on the adoption of this first paragraph. All those in favor of adopting the first paragraph say "aye", contrary. Will those in favor of adopting the first paragraph please stand. Those opposed.

... The motion was lost by a vote of 18 for, 22 against ...

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, the Planning Committee did not present the objectives at the Council meeting on Monday because there was not time, and also perhaps for other reasons. I won't definitely state what they had in their minds; I am simply saying that technically, Mr. Ranck, or whoever it was raised that question, the objectives are not before the Council but can easily be brought before the Council

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if anyone wishes to proceed to the discussion of them, but the Committee is not asking for action on the objectives this morning.

MR. BRIGHAM: I move the adoption of the objectives.

... The motion was seconded ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: It is moved and seconded that the Council adopt the objectives as given on page 3.

MR. RANCK: Let Mr. Milam read them, then we will all know.

SECRETARY MILAM: "The objectives of the library are to assemble and preserve books and related materials in organized collections and, through stimulation and guidance, to promote their use to the end that children, young people, men, and women may have opportunity and encouragement:

"To educate themselves continuously;

"To aid in the advancement of knowledge;

"To improve their capacity for appreciation and production in cultural fields;

"To improve their ability to participate usefully in activities in which they are involved as citizens;

"To equip themselves, and keep themselves equipped, for efficient activity in useful occupations and practical affairs;

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"To keep abreast of progress in the sciences and other fields of knowledge;

"To maintain the precious heritage of freedom of expression and a constructively critical attitude toward all public issues;

"To make such use of leisure time as will promote personal happiness and social well-being."

The next paragraph you have is scratched by the Committee as it is covered in a later paragraph.

"The process of assembling books for these objectives involves the command of experience and judgment, not only in the appraisal of their intrinsic literary qualities, but of their usefulness in relation to the needs and interests of the community and the intellectual and cultural levels of its members.

"The process of organizing requires training and proficiency in the principles and methods of librarianship and their practical application to the books to be organized and the varied groups of readers to be served."

The next sentence has been eliminated because we found, much to my amusement, that we had almost exactly the same sentence in another place in the report which has already been adopted. Therefore, the second column begins with:

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"Library service will become a social enterprise participating and cooperating with all other agencies and forces concerned with the welfare and progress of humanity. In this service one of the chief elements will be a personnel bringing to its task adequate education and training and a wide variety of special interests and aptitudes, but, above all, a broad and sympathetic comprehension of the expanding opportunities and their concomitant responsibilities in the administration of the library and its books as a source of power and enlightenment.

"A system of libraries which will serve these ends would seem to be, with our public school system, the minimum cultural equipment necessary for civilized living in America."

Madam President, I should like to pay tribute to the Chicago Library Club for many parts of this statement. The Committee drafting it, including Mr. Rodin, Miss Wright, and myself, will all share in the glory or the blame for that statement, but I want to give particular credit to Mr. Rodin and Miss Wright.

MR. RANCK: So far as I am concerned, that is the best statement of the objectives of library work that I have ever seen. I would like to see it endorsed.

MR. WYER: I can scarcely see how there can be any

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objectors in this company to this statement. My personal reaction to it is this: I was not here Monday, I came and wanted to get a copy of this, it had not reached me at home, I took this in to luncheon with me, there was a delightful and very excellent luncheon on the table before me, I got interested in these objectives, and I think perhaps the luncheon came in for a little attention, but I got far more of substantive value out of reading that particular paragraph than I got out of what was on the table.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Mental food seems to be good for Mr. Wyer.

... The question was called for and the motion to adopt the objectives was carried ...

MR. DUDGEON: I ask for the judgment of those interested whether it would be proper procedure now to ask that the state associations and the libraries generally cooperate with this plan, and in furthering the plan, in so far as it has been adopted by this Council. It seems to me that there should be some formal appeal to these outlying organizations.

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, I think I ought to report that the Executive Board gave some consideration to such a matter at its meeting on Sunday, and it was the opinion of the Executive Board, if I remember correctly, that we should

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perhaps adopt some resolution here which would encourage all state and regional associations having meetings within the next several months to give consideration to the question raised by this planning statement. Mr. Dudgeon might like to make such a motion as that, and add to it some encouragement to the planning committees to give particular attention to the parts which have received the approval of Council.

