

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Public Libraries Division (new)

Meeting of Temporary Board and the new Board of Directors
Sunday, July 8, 1951 - Stevens Hotel, Chicago
3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m., Edward J. A. Fahey, President of the Temporary Board, presiding.

Present were: Frances M. O'Halloran, Mrs. Ralph I. Burris, Mary J. Creech, Lucile Nix, Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Howard Rowe, Harold F. Brigham, John D. Henderson, Eleanor Plain, Ruth W. Gregory, Martha M. Parks, Mrs. Dorothy T. Hagerman, Thomas H. McKaig, Anne Farrington, Marie W. Barkman, Richard Sealock, Edward J. A. Fahey and Helen A. Ridgway.

Temporary Board. Mr. Fahey requested Miss Ridgway to explain the function of the Temporary Board. Miss Ridgway stated that the Temporary Board was to carry out business while the old divisions went out of existence and the new division came into existence. The Temporary Board consists of the following persons: John R. Banister, Marie W. Barkman, Nancy Blair, Mary J. Creech, Edward J. A. Fahey, Mrs. Dorothy T. Hagerman, Helen M. Harris, John D. Henderson, Eleanor Plain, Martha M. Parks, Richard Sealock, Frank N. Walker, Thomas H. McKaig, and Anne Farrington in place of Juanima Wells.

Elections Committee. Miss Plain then presented the report of the Elections Committee, Lester Filson, Chairman: Vote in favor of the adoption of the proposed By-Laws: Yes - 1436, No - 7. President: Harold F. Brigham; Vice President and President Elect: Ruth Rutzen; Treasurer: Mrs. Ralph I. Burris; A.L.A. Councilors (to replace those whose terms expired in 1951): Maryan E. Reynolds, Frances M. O'Halloran, Mildred Stewart, Mrs. Helen T. Steinbarger and Roberta Bowler.

Board of Directors. Miss Ridgway commented further that the new Board of Directors consists of 1 officers of the Division (Mr. Brigham, Miss Rutzen, Mrs. Burris and whoever is finally appointed division Executive Secretary) 2 the immediate past-president (vacancy for the first year) 3 the five newly elected councilors plus the councilors of the three merging divisions, who have agreed to serve out their respective terms as councilors for the new division 4 directors elected by the sections (Mary Carter*, Armed Forces Librarians; Mrs. Carma R. Zimmerman*, Library Extension, and Mr. Fahey, Trustees) and 5 chief officers of the sections (Mrs. Dorothy Fayne*, Mr. Henderson and Mr. McKaig.

Minutes of Previous Board Meeting. Miss Plain then summarized the Minutes of the business meeting of the Temporary Board at the Midwinter Meeting, January 30, 1951.

*Not elected until later in the week. At this meeting the Armed Forces Librarians were represented by Miss O'Halloran and the Library Extension group by Mr. Henderson.

"Public Libraries". Mr. Fahey brought up the matter of the issues of Public Libraries which went to members of the Library Extension Division. At the time of discussion of the merger, it appeared to be quite essential that the Extension group receive Public Libraries, as well as members of the Trustees Division and the old Public Libraries Division. Because of an unexpected change in publication date, however, the Library Extension Division received three issues of Public Libraries, instead of the two issues for which arrangements had been made for payment. Since the Extension group does not have money to cover this extra issue the recommendation was made that payment of \$130.91 for the June issue of Public Libraries be authorized out of the \$1500 budget allocated for the use of the Temporary Board of the Division. Miss Creech moved and Mrs. Hagerman seconded the motion that the Board authorize such payment for the June issue. The motion was passed.

Report of Temporary Board. The Treasurer's Report of the Temporary Board was read by Miss Plain: \$452.59 spent to date (\$433.80 of this amount was for election expenses) leaving a balance of \$1047.41. Mr. Fahey announced there would be a final report of the Temporary Board by August 31, including a detailed report of expenditures.

Procedure for Completing Business of Merging Division. Mr. Fahey presented a recommendation that the old divisions vote to authorize their officers to complete the business of the old divisions and that the groups function according to the old division constitutions until they can be suitably revised. Mr. Brigham asked whether the trustees and library extension treasuries will be turned over to the individual sections. Mr. Fahey replied that that was so and that the old Public Libraries Division will turn over its monies to the new Public Libraries Division. Miss Barkman moved and Miss Creech seconded the motion that after all bills have been paid the money held by the Treasurer of the Temporary Board be turned over to the Treasurer of the new Division.

Mr. Fahey thanked Miss Ridgway, Miss Plain, Miss Harris and the others who helped to make the transition period easier, and turned the meeting over to Mr. Brigham, the new President, and wished the new Board every measure of success.

Mr. Brigham spoke of the need of building unity and the need to go slow in some things such as forming sections, matters of finance, etc., in regard to the new Division.

Discontinuance of Merging Divisions. The group was reminded that A.L.A. Council action on Friday morning, July 13, would be taken to discontinue the three old divisions. The old Councilors, Helen Clarke (LED), Lawrence Clark, Grace Gilman, Alice Jewett and Georgie McAfee (DPL), will, however, continue through Saturday, July 14, and the new Councilors will not take office until after this annual conference.

