

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DIVISION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting

Chicago, January 26, 1950

A meeting of the Executive Board of the Division of Public Libraries was held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel on Thursday, January 26, 1950. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by the president, John S. Richards.

Present: Officers - John S. Richards, President; Louis M. Nourse, Past-President; Helen M. Harris, Vice-President; Marie W. Barkman, Treasurer; Eleanor Plain, Executive Secretary. Directors-at-Large - Nell A. Unger, Mary Louise Alexander. Directors Representing Sections - Edith Busby (Order and Book Selection) Dorothy F. Deininger (Armed Forces Librarians). Section Chairmen - Mildred Stewart (Business and Technology), John A. Humphry (Order and Book Selection), Agnes Crawford representing Mildred S. Young (Armed Forces Librarians). Committee Chairmen - Forrest Spaulding (Nominating). Councillors - Emily M. Danton, Perrie Jones, Alice Jewett. Representatives to Other Organizations - Louis J. Bailey (Division Representative to Council of National Library Associations). Public Library Specialist - Helen A. Ridgway.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous Executive Board meeting were approved as submitted.

Public Libraries: President Richards announced that Public Libraries was without an editor since the resignation of Muriel Perry and that the Editorial Board under the chairmanship of Raymond Lindquist was assuming responsibility for the publication of future issues until other arrangements could be made.

Proposed Merger: It was stated by Mr. Richards that the proposed merger of the Division of Public Libraries, the Extension Division and the Trustees Division would be discussed at a joint meeting of the executive boards of the three divisions during the midwinter conference. He also stated that while there did not seem to be any insurmountable obstacles to the merger many details would have to be given careful consideration. Mr. Richards then presented an outline of the problems involved and discussion followed.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported a balance on hand on January 25, 1950 of \$2,981.18.

Public Library Specialist: Miss Ridgway gave a most interesting report on her work during the year for the three divisions and told of her many field trips throughout the United States and Canada and her work for the Library Demonstration Bill in Washington.

Notable Books: Mr. Richards explained the method used in selecting the Notable Books of 1949 and recommended that in the future participation should be open to all public libraries. The Board voted to continue issuing the list under the sponsorship of the Division of Public Libraries and to retain the word "Notable" in the title. A suggestion was made to publish an indication of the criteria used in making the selection along with the list. The list of Notable Books of 1949 was approved upon a motion made by Mr. Spaulding seconded by Mr. Nourse and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Eleanor Plain,
Executive Secretary

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Minutes of the Officers Meeting

Chicago, January 26, 1950

The A.L.A. Division of Public Libraries held an Officers' Meeting at the Edgewater Beach Hotel on Thursday, January 26, 1950. The meeting was called to order by the President, John S. Richards following a breakfast at 8:00 a.m.

Present: John S. Richards, President; Louis M. Nourse, Past-President; Helen M. Harris, Vice-President; Marie W. Barkman, Treasurer; Eleanor Plain, Executive Secretary; Helen S. Farrington, Councillor; Raymond C. Lindquist, Chairman, Editorial Board; Helen A. Ridgway, Chief Public Library Specialist.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous Officers' meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported a balance on hand as of January 25, 1950 of \$2,981.18.

Notable Books: President Richards stated that the list of Notable Books of 1949 would be presented for approval at the Division's Executive Board meeting on Thursday evening, January 26. It is planned to have a full discussion at this time of questions and problems which have arisen in connection with the issuing of this list. Mr. Nourse moved that Miss Harris should have charge of the selection of the notable books of 1950. Motion seconded by Miss Barkman and carried.

Publications: Mr. Lindquist spoke of the need to clarify the functions of the Editorial Board. Miss Harris moved that Mr. Lindquist be given the responsibility of issuing future numbers of Public Libraries with authority to select a competent editor subject to the approval of President Richards. Motion seconded by Mr. Nourse and carried.

It was decided that the Editorial Board should also have the responsibility of sending book lists to the Sturgis Printing Company to fulfill the Division's commitments for Book Lists of the Month. It was recommended that these lists should show the sponsorship of the Division.

The Officers felt that the Adult Education Proceedings should be published as soon as possible and Mr. Lindquist was authorized to make arrangements with the Sturgis Printing Company for the printing of 1000 copies.

Committees: President Richards reported that he was still working on committee appointments and hoped to have them completed by the end of the Midwinter Conference.

Council of National Library Associations: Since it was felt that it was important for the Division to be represented on the Council of National Library Associations and to receive the minutes of the Council's meetings, Mr. Kaiser and Mr. Bailey will be asked to continue as the Division's representatives and to notify Mr. Richards if they are unable to attend any of the meetings of this Council. Also they should be notified that the Division is in favor of a strong, centralized American Library Association.

Monitors: Miss Ridgway reported the need for three persons from the Division to serve as monitors for the Joint program meeting on Friday evening, January 27.

Directors from Sections: The executive secretary pointed out that there had been no detailed provision made for the staggering of the terms of directors elected by the sections as members of the Executive Board. This question was referred to Mr. Sealock, chairman of the Constitution, By-Laws and Organization Committee.

Spring Officers' Meeting: It was planned to have the next Officers' meeting at A.L.A. headquarters March 25-26, 1950.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Eleanor Plain,
Executive Secretary