MR. DUDGEON: I adopt that language in my motion.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I won't undertake to state it again. I assume the stenographer has it and the rest of you heard it. All those in favor will say "aye", contrary. It is so voted.

Does anyone wish to take any further action upon this matter of planning?

MR. RANCK: I think this statement of objectives should be broadcasted through the newspapers as widely as possible.

SECRETARY MILAM: Will Miss Rosell and Miss Smith take notice?

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Is there anything further with regard to the report of the Planning Committee? If not, Mr. Wyer, will you present the motion which you had in your hand? Do you want action taken upon it?

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MR. WYER: I did read it. I presume it will be referred to the Executive Board if that action will be satisfactory.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Very well, it will be referred to the Executive Board.

We will now pass on to quite important reports. The next one will be the report of the Book Buying Committee, by Mr. Cannon. I think that is a controversial matter too.

MR. CARL L. CANNON: The President is right when she states that is a controversial matter. The question was presented last evening and we talked the matter over for about two hours without arriving at any particular conclusion. As a matter of fact, it is about as difficult for us to arrive at a conclusion here as for the people at Washington to arrive at any conclusion. The whole matter is a very confusing and bewildering one, and involves an entirely new conception of the place of the library in the book world, at least from the purchasing side.

I think if you have followed the reports of the A. L. A. Bulletin you know something of what has happened in the past year. When the NRA organization started, the book industry was one of the industries which came in for attention, and in the progress of that, two or three codes were proposed.

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The jobbers came under a general wholesaling code, the retail book stores had another code which I think has been approved by the Administration as recently as April of this year, the publishers presented a code in May which has not yet been approved, but the thing which particularly affects libraries at present at least (there have been a number of changes in this from the time it started to the present) is the retail book code, because libraries are classified as ultimate consumers and therefore are to receive, if discounts are fixed, the scale of discounts that apply in the retail book trade.

The purpose of the NRA as expressed by the administrators in this particular industry is to improve the condition of the local retail store. That is being done, as I understand it, with the approval of the publishers who believe that the industry is in a very bad way and that one of the reasons for that is the disappearance, the crippling, and the bad health of the local book stores throughout the country. So this NRA organization was aimed to help the local retail book store.

When the question of discounts for libraries came under consideration, we discussed the matter a good deal with the Council governing the local book trade. There seemed to be, if libraries were put under this, whether they would or no,

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two or three possibilities. One was that the scale of discount would be fixed at one particular rate of discount, say twenty-five per cent for all libraries, regardless of size or purchasing power; another was that a sliding scale of discounts be put into operation so that the larger purchasing units would have a larger discount based on that, as in other industries.

There might be other possibilities. I think cost plus was considered last night. I don't believe that has ever been officially debated down there. It does apply in some other lines of industry.

The efforts of the Book Buying Committee during the year were to prevent anything definitely being written into the code which would hamper libraries or restrict their purchasing power. We all knew that library appropriations had been reduced and we knew it would be extremely bad if they were reduced still more by a limitation of discount.

However, it is quite possible that the government may take some action on this which will force libraries into some compliance with the regulations.

At the meeting last night it was the purpose of the Committee to try to find out if there was any unanimity of opinion over the least objectionable alternative that might be

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adopted if the Administration forced the issue. An attempt was made to get an expression of opinion that might help or guide next year's Book Buying Committee in their negotiations in Washington.

If I interpret correctly the expressions of opinion of last evening, although they were considerably contradictory, I would say that they expressed themselves as not being willing or at least that they considered it unwise policy for the government to attempt to reestablish a local book store at the public expense, that a good many of the retail book stores were not in position to handle library business satisfactorily, and that they could not divide their business so as to give the local book store the library business without considerable loss of efficiency and loss as to cost.

When the question of the sliding scale arose, there were two points of view on that, but I think it was quite clear that from a library standpoint a sliding scale of discounts could not be operative, particularly if the point is made in the code that all the money must be spent in one place. That is in the code now. As Mr. Windsor stated very clearly last night, because of a substraction for binding, a subtraction for amounts spent for rebinds, a subtraction for special kinds of books such as law and medicine, a substraction for all

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other special pick-ups, and other things that could not be put through the local book store, a sliding scale would be extremely difficult to administer and probably would mean in the long run that libraries would be getting a very small discount, particularly if they had to divide their purchases between different units.

