

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting, Annual Conference  
Kansas City, 1957

President Hotel, Room 229  
Friday, June 28, 2:00 p.m.  
Presiding, Arthur H. Parsons, Jr., president

PRESENT Board Members: Arthur H. Parsons, Jr., Mrs. Lura G. Currier, John T. Eastlick, Hannis S. Smith, Mrs. Merlin M. Moore, Ann Kirkland, Helen E. Fry, Mrs. Dorothy K. Smith.

Councilors: Donna D. Finger, Clarence Paine, Rose Vainstein, Bernard Van Horne

Committee Chairmen: Edwin Castagna, Mrs. Miriam H. Johnson, S. Janice Kee, Edna G. Peck

Other: Eleanor A. Ferguson, executive secretary-designate

The first meeting of the 1957-58 Board of Directors was called to order by Arthur H. Parsons, Jr., president. He introduced all persons present, and expressed appreciation to the ALA councilors for their attendance.

AASL STATEMENT ON LIBRARY SERVICES ACT John T. Eastlick reported for the special committee appointed at the June 24th Board meeting to work with AASL on a revision of the AASL statement on the Library Services Act. The Board VOTED to approve the statement as revised (copy attached). This statement, according to AASL plans, will be sent to all state library agencies, to education administrators' publications (as well as other education periodicals), and to the library press.

AALT RESOLUTION ON WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE Mrs. Merlin M. Moore, president of the American Association of Library Trustees, presented for endorsement the following resolution which had been passed by the AALT: "IT WAS RESOLVED, in annual meeting, June 24, the American Association of Library Trustees, that a White House Conference on Public Libraries and Man's Right to Know and Grow be considered by all interested groups as a means for creating a better understanding of the role of libraries in today's world; that such a conference be shaped in the pattern of the White House Conference on Education Beyond High School, and that this Conference be held just before the American Library Association annual Conference in

Washington, D. C. in 1959." Mrs. Moore said that the ALA executive secretary and the ALA public relations director would be asked to polish this statement, without changing the intent, and that it would then be presented to the ALA Executive Board for endorsement. She requested from the PLD Board an approval in principle, not an endorsement of the resolution as read. The Board APPROVED the resolution in principle.

AALT BUDGET	Mrs. Moore then presented for Board approval a revised AALT budget for 1957-58, as follows:
Membership campaign . . . . .	\$2,000.00
President's expenses to conferences . . . . .	250.00
Trustee workshop at San Francisco . . . . .	450.00
President's incidental expenses . . . . .	75.00
Committee to work with library schools . . . . .	<u>25.00</u>
Total	2,800.00

In explanation of the last item Mrs. Moore said that the AALT felt a need for inclusion in library schools, of courses on library trusteeship and librarian-trustee relations. Also, in speaking of the proposed workshop at the San Francisco conference, she asked the Board members to send her their suggestions of topics that might be discussed at the workshop. After discussion, the Board APPROVED the proposed AALT budget.

**COMMENDATION OF AALT** Mr. Eastlick presented the following resolution: "The Board of Directors of the Public Libraries Division commends the American Association of Library Trustees for the success of its workshop and for the constructive work it is doing in the development of the relationship between librarians and trustees. And, further, the Board pledges its continued support and full assistance to the work of the AALT." The Board PASSED this resolution by a unanimous vote, and instructed the interim executive secretary to send copies of it to all officer of the AALT.

**PLD BUDGET** The proposed budget request of the Division for 1957-58 was discussed. The Board APPROVED the budget, with the following changes: the amount requested for the Coordinating Committee for the Library Services Act was reduced from \$3,000 to \$100; a full-time clerk-typist (at \$2,820 per year) was requested instead of a half-time. (Note: Developments between the times of this Board meeting and the November meeting of the Program Evaluation and Budget Committee necessitated a considerable number of changes in the budget request approved at Kansas City. Copies of the final budget request were sent to voting members of the Board in October.)

NOTABLE BOOKS COUNCIL  
AND FOREIGN BOOK  
SELECTION COMMITTEE

Discussion of these committees and their place in the reorganized ALA was continued from the June 24th meeting of the Board. Mr. Eastlick did not present the PLD position to the Special Committee on Reorganization (see PLD Board minutes for June 24) since SCOR had voted not to consider the question of the book selection function, but to refer it to the Committee on Organization as a matter of highest priority. The Board VOTED to send a letter to COO requesting reconsideration of the transfer of the Notable Books Council and the Foreign Book Selection Committee to the Adult Services Division, with a very strong recommendation that these committees remain with PLD.

The Board VOTED to issue the 1957 list of Notable Books in March, 1958. This would allow the issuance of the list to be one of the activities connected with National Library Week, and would also permit the members of the Notable Books Council to meet at Midwinter for final consideration of the list. Miss Peck suggested that both the 1957 and the 1958 Councils meet together at Midwinter.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

Edwin Castagna, chairman, presented the report of the Library Development Committee, which recommended a five-point program: (1) publication of a bibliography of library surveys; (2) provision of standardized information on new and remodeled library buildings; (3) conduct of a national publicity program for public libraries; (4) effort to insure the classification by the Bureau of Internal Revenue of public libraries as educational institutions for tax purposes; and (5) establishment of a liaison between the Library Development Committee and the Library Services Branch of the U. S. Office of Education. Specific recommendations on these points were as follows:

1. That the Library Services Branch be asked to publish the bibliography of the surveys available in the libraries of the ALA Headquarters and the University of Chicago Graduate Library School. This bibliography has been prepared by the ALA Library-Community Project. If the LSB is unable to do so, then ALA should be asked to publish it.

