

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION

Formalized Minutes

Meeting of Board of Directors, ALA Midwinter Meeting  
Chicago, Ill., 1955

Wednesday, February 2, 10:00 A.M.  
Presiding, Ruth W. Gregory, President

PRESENT Board Members: Ruth W. Gregory, Mildred W. Sandoe, S. Janice Kee,  
Harold W. Tucker, Jack B. Spear, Nell Scott,  
Katherine Hyatt, Gretchen K. Schenk, Mildred  
Stibitz, Harriet Rourke, Dorothy Strouse, Mary  
Radmacher, Mildred Steward, Mrs. A. J. Quigley.

Councillors: Frances M. O'Halloran, Siri Andrews, Harold J.  
Baily, Irving Lieberman, John E. Smith, and  
Helen M. Clark for Nettie B. Taylor.

Committee Harriet Carter  
Chairmen: Alice Cahill  
Robert Kingery  
Gertrude Gscheidle

Others: Dorothy K. Smith

Miss Gregory introduced first the business left over from the meeting of the evening before.

WORK CONFERENCE The question of the Division co-sponsoring this conference in  
ON BOOK SELECTION: Philadelphia with the ALA Committee on Intellectual Freedom was  
re-opened for discussion. Miss Gregory said she would meet with  
the CIF to work out program details. The Board VOTED to co-sponsor with the CIF a  
work conference on book selection to be held prior to the ALA annual conference in  
Philadelphia.

NOTABLE BOOKS The Board VOTED to accept Miss Grace Gilman's recommendation to  
COMMITTEE: establish a Notable Books Council in lieu of the Notable Books  
Committee. It was agreed that this council would be made up of ten or twelve members,  
serving staggered three-year terms and that certain changes in the method of listing  
the books might be made by the new council in the interest of producing a significant  
list.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF S. JANICE KEE: At the request of Miss Gregory, copies of Miss Kee's job analysis,  
prepared for the Management Survey, were distributed to members of  
the Board. Miss Kee made a brief explanation of the analysis, pointing out that the  
percentages of time spent in her various duties would vary from year to year, depend-  
ing, in part, on the extent of her travel. Again expression of the value of the  
Executive Secretary's travel program was heard. Miss Kee invited frank and critical  
comments on the analysis.

Miss Gregory explained the ALA constitution provision under which Miss Kee was appointed PLD Executive Secretary three years before, and mentioned the change in the ALA Constitution since that time. She said it was not necessary to re-appoint Miss Kee, but she suggested that the appointment be made in line with the amended Constitution.

The Board VOTED to re-name S. Janice Kee Executive Secretary of the Division under the provisions of the amended ALA By-Laws. The Board VOTED that although the Executive Secretary of the Division has no tenure rights, the Board desires to go on record as favoring good employment practices and believing that the interpretations of the principles of intellectual freedom, method of appointment, termination for cause, and financial exigency, as stated in the ALA tenure principles should be abided by the Division when making or terminating appointments of the Executive Secretary.

ALA LIFE MEMBER-SHIP IN DIVISION Miss Kee stated that ALA life members may designate membership in one Division without extra charge and to this Division ALA makes an annual allotment of \$2.00. She stated further that a policy was needed to apply if an ALA life member desired membership in more than one Division. The Board VOTED to approve a proposal that a life member may pay an additional \$50.00 to the ALA for each additional Division membership he desires, and that ALA would make an annual allotment of \$2.00 per member to the designated Division, and that under the arrangement members might hold as many Division memberships as they pay for and may change from one Division to another by only notifying the ALA. It was understood that final adoption of this plan is contingent upon approval of all ALA Divisions.

EXCHANGE OF DIVISION PUBLICATIONS The PLD'S two publications, Public Libraries and The PLD Reporter should be offered on an exchange basis to the Library Association of England and other foreign library associations. This suggestion came from Ralph Esterquest, a recent Fulbright scholar to England, and the Board VOTED to approve the general exchange policy on the Division's publications through ALA to any countries that are interested in them.

THE PLD REPORTER Mrs. Dorothy K. Smith filed with the Board a progress report on this publication project. She spoke of the highly favorable response to The PLD Reporter, e. g., of the initial mailing of 1113 copies to publicize it, 431 were purchased on standing orders. The Board expressed satisfaction with the project and suggested several topics for future issues, including Book Selection Policies, and Remodeling Carnegie library buildings. Mrs. Smith showed the manuscript for issue Number 2 on TV-How Public Libraries Use It, and said subjects for future issues were Friends of Libraries Groups, Bookmobile Service and Cooperation In Library Service.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Library Development Committee: Miss Gertrude Gscheidle, Chairman, reported a meeting of the Committee during the Midwinter Meeting in which it was decided a national promotion program of recruiting for librarianship should be considered. The Committee will make further investigations before definitely recommending this project.