When the question of fixed discounts came up, one that was mentioned several times during the progress of the code construction last year was twenty-five per cent on trade books, ten per cent on text, that is of course a reduction, a considerable one, from the present scale enjoyed by the larger libraries.

There, again, the question came up as to why libraries who are now enjoying considerably more discount than that based on the competitive conditions, should sacrifice that in order to help the local book trade. I may say further that the feeling was expressed that throwing the library business to the local retail book store would not reestablish it.

Those are the questions that came up. I presented the idea last night that action might be necessary during the course of the coming year, that we are all assembled here and probably will not be again for some time, and that probably some sort of resolution or expression as to the best course

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in the future ought to be made here so that next year's Committee will have a clue to what you have in mind when they continue their negotiations.

MR. DUDGEON: There is one point that I failed to fully understand last night, and I would like to ask this question. Taking into account the code adopted in April, where do the libraries stand under that code?

MR. CANNON: The library now stands as the ultimate consumer, that is, as a purchaser it is classified as an ultimate consumer and comes under the retail book code.

MR. DUDGEON: But the librarian is now privileged under that code to secure up to twenty-five per cent, is he not?

MR. CANNON: There is no schedule of discount mentioned in the code.

MR. DUDGEON: He is exempted from the operation of the code that controls the practice of giving discounts?

MR. CANNON: The way the code is drawn there are no discounts mentioned in the retail book code, which controls libraries, or under which they come, but the question of discount is to be left to a committee in the industry itself, consisting of retail book sellers, one jobber, and a member of the NRA who is chairman of the committee, and if they can agree

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among themselves as to the regulation covering a schedule of discounts, those will go into effect as an executive order.

SECRETARY MILAM: When approved by the national administrator.

MR. CANNON: When approved by the national administrator.

MR. DUDGEON: Then the code as applies to giving discounts to private individuals is established, is it not? And the only undetermined element is what special privileges should be given to public purchasers, and so forth. Is that not true?

MR. CANNON: Yes, I think so. That is, no discounts apply to individuals under the code.

MR. DUDGEON: The point I am getting at is where we will be if the code remains where it is now.

MR. CANNON: They will be just where they are now. The only fear that I have personally is that this committee which controls the regulation of the trade, as they have similar committees in other lines of industry, may issue an executive order with the approval of the national administrator which says that libraries shall have ten per cent discount throughout.

MR. DUDGEON: The point that I make is if the code

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should not make any further progress, the libraries are now in a rather favorable condition; while the dealers cannot indulge in bargain sales or high discounts to private individuals, it leaves the public library and the state library at liberty to bargain with the publishers and dealers for such discounts as they can get. Would we not be well content if we could prevent any further adoption of codes?

MR. CANNON: I think so.

MR. DUDGEON: The reason I ask that is this: If that code is once adopted it is almost impossible of amendment. I happen to know a good deal about the purchases for municipal purposes. There has been so much objection to the effect of the established code on purchases by the government, that is state, county, city, and so forth, that there is a very strong sentiment prevailing in Washington, I am informed, to exempt to a considerable extent public purchasers from the operation of these codes. That is exactly the position in which we are now; they have said that so far as future codes are concerned, they are satisfied that public purchases should be protected under these codes. It seems to me that we would be very unfortunate if we went ahead and established a code which we probably would find impossible to change.

It seems to me, whether it is to be called an

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obstructionist policy or what it may be, the salvation of the public library depends upon preventing a special code to apply to the library until the policy of the government is established, which is drifting toward a point where they will not make government purchases under this code.

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, I would like to explain the action of the Executive Board in this matter. This question of codes came before us last year, and the Executive Board after rather detailed consideration of the status of the code business at that time, as presented by Mr. Lydenberg, I think, voted to authorize the President and Secretary to deal for the Board in all matters pertaining to the code. That didn't mean that we had unlimited authority to commit the Association, but we had the Executive Board's authority to negotiate and work. The President and Secretary called upon Mr. Cannon, Chairman of the Book Buying Committee, and Mr. Lydenberg, to serve as our representatives. They have been present at innumerable committee meetings and private conferences in New York and Washington.

One other detail. After negotiations between these persons I have mentioned and the officers of the Association, we made a formal request to the Consumers' Advisory Board, I think, that they recommend the appointment of a librarian to

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the Book Sellers' Code Authority. Two persons were to be appointed by the Administrator of the NRA, and we asked them to recommend that one of those be a librarian. We have had no final report from that group, but the executive officer wrote a very encouraging letter saying that by all means that should be done. That board does not make the appointment, but only a recommendation.

