

profession. The Carnegie Corporation might properly urge upon the Library Association the assumption of services of the nature indicated, and grant in return a subsidy sufficiently generous to make the work feasible.

A committee consisting of Mr. Matthew S. Dudgeon, representing the League of Library Commissions, and Messrs. W. H. Brett and George B. Utley, representing the American Library Association, had assisted in the survey, promising at the outset that the committee would try, as they phrased it, "to exercise its best judgment and tact in conducting what it regards as a very delicate but exceedingly necessary investigation" as to delinquency on the part of various communities.

The period 1917-25 was a transitional one. War-time demands on money, labor, and materials, and war-time opportunity for developing library service led the Corporation to a new course. In 1917, it agreed:

1. To aid the American Library Association to erect, stock and administer thirty-two army cantonment library buildings, for which the Association was collecting one million dollars, and
2. To end immediately its policy of making grants for free public library buildings, no matter how anxious communities might be to have buildings.

Though originally adopted as a war measure, this policy of no more money for buildings was continually reaffirmed in later years. No new building grants were made, and by 1928 the last of the outstanding promises made before 1917 was off the books.

*The Williamson Report, 1921; The Learned Memorandum, 1924*

The new policy gave the Corporation time to consult the library profession as to library needs, present and future. The question of training librarians was an urgent one—and one to which Mr. Carnegie had been almost impervious—and by