Public Relations Committee: Robert E. Kingery, Chairman, reported the Committee's decision to urge the Division to cooperate with the ALA Committee on Public Relations and the Council of National Libraries Association in developing a national plan for recruiting librarians. In the discussion the Joint Committee on library works as a

career was mentioned, but Mr. Kingery was of the opinion that there would be no overlapping of activity. The Board VOTED to approve the Division's participation in a coordinated plan as recommended by this Committee.

Membership Committee: Miss Kee reported for Mrs. Mildred McKay, the Chairman. The Division's membership record for the past three years is as follows: In 1952 - 5057 members; in 1953 - 5509; in 1954 - 5624.

Classification and Pay Plans For Public Libraries: Mr. Tucker reported for the sub-committee, working group of the ALA Board on Personnel Administration. He said this group from the Chicago area was meeting regularly, had collected classifications and pay plans from public libraries, had secured cooperation of 25 public libraries to make a two-week job analysis time study of all full-time and part-time positions. He said it was anticipated that the working group would have a draft of the revised publication for discussion at the annual conference in Philadelphia.

Foreign Book Selection: For Richard Malone, Chairman, Miss Kee reported the Committee is working on five new book lists in Croatian, Hungarian, Russian, Slovak and Slovenian.

Revision Of State Grants To Public Libraries: Miss Kee reported for Mrs. Genevieve Galick, Chairman. In September 1954, the first named editor-compiler found it necessary to withdraw from the project. Miss Kee said Alice M. Cahill had been named as Editor-Compiler, and the Committee was holding a meeting during the Midwinter Meeting.

Editorial Committee: Future of Public Libraries, continued. Harriet Carter, Editor of Public Libraries, spoke of difficulties in editing the magazine at a distance from the PLD office and mentioned the quality of material provided by the office.

The recommendations of the Editorial Committee were as follows:

1. That the Board review the scope of Public Libraries in terms of the budget.
2. That the editorial work be done in the PLD office, because of a need to keep the magazine close to the policy-making and news center of the organization.
3. That consideration be given to asking Section Chairmen to assist in planning an annual special issue, and
4. That the index to Volumes 1-7 as prepared by the Indexing Committee be published and that future indexes be prepared by the Editor.

These recommendations were discussed and the Board VOTED to investigate: (1) the possibilities of combining Public Libraries with the ALA Bulletin, and (2) The editing of the magazine in the PLD office with its manufacture and business management elsewhere.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM The Board was unanimous in its agreement with Miss Gregory's suggestion to eliminate a general program meeting for the Division in order that more time be given to the Section's program. It was decided to schedule a membership meeting at which the President, Executive Secretary and Section Presidents would give brief reports.

Each of the five Section Presidents reported briefly their program plans for the annual conference.

COUNCIL OF NA-  
TIONAL LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATIONS:

Miss Gregory reported her attendance at the CNLA Meeting in New York City on November 28. She spoke of the CNLA's project of re-  
viving the American Library Annual, and expressed hope that the  
Division would be prepared by July 1 to contribute to its contents. She urged the  
active participation of the Division in the CNLA and the President's attendance at  
its meetings.

MRS EDYTHE  
STAPLETON'S  
RESIGNATION:

Miss Sandoe presented the following resolution, which was  
VOTED by the Board:

RESOLVED, That, whereas Edythe Stapleton has served the Division of Public  
Libraries as secretary to the Executive Secretary for four and one-half years, and

WHEREAS her services have been as inestimable value to the efficient opera-  
tion and organization of the Public Libraries office and to the services offered to  
the membership by the Executive Secretary;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Public Libraries Division that the appre-  
ciation of the Division for the contribution of Edythe Stapleton to the Division be  
spread upon the minutes of this meeting,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the best wishes of the Division be extended  
to Mrs. Stapleton for many years of happiness as a homemaker.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:45 A.M.

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The recommendations of the Historical Committee were as follows:  
1. That the Board review the scope of Public Libraries in terms of the budget.  
2. That the Historical Committee be given the task of reviewing the organization  
of the Public Libraries in the past and present.  
3. That consideration be given to making Section Chairman to assist in planning  
an annual special issue.  
4. That the letter to Volume 1-7 be prepared by the Historical Committee for pub-  
lication and that future letters be prepared by the Editor.  
These recommendations were discussed and the Board voted to investigate (1) the pos-  
sibility of making Public Libraries into the ALA Division, and (2) the setting of  
the section in the PLD office with the membership and business management division.  
CONSTITUTIONAL PROGRAM The Board was unanimous in its agreement with Miss Gregory's sug-  
gestion to eliminate a general program meeting for the Division in  
favor of more time be given to the Section's program. It was decided to continue a  
relationship meeting to which the President, Executive Secretary and Section Chairmen  
will also attend.