I am trying to think about the next year now and what the Council can do to get the results it wants. There is a Book Buying Committee. Mr. Cannon will not be chairman because he has been chairman for five or six years and is retiring because of old age. I don't know who will be. But presumably you would wish to give some general instructions to the Executive Board or to the Committee as to what kind of thing you wish to do.

There are two or three things, if I understand Mr. Cannon correctly, that have to be done. We need somebody who will be in constant negotiation, almost continuous negotiation, with the book sellers, the book publishers, and there are a half dozen or a dozen different codes for publishers, and we have to watch also the general retailers' code and the general wholesalers' code, because there are at least three elements involved in this business - the publisher, the

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wholesaler, and the retail book seller. That is a considerable job in itself.

Perhaps the time will come, perhaps it has already come, when some kind of tentative formal communication, protest, whatever you like, should go to the NRA Administrator, which says: "Please, sir, don't do anything until you hear from us." We have got to watch that end, because if we are not able to gain what the Association should have through negotiation with the book sellers, who perhaps naturally are not always in agreement with our desires for discounts, then our recourse is presumably to stop it before General Johnson approves it.

Now what kind of action do you wish to take that will give the Executive Board the authority or the instruction that you think it ought to have? Is that right, Mr. Cannon?

MR. CANNON: That is right.

MR. SHERMAN: To get back to the cause of this situation, as I understand it, the reason for a tendency to force down library discounts is not due to the fact that the code as affecting the book sellers has hampered them in their discounts, there has been no change, as I understand it, has there, Mr. Cannon, from the publishers to the book seller?

MR. CANNON: In scale of discounts?

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MR. SHERMAN: Yes.

MR. CANNON: No.

MR. SHERMAN: Then this resolves itself in a rather sentimental consideration of how far the public library as a half starved institution can go in helping another half starved institution. It does seem to me we are in a very good position, however we may be imbued with ideals along that line, to take that stand in 1934, and I say that with a great deal of sympathy for book sellers, fellows of whom I am very fond, and I realize their position and probably would be doing the same thing, as was said last night, if I were a book seller. If we are the ultimate consumers (although I don't accept that representation, I think we are the confidential representatives of ultimate consumers, and without any criticism of the codes thus far I seem to feel that the ultimate consumer gets the least consideration of all factors), I think our Committee should be instructed to resist any tendency, as far as they can with vigilance, to force down the discounts to libraries from any source from which we now buy. I don't see how we could set up anything more definite than that, although I wish we could, but I think we should be instructed to that extent at least.

MR. TOLMAN: I wonder if Mr. Sherman would admit an

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amendment to his motion. A number of large libraries are operating on cost plus basis. Those libraries find that that is a very economical way of operating. Wouldn't it be wise to add to our instructions and suggestions to the Executive Board, not only to preserve the discounts but also to preserve their methods of purchases? I ask the inclusion of that phrase, "and existing methods of purchases".

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I didn't understand that you made a motion, Mr. Sherman.

MR. SHERMAN: I did not make a motion, but if it will facilitate matters I will make the motion with the amendment.

SECRETARY MILAM: Won't you try to state that, Mr. Sherman?

MR. SHERMAN: I move that the Book Buying Committee be instructed to resist any downward changes in the discounts now enjoyed or allowed to libraries of all kinds, and also any changes in methods of making book purchases in the carrying on of the normal buying of libraries.

SECRETARY MILAM: I wonder if there isn't a possible interpretation there that might be difficult. "Any reduction of discounts" is pretty broad. The question comes up, has come up already, whether if we could get an increase in discounts for all the little libraries in the United States,

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we ought to favor having a slight reduction of the discounts for the biggest libraries of the United States. I don't say we should or we shouldn't. I mean to say that you want to give the Executive Board and the Book Buying Committee very broad authority.

I would also suggest that the motion be addressed to the Executive Board and the Book Buying Committee rather than to the Book Buying Committee alone.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you accept that, to the Executive Board and the Book Buying Committee?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes.

MR. RANCK: I understand that the states are exempt in some of these codes from the application of the codes. Wouldn't it be well for us to attempt, if it doesn't already exist, to get that same kind of exemption for municipalities which are creatures of the state, which are created by the state, and tax supported?