2. That the Library Administration Division be asked to assume responsibility for compiling the information on new and remodeled library buildings and that the ALA Headquarters Library be the repository and agent for distribution.

3. That PLD adopt the sponsorship of a national publicity program for public libraries (beamed at persons who are not now using libraries) as a major project, and that a committee be appointed to consider how such a project can be carried out. Board discussion on this point brought out the fact that such a campaign is currently being conducted in the National Library Week project sponsored by the National Book Committee and ALA-----and that it might be better to wait and see what it accomplishes before proceeding with this recommendation. Mr. Parsons will discuss the matter with Mr. Clift and Mr. Arnold.

4. That PLD ask the ALA executive secretary to do everything possible to see that the Bureau of Internal Revenue recognizes public libraries as educational institutions. In the discussion of this point it was brought out that a bill was then pending before Congress to include public libraries in the Internal Revenue Code as educational institutions,

and that the ALA Washington Office was directing its efforts toward securing passage of the bill.

5. That Rose Vainstein, public library specialist of the USOE Library Services Branch, be appointed as an ex-officio member of the Library Development Committee.

COMMITTEE ON PROMOTION  
OF THE REVISED STANDARDS

At the request of Mrs. Janet Z. McKinlay, chairman of the Committee on Promotion of the Revised Standards, the Board re-

viewed the charge to the committee, which reads as follows: "To prepare plans for nationwide publicity of the new standards; to prepare a short printed version of the standards for wide distribution; to direct the preparation of other materials, articles, films, etc." The Board decided that the charge adequately describes the committee's work, and VOTED to leave it unchanged.

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM  
COORDINATION

The Board VOTED to establish a new committee, to be called the Committee on Program Coordination, of which the

president-elect of the Division, by virtue of his office, will be the chairman. The charge to the committee, APPROVED by the Board, is as follows: "To coordinate, through recommendations, the division's interests and responsibilities with other ALA divisions and committees; to serve as a channel of communication between the Public Libraries division and other units of ALA; to present the needs of the division to other divisions and committees; and to develop program coordination in areas of mutual interest and value." Chairman of the committee for 1957-58 will be Mrs. Lura G. Currier. Other members of the committee will be appointed by Mr. Parsons.

PLD REPORTER

Suggestions as to a new name for The PLD Reporter were requested by Mrs.

Smith, interim executive secretary. The proposed new bylaws for the division provide for a change in name to "Public Library Association." If and when this change is effected, the term "PLD" will be meaningless. Suggestions should be sent to President Parsons or to the PLD Headquarters Office,

SAN FRANCISCO  
CONFERENCE

Mr. Parsons solicited suggestions as to programs PLD might sponsor as a general session at the San Francisco conference.

Miss Ferguson suggested asking Virginia Kirkus to speak on trustee responsibility. Mr. Parsons asked that other suggestions be sent in to him.

ORIENTATION OF NEW  
BOARD MEMBERS

Miss Fry spoke of the need of new Board members for orientation in the work of the Division, and suggested that perhaps

a manual for Board members should be provided.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15.

Dorothy K. Smith  
Interim Executive Secretary  
Public Libraries Division

## THE LIBRARY SERVICES ACT AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Because of the recent passage of the Library Services Act, the Board of Directors of the American Association of School Librarians feels that at this time it is important for school and public librarians to review the distinctive functions of school library service and public library service and to distinguish clearly between them. Therefore, the Board of the American Association of School Librarians wishes to confirm the following statement from Public Library Service:<sup>1</sup> "Public Library Service to schools is not a substitute for a library within the school. The public library activities should be designed to encourage the growth of school libraries."

The Board of the American Association of School Librarians believes that school library services planned, financed and administered by the Board of Education, are a necessary part of a good educational program. The Board believes further that the development and improvement of such library service to provide for children in school the library resources that are related to the curriculum and needed for an effective school program are primary responsibilities of school administrators and school librarians.

There are many ways in which school librarians can be of service in the implementation of the Library Services Act: (1) by planning and participating in the extension and improvement for library service in rural areas through public libraries; (2) by recruitment of young people for work in libraries; and (3) by cooperation in the development of plans for demonstrations under the Act.

The Board of the American Association of School Librarians takes this opportunity to point out that the purpose of the Library Services Act is "to promote the further extension by the several states of public library services to rural areas."<sup>2</sup> It believes that if funds provided by this Act were used to finance a library within a school, such use would be contrary to the intent of this legislation, and would deter the development of school libraries within the schools.

The Board of the American Association of School Librarians wishes also to enlist the understanding and support of public library personnel for the continuing development of school library service which is an integral part of school administration and of instruction. Public Library personnel can provide such support through interpretation to the lay public of this statement and the statements herein quoted from Public Library Service.

Endorsed by the Board of Directors of the Public Libraries Division, June 28, 1957.

<sup>1</sup>Public Library Service; A Guide to Evaluation with Minimum Standards. Prepared by the Coordinating Committee on Revision of Public Library Standards of the ALA Public Libraries Division. The American Library Association, 1956. \$1.50.

<sup>2</sup>The Act.