

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DIVISION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Minutes of the Officers Meeting

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 19-20, 1949

The Division of Public Libraries of the American Library Association held an Officers' Meeting at A.L.A. Headquarters in Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 19-20, 1949.

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday at 10:00 A.M. by the President, Louis M. Nourse.

Present: Louis Nourse, President; John S. Richards, Vice-president; Nordica Fenneman, Treasurer; Eleanor Plain, Executive Secretary; Helen Ridgway, Chief, Public Library Specialist; Mrs. Florence Richards, Chairman, Branch Librarians' Section.

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

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report showed a balance on hand of \$3,663.88. It was decided to have the treasurer's books audited at the close of the fiscal year on August 31 as usual.

Public Library Specialist: Miss Ridgway reported that the name of her office had been changed to Public Library Executive Office and her title was now Chief Public Library Specialist.

Fourth Activities Committee Report: Following discussion of the implications of the Fourth Activities committee report which might affect the Public Libraries Division it was decided to ask Miss Winslow as Chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Public Library Office to have her committee meet with representatives of the Public Libraries Division, the Trustees Division, and the Library Extension Division to discuss mutual problems which would arise under the reorganization proposed in the Shaw report and to consider the formation of a Public Libraries Association composed of these three divisions.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:45 p.m. - meeting resumed at 2:30 p.m.

Communications: The following communications were read: A letter from Mr. Cory asking if the Division had any matters which it wished to present to the A.L.A. Council. A request from A.L.A. to appoint two representatives of the Division to the Ex-officio Committee on A.L.A. reorganization (Mr. Nourse and Mr. Richards are the representatives). A notice of the meeting of the Department of Adult Education of the N.E.A. to plan for a Fall Conference. A letter from Mr. Carl Vitz calling attention to the need for a better understanding of library service on the part of surveyors from the Public Administration service.

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Annual Meeting: It was definitely decided to hold the annual meeting of the Division at the Southwestern Regional Meeting of A.L.A.

A.L.A. Regional Conferences: The secretary was instructed to ask the Division's Program Consultants to summarize the activities of each regional meeting which would be of interest to the Division as a whole or to any of its sections and send these summaries on to each successive Program Consultant.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting on Wednesday, April 20 was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Mr. Nourse. Muriel Perry, editor of Public Libraries was present in addition to the persons at the Tuesday meeting.

A.L.A. Regional Conferences (continued): Miss Fenneman moved that Miss Ridgway be permitted to use the \$500.00 budgeted for conference expenses of the Public Library Office for travel to any of the regional meetings and that the \$400.00 budgeted for conference expense plus any money remaining in the budget for travel be used to pay the expenses of the 1949/50 officers to the Annual Meeting of the Division at the Southwestern Conference in November. Motion seconded by Mr. Richards and carried. Mr. Richards moved that Miss Fenneman should be sent to the Midwest Regional Meeting in Grand Rapids. Motion seconded by Miss Plain and carried. It was also decided to hold an Executive Board Meeting at the Southwestern Conference.

Public Libraries: Miss Perry reported that the March issue of Public Libraries had cost more than had been expected due to the need of printing over 900 additional copies for new members and that the amount remaining in the budget probably would not cover the cost of the next issue. It was moved by Mr. Richards and seconded by Miss Plain that the treasurer be authorized to pay the bill for the next issue of Public Libraries even though the cost exceeded the amount budgeted. Motion carried. It was decided to issue the papers of the Adult Education Institute as a separate publication of the Division rather than as a supplement to Public Libraries.

Mr. Richards moved that the treasurer should be authorized to pay for extra copies of Public Libraries if it should later be thought feasible to send them to members of the Trustees and Library Extension Divisions. Motion seconded by Miss Fenneman and carried.

The meeting adjourned for lunch with the A.L.A. staff at 12:30 and resumed at 3:30.

Sections: Mrs. Richards, Chairman of the Branch Librarians Section spoke of some of the difficulties and problems of that section. It was suggested that Mrs. Richards write a report to be printed in Public Libraries expressing her ideas for future planning for the section.

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Reference Section: Letters received concerning the possible formation of a section for reference librarians were ordered placed on file pending further study.

Council of National Library Associations: The Division was asked to appoint a representative to a Joint Committee on Library Education of the Council of National Library Associations. Harry Peterson, Marion Mosher and Emerson Greenaway were suggested as possible Division representatives.

Life Members: The Secretary was directed to prepare a notice for publication in the A.L.A. Bulletin stating how life members of A.L.A. could affiliate with the Public Libraries Division.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Plain, Executive Secretary