SECRETARY MILAM: I solicited advice from Dr. Paul Douglas on that. He is a member, as you may know, of the Consumers' Advisory Board. He said in effect: "We have been trying to get special consideration for public institutions and we haven't been able to get to first base." Then he went on to particularize. He said,"We have tried to make a

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case for the State of North Carolina in the purchase of tires and we didn't get anywhere, but we are using now the hospitals as our wedge, and we are trying to get concessions for hospitals as public buyers."

He also said, and I give this to you as individual librarians and officers of associations and in all of your several capacities: "The greatest trouble which the Consumers' Advisory Board has is to get anybody to make a protest against the prices. They are all afraid to do it. If the public agencies, large buyers, would protest, we might get somewhere." And he said, "We would love to have protests from libraries if there is anything that justifies it. They are large buyers, they are large consumers. Why don't they express themselves if they have opinion?" The Consumers' Advisory Board has offices in Washington.

MR. DUDGEON: I want to supplement or verify that. The city board of purchasing in Milwaukee has been protesting and protesting and has been using a large portion of the time of the purchasing agent in filing protests, and notwithstanding their large volume they are seemingly being very carefully considered and are having some weight. I believe that sort of thing ought to be going on very generally throughout library work.

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MR. RANCK: Wouldn't it be possible to incorporate that idea in this motion, or do you want a separate motion?

MR. RODIN: The idea that Mr. Ranck has suggested was in my mind, too, and it originates in the fact that the Chicago Public Library has already passed a resolution in its board of directors protesting against any change in discounts or in relations between the library and its book sellers, and declaring that it is ready to join with any other library in resisting any such efforts. I shouldn't wish to complicate Mr. Sherman's motion by adding another amendment, but I propose, or will yield to Mr. Ranck in proposing, a motion calling upon the libraries officially in the A. L. A. to take similar action.

MR. BISHOP: Would it not be possible to refrain from going into particulars, but to trust the Executive Board and the Book Buying Committee with meeting this emergency as emergencies arise rather than to attempt to incorporate one, two, three, four little things which come up, or big things. If we simply say to them, be vigilant in the interests of the libraries, I think we are doing what we want to do. The other matters are perfectly possible to be brought up in separate resolutions. I should myself hope that we might make this in very general terms. I don't think it is necessary to make an

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additional motion. I think that is in Mr. Sherman's motion; if we add the single phrase to be watchful for the interests of libraries in all matters of purchase, it will carry out my idea.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you accept the addition, Mr. Sherman?

MR. SHERMAN: Yes.

SECRETARY MILAM: I am your executive officer. Sitting in this room is the Chairman of the Committee of the National Association of Book Publishers. I sometimes see the Secretary of that Association and the officers of the various associations. There have been many beautiful phrases expressed in the meetings of the American Library Association to the effect that we have many things in common. I should like the privilege of expressing the sentiments which have been referred to on behalf of all of you by way of an interpretation, if you please, Mr. Chairman and others, that you are not intending in this motion to depart from the former precedent. We don't look upon this as a waged battle between the book producer and book seller on the one hand and the librarian on the other. We do have conflicting interests, and we also have many interests in common, and I should like to express that interpretation, if I may, and I hope you will accept it, so

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that Mr. Lippincott and Mr. Melcher and the rest of us can still be very good friends and work in the common interest of book distribution, and at the same time stand up courageously for the things which we believe are right for ourselves, as we hope they would do also. (Applause)

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Shall we now have the motion with all these interpretations? All those in favor will say "aye", contrary. It is a vote.

MR. RODIN: I now move that a letter be prepared and addressed to all libraries that will be affected adversely by any revision of discounts under the book sellers' code, calling upon them to register their protests in the most emphatic manner and indicating the proper authorities to which such protests should be directed.

... The motion was seconded ...

MISS IDA F. WRIGHT: I would like to know if the book binders' code might be included along with the book buyers.

MR. RODIN: I may have forgotten that because of the occurrences last week in Chicago when we opened bids for bindings for the year beginning July 1 and found that all seven binders that were on the table presented exactly the same schedule of prices, twenty per cent higher than last year's.

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All seven binders looked so much like seven individual cats who had just swallowed seven canaries that we postponed consideration indefinitely of the whole scale, and you never saw such a surprised group.

