

January 1946.

Trustees present were Mr. Edwards, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Kay, Mr. Laliberte and Mrs. Smith. This meeting was a budget meeting and plans for the expenditures for the year were taken up.

Voted to take action on Romeo's pay raise beginning next March.

Voted to have Mr. Crawford have the annual audit of the books.

G.W. Smith, secretary.

February meeting 1946.

Secretary's report read and accepted.

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

The audit of both these offices was read and put on file.

Mrs. Smith to write to the local Red Cross chapter for the return of a table loaned for the duration of the war.

Meeting adjourned,

G.W. Smith, sec.

March 1946.

Mr. Crawford, Mr. Kay ,Mr. Laliberte, Mrs. Smith were present.

Treasurer's report was read and accepted.  
Miss Van Nostrand talked about a candidate for the position of Children's librarian, It was voted to ask this person to come to Southbridge to look over the Library etc.,

The problem of people crossing the lawn was discussed and Mr. Kay offered to contact the Worcester street railway to ask to have the busses stop beyond the Library entrance so that the passengers would not cut across the property.

G.W.Smith, secretary.

April 1946.

Mr. Edwards,,Mr. Crawford, Mr. Laliberte, And Mrs. Smith attended.

Reports read and accepted.

Children's librarian position not filled as the applicant decided not to come to Southbridge,

Members of committees as well as officers of Trustees were voted upon and remain the same as in 1945,

Miss Van Nostrand spoke of hiring girls home for the summer vacation when ever possible,,The pay to be increased over last year.

G.W.Smith, secretary.

May, 1946.

No quorum., Mr. Crawford, Mr. Laberte, Mrs. Smith talked about summer hours to go along with the trend of the times.

Mr. Laliberte presented plans for the much talked of children's room.

Ruth Desmarais was hired at \$1350 as of June 1946.

G.W.Smith, secretary.

June 1946.

Mr Laliberte, Mr. Crawford, Mr Edwards, and Mrs. and Mrs.Smith were present.

Discussion of the occupation of the lower reading room by the Technical Society ended by asking the secretary to contact them and report at a future time.

No trustee(s meetings in July or August .

Secretary to Write to Mr. Little of the New England to find out who the Trustees are for this year . Mr. George Walls resigned due to business burdens and a successor has not been appointed as far as the trustees know.

The library will be closed on Saturday nights at six P.M. July and August and until further notice.

Report from Mr. Crawford and Mr. Laliberte on thier June 3rd meeting with the Southbridge Improvement Committee . \$48,500. for a children's library building which might cost \$3450. each year to run. Hope to hear favorably by 1947 or 1948.

Board of Selectmen to be asked about Insurance on the Libray.

Salari es---- Miss Van Nostrand June 1st, \$2100--\$2250.

June meeting continued-

Miss Van Nostrand after December \$2250--\$2400.

Mrs Falt \$1300--\$1400.

Miss Dsemarais June 1st 1350,

Meeting adjourned, G.W.Smith, secretary.

September meeting 1946

Mr John O. Martin newly appointed trustee of the Edwards Fund trustees was welcomed .

Dr. Pioppi, Mrs. Smith, and Mr. Edwards were also present.

The secretary's report was read and accepted. The library table loaned the Red Cross has been returned.

The Librarian discussed the usual topic of lack of personal and the need of a larger staff of helpers especially trained workers.

Meeting adjourned,

G.W.Smith, secretary.

### Children's Corner

Because they work during the day, not many Southbridge people are able to drop into Jacob Edwards Memorial library in the afternoon when the place is invaded by children about the age of the ones who cause Dagwood of the comics so much trouble.

There is no influx of adults which compares in numbers to the crowds of children who patronize the library. The ones we refer to are of grammar school age and few of them have school assignments to force them to use the library. The children come because they like to, because they find there the books they like, and because they are made welcome by the staff and are given understanding and friendly treatment.

Miss Elaine Van Nostrand, the librarian, deserves a vote of thanks for the hard work and imagination she has displayed. Her hope for a separate children's section more than deserves the serious consideration of the townspeople.

November meeting 1946 was held with all trustees present except Mr. Kay and Dr. Pioppi.

Minutes were read of the previous meeting followed by the treasurer's report and both were accepted.

A new account was opened in the Savings Bank to be known as the Equipment Fund and \$2000. was deposited.

Mr. Crawford reported that the Southbridge Improvement Committee set up the amount of \$48000 for 1948. This is for a new Children's room for the library.

The 1947 budget is asked for by the finance committee.

Miss Van Nostrand talked of prospects of a reference librarian. She is asked to get salary data from Division of Public Libraries in Boston.

The Southbridge Finishing Company wants to give the library a Memorial Book in memory of Mr. David Hobson.

A record for the library was made last month 600 childrens books dispersed in one day. This was due to the stimulus furnished by the talks in the schools by Miss Van Nostrand and Miss Demarais.

Meeting adjourned,

*Gertrude W. Smith*  
Secretary

December 27th meeting was held with Mr. Kay and Mr .  
Laliberte absent.

The secretary's report was read and accepted,  
followed by that of the treasurer's which was also  
accepted.

The reports from the New England Trust Company  
on the Robert , Grace, and Hannah Edwards funds were  
submitted and accepted. A copy was signed by the chair-  
man and this will be returned to the bank. One copy to  
be placed on file here.

The budget was discussed and Miss Van Nostrand  
asked for several increases in the pay for the staff,  
also more money for equipment and books.

Meeting adjourned,

*Gertrude W Smith*  
*Secretary*