Procedure for Organization of Sections. Trustees, Library Extension and Armed Forces Librarians, are the three groups that have already decided to petition for section status under the new Division. Discussion followed regarding the form the petition should take and the method of presentation to the new Board on July 14. Discussion followed concerning the status of remaining sections of the present divisions. Miss Harris indicated that she would urge present sections of the old Division of Public Libraries to continue as committees of the new Division if action to establish such committees could be taken at the July 14 Board meeting.

Mr. Brigham gave the Board's assurance that these committees would be welcome and that he would also welcome any suggestions for names of members to constitute these committees. According to Article V of the Public Libraries Division By-Laws, the terms of office of section representatives to the Board will have to be determined by lot.

Allotment of Funds. Every effort will be made to obtain for the Sections from Division funds as much money as they formerly received as divisions of A.L.A. The Board is to determine a per capita amount which will work out as equitably as possible for the current year. Discussion followed regarding these allotments, which pointed out that a definite amount should be assured so that each Section can plan its budget. It was also emphasized that every time a new section is created, the per capita allotment might need to be lowered. Existing groups will have money to finish present projects, but should not begin new projects until their allotment has been determined.

The suggestion was made that each Section should determine its minimum financial needs and then request a budget accordingly. Miss Nix moved that the President be authorized to set up a temporary Finance Committee to obtain data for the Saturday, July 14, meeting re the budget and allocation of money to sections. Mr. Henderson seconded the motion, which was passed.

Discussion followed concerning the agenda for the evening meeting at 8:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m., Harold F. Brigham, President of the new Public Libraries Division, presiding.

Present were: Anne Farrington, Martha M. Parks, Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, John D. Henderson, John Settlemyer, Mrs. Ralph I. Burris, Frances O'Halloran, Richard B. Sealock, Jesse Cross, Helen Harris, Ruth Rutzen, Eleanor Plain, Ruth Gregory, Howard Rowe, Harold Brigham and Helen A. Ridgway.

Committees. There was general discussion concerning the continuance of approximately 20 committees previously authorized by the three merging divisions and recommendations were made concerning their future status. It was recognized that there would be both division and section committees and that some committees might need to be duplicated at both levels. The question was raised whether the Book-mobiles Committee should include municipal librarians, whether the Institute Program committee should remain a section committee only, whether there should be both section and division Planning committees, whether there was need to continue the present Program Committee. It was pointed out that the Public Relations and Publications committee combined two separate ideas and should be reorganized. The need for committees on Standards and on Statistics was recognized. In this connection Miss Ridgway indicated that inquiries concerning a possible revision of Post-War Standards for Public Libraries were becoming more numerous as well as demands for standards on county and regional libraries. (For names of the standing and special committees subsequently authorized by the Board, see the Minutes of the July 14, 1951 meeting.)

As the discussion continued it was suggested that sections of the old Division of Public Libraries also be made committees of the new division and continue to perform their program functions without taking any formal action regarding section status until the Midwinter Meeting or possibly next June.

Mr. Cross discussed plans of the Business and Technology Section and asked whether their section could discuss section status and present their application to the Board after their Friday, July 13, meeting. Mr. Brigham suggested they delay action until the Board defines what a section is and what a program committee is and then make their decision based on the established definitions. If the group feels strongly on the subject of section status, it should outline its purposes, etc., and present them to the Board on Saturday with its petition. If this action is not taken, the group could function during the interim as a committee.

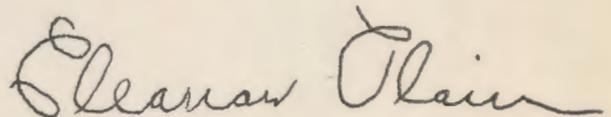
Executive Secretary. Mr. Rowe moved that Helen A. Ridgway serve as acting executive secretary of the Public Libraries Division until her resignation on September 15, and Miss O'Halloran seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Council of National Library Associations. Miss Harris discussed the membership of the Trustees Division and the old Division of Public Libraries in the C.N.L.A., since the Library Extension Division has withdrawn from it. It was decided that the new Public Libraries Division should check to see that current dues are paid and that two representatives to C.N.L.A. are designated possibly on Saturday, July 14. Mrs. Burris moved and Miss Gregory seconded the motion that the Division continue membership in C.N.L.A. and that Mr. Bailey and Mr. Kaiser continue as delegates for the present. The motion was passed.

Standards for Accreditation. Mr. Brigham presented the A.L.A. Board of Education for Librarianship's new Tentative Standards for Accreditation, with Miss Hostetter's suggestion that the new Public Libraries Division might be in a position to endorse these standards before the A.L.A. Council meeting on July 13. Miss Gregory moved and Mrs. Schenk seconded the motion that the Public Libraries Division Board endorse these standards in principle. The motion was carried.

"Public Libraries". Mr. Brigham suggested that whatever plans for the October issue were made at the Editorial Board's meeting on Thursday, July 12, they should be flexible so that anything arising out of the Saturday, July 14, meeting could be added to that issue; also that a Trustee representative be present at the Thursday meeting. It was decided also to ask the Chairman of the Editorial Board to be present at the Saturday meeting of the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.



Eleanor Plain
Secretary-Treasurer
Temporary Board