I have heard since that a tendency has already been manifested in that group to crack up, not down.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Would it not be perhaps most simple, Miss Wright, if we considered this motion alone and book binding by itself?

... Mr. Rodin's motion was put to a vote and carried ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will next hear the report of the Book Binding Committee, Miss Bessie H. Carrick, Chairman.

... Miss Carrick read pages 1 and 2 of the mimeographed report of the Book Binding Committee ...

MISS CARRICK: After the bookbinding specifications, which you hold in your hands, had been sent in to the National Code Authority of the Book Manufacturing Industry and to the Headquarters of the American Library Association, there arose some question about the wording of some of the articles in the specifications. Therefore a meeting was held in New York which was attended by Mr. Cheney, Mr. Barr and Mr.

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Atkins representing the National Code Authority of the Book Manufacturing Industry, Miss Carrick, Chairman of the Book Binding Committee of the American Library Association, and Mr. Archer and Mr. Thurman representing Mr. Lydenberg, who had been appointed by Miss Countryman to attend this meeting.

The specifications were carefully gone over and some changes were made. These changes I will now read. I will read only the changes in the specifications.

... Miss Carrick read changes in the specifications for library binding ...

MISS CARRICK: Since I have come here I have received from the Code Authority this "Informal memorandum from the National Code Authority of the Book Manufacturing Industry. Specifications for Library Binding and Their Enforcement." It goes on to tell what the primary purpose of the specifications is.

"1. To assure the library that it is getting a library binding which is up to the highest possible standard of workmanship and materials.

"2. To assure every responsible library binder that he will not be subjected to unfair competition.

"Through the reference to the specifications in the Code and in the Uniform Sales Contract, which is based on the

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Code provisions, the specifications are made an essential part of the Code with all the force of the Code. Any library binding work which is claimed to be 'Class A' mustfulfill the specifications or else the binder will be cited for violation of the Code and subject to the penalties of the National Industrial Recovery Act - $500 fine and/or six months' imprisonment for each offense.

"Through Code administration, therefore, the National Code Authority assumes a very important responsibility for high standards in transactions between libraries and library binders. It is the intention of the National Code Authority to fulfill this responsibility to the utmost, and in order to achieve proper compliance it is absolutely necessary to have the cooperation of all librarians. Under the Code and by the proper use of the specifications, every librarian can be sure of high quality binding if it is insisted upon and if close cooperation is maintained with the Code Authority.

"To insure enforcement the following procedure is suggested and the comments and approval of the American Library Association are requested:

"1. A joint standing committee of librarians and library binders should be appointed by the A. L. A. and the B. M. I. for continuous cooperation on the enforcement of the

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specifications and such other matters as may arise requiring cooperation and the mutual interchange of experience.

"2. Complete copies of the specifications together with a letter of explanation and suggestions should be sent out by the A. L. A. to all its members.

"3. It should be made clear to all A. L. A. members that it is to their advantage to make the specifications a part of whatever contractual arrangement they may make with a library binder.

"4. Every librarian should insist that every library binder offering to do work should show an official certificate from the National Code Authority signifying that the binder has assented to the Code and is complying with it.

"5. When a librarian feels that the specifications have not been fulfilled, a formal complaint containing all the facts should be sent to the A. L. A. Headquarters. The complaint should be transmitted to the National Code Authority office for investigation and action.

"6. Wherever necessary the National Code Authority will have laboratory tests made in Washington and expert investigation of workmanship in order to determine the validity of the complaint.

"7. A report will be made to the complainant after

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disposition of each case, and if a violation has been found, proper Code action will be instituted."

I now offer these specifications as amended for your acceptance.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: These complicated specifications have been read. What will you do with this report?

MR. WYER: I move its acceptance.

MISS LOUISE PROUTY: Most of these points are technical points, and I wonder if there is full agreement on the part of the various librarians here in accepting all the terms as specified in great detail, or whether there should be some further reference to the Executive Board for further consideration of it.

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, the matter came before the Executive Board on Sunday and Mr. Lydenberg presented a report of the action taken during the past few days. It was the opinion of the Executive Board on that date that these specifications could be safely adopted. I make bold to raise one question, throwing me for once at least on the side of a conservative. How, if at all, can we ever get out if we once get in? How can we amend if we ever want to amend? I should be glad if Miss Carrick would attempt to answer that.

MISS CARRICK: I wrote to the Code Authority on that

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very question and they said that the specifications would be tried out and if at any time there was dissatisfaction there could be easily a meeting of the Code Authority and the A. L. A. and they could be amended or changed at any time. I have that in a letter from them.

SECRETARY MILAM: Madam President, I would suggest that somebody on the floor incorporate some such reservation as that. I think we all feel in dealing with these code authorities that we are more or less asked to express our opinion and then throw ourselves upon their mercy, they are going to be nice about it and they are going to be awfully good to us, and all the rest. Maybe they are. Wouldn't it be just as well to have some reservation in this which would definitely make it perfectly clear that if we want to raise this question again we have the right to do so without going and asking them whether we may.

MISS PROUTY: I should be very glad to supplement my former statement with the making of such a resolution.

MR. DUDGEON: I would like to ask this question. Relying upon statements from some of the code authorities, I am under the impression that a code once adopted can be amended but it can only be amended by consent of the whole body. I would like to know whether that is correct or not. If that

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is a fact, future consideration might just as well be wiped out. What we have got and what we get we get.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. Dudgeon, my point in raising the question and making the suggestion was, I think, about yours. If we adopt this on condition that we have the right to amend or to propose amendments, to raise a question, or in any case to withdraw our endorsement, then we make a conditional acceptance; if they don't like that acceptance they don't have to take it, but they can't take it without the reservation.

MR. DUDGEON: I assume that that board has the authority to adopt that and it then becomes a matter of law whether our future thought on it will ever be incorporated into it.

SECRETARY MILAM: Mr. Dudgeon, these specifications can only be adopted and become effective by the Code Authority after approval by the American Library Association. Now my suggestion to the makers of that motion is simply that we adopt this with the reservation that we may withdraw if and when we think it is appropriate to do so.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: May I just read that portion: "The standard to govern library book binding shall be the specifications of the Book Manufacturers' Institute as approved

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by the American Library Association."

MR. DUDGEON: I don't like to be persistent, but I interpret that as once approved and not as approved from time to time hereafter.

MR. WYER: That wording would be satisfactory to the mover.

SECRETARY MILAM: What?

MR. WYER: The right to withdraw approval and the phraseology of Mr. Dudgeon, that the approval shall be as approved now, and carries no approval for subsequent changes, which amounts to the same thing, but it adopts his phraseology that he would like to insist upon.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: I would like to have somebody state this resolution as it is going to be voted upon. Mr. Rodin, can you accept and digest these suggestions and restate your resolution?

MR. RODIN: In the first place, these specifications are so extremely comprehensive and inclusive and acceptable that there is very little chance of any argument ever arising over their amendment. We have gone over them in Chicago, we spent a half a day over them, and adopted them bodily for our bids that were opened last week.

For the sake of safety, however, it would be proper

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to include a reservation, and if the motion is to accept (it was the acceptance of the whole report of the committee, by the way, and not of this code that I had in mind), then the phrase might be - well, I don't think I am clear enough on what is wanted. I don't think anything is needed, but something is wanted. It might be subject to such further amendment as the Book Binding Committee of the American Library Association may require. Is that it?

SECRETARY MILAM: I will make an effort at that if you will permit me. The motion might be to adopt the specifications with the reservation that the Association may withdraw its approval and propose amendments on its own initiative.

MR. RODIN: Well, the question now is on the acceptance of the report, isn't it? The next one will come after.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will separate this into two motions and put Mr. Rodin's motion to accept the report of the Committee.

... The motion was carried ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Now comes the question on the adoption of the code with such reservations as Mr. Milam has stated. Is that satisfactory to you, Mr. Dudgeon?

MR. DUDGEON: I still have doubts whether the

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official specifications that we adopt now will not become the unamendable specifications.

MR. LESTER: I have worked with Mr. Dudgeon a good deal, and I wonder if I might add a word which I think would help get this result. As it happens, I ought not to be speaking because I am under other control when it comes to the book binding question, but I suggest that these specifications if approved will have to be filed by someone representing us. Is that not so? I suggest that the approval by the Council be referred to the Executive Board to be filed only if they can be accepted with the reservation suggestion.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The motion, then, is to refer the codes to the Executive Board.

SECRETARY MILAM: The motion is, I believe, to adopt the specifications and authorize the Executive Board to withhold the filing of the specifications unless they will be accepted with the reservation previously stated.

... The motion as stated was put to vote and carried ...

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: We will now hear the report on Committees, by Mr. Charles H. Compton.

MR. COMPTON: The Committee on Committees recommends that the Committee on Cooperation with the American Society

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for Horticultural Science be discharged.

This recommendation is in line with the judgment of the Chairman of this Committee, Mr. James A. McMillen, who does not feel that at the present time a proper basis of cooperation between the two societies can be found.

I move the adoption of that report.

... The motion was seconded ...

MR. RANCK: I am not familiar with the work of that Committee, but it seems to me there is a splendid opportunity for the libraries to work with the Garden Clubs that are all over this country, and all of those, or many of those, are in affiliation with the Horticultural Society, and I should hate to see that opportunity lost.

MR. COMPTON: I assured Mr. Ranck that this has been gone into with the greatest care, with Mr. McMillen and other members of the Committee. I think that this had the most thorough consideration. I think at the present time the only practical thing to do is to accept the report of the Committee.

... The motion was carried ...

PRESIDENT COMPTON: Next is the report of the Public and School Library Relationships. Miss Liveright is not present.

SECRETARY MILAM: Miss Liveright, Chairman of the

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Committee on Cooperation with the N. E. A., sends a communication which has been transmitted to every member of the Council. It is, I think, too long to read at this time. It makes no specific recommendation. Perhaps someone would like to speak about it.

MISS KENNEDY: Because the joint committee has presented problems on which it is not possible to take practical action at this time, and because of the work of the planning boards and the results of studies that are now in progress will modify the statement of those problems, I recommend and move that the statement be referred to the joint committee for reconsideration and clarification.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Do you mean to the same committee?

MISS KENNEDY: To the joint committee.

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Refer it back to the same committee.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The next matter is the report on Chapters and Sections, by Miss Harriet E. Howe.

MISS HOWE: Members of the Council, the Committee on Chapters and Sections received on December 11, 1933, a petition forwarded by Rachel K. Schenk, Secretary, and signed by fifty-

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two A. L. A. members who attended the Religious Books Round Table meetings at the annual convention in Chicago in October, 1933. This petition asked that the Round Table be changed from its present status to that of a Section of the American Library Association.

Your Committee has given the petition full consideration and recommends to the Council that the request of members of the Religious Books Round Table be granted and that the new section be admitted as the Religious Books Section of the American Library Association.

I move the adoption of this report.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: The next is the final report, the Joint Committee on the Proposed American Recommended Practice for Reference Data for Periodicals. Mr. Walter is the person who was to report, but I believe Mr.Ranck is going to present it.

MR. RANCK: Mr. Walter and the other members asked me to present this.

... Mr. Ranck read the report ...

MR.RANCK: I would move on behalf of this committee that this matter, which involves some expense, be referred to the Executive Board with our recommendations to carry it out.

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

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: This is the first hot day that Montreal has given us. I hope it is not going to interfere with your coming to hear Mr. Bryson this afternoon.

Is there anything further to come before this meeting?

MR. LIPPINCOTT: In view of the very courteous motion passed a short time ago to the publishers, may I thank you in the name of the National Association of Publishers for your courtesy, and say that the representatives here are entirely in spirit with this. The publishers feel that these two great associations should not be separated, that we should work together very closely in the future in order to meet the pressure put upon us both. I think we will accomplish something by united effort. I assure you that the publishers are most anxious in that direction, and that my report will be favorable in every way toward every problem I have encountered here. What we can do I don't know. The publishers' code has not been passed at Washington, although we presented it last summer and have been working on it ever since. It doesn't affect libraries, so I couldn't very well enter into the discussions. I know that you and we and the book sellers and all of us are trying to work for better

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literature in this country, and I think it is going to come, but conditions are very bad just now. We are worried about it, the book sellers are worried about it, and the librarians are worried about it. Let us hope that something constructive will come out for literature as a whole as well as for the particular associations.

I am so glad that I have seen this spirit shown here, and I am going to try to see that the same spirit is shown wherever I have any contact with other associations. (Applause)

PRESIDENT COUNTRYMAN: Thank you so much, Mr. Lippincott. You may be very sure that we do have a cooperative spirit with you.

If there is nothing further, the meeting is adjourned.

... The meeting adjourned at twelve-ten o'clock ...

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