

and it was not reasonable to suppose that the Board would hand over that right. A third of the endowments had been claimed by the city for the Library, but the Council's representatives had not been so ready to admit that a third would suffice to support the Museum. Although the Board had pointed out that, in other cities, the library was carried on by the City Council or out of the rates, and that it was the duty of the Council to maintain a library, the Council had not been prepared to take any action. When Councillor Sorenson reported on the same meeting to the City Council,⁽⁴⁾ he stated that the Board not only refused arbitration but also refused to continue to spend the same amount (£470 from the endowment in 1913) on the Library if it was taken over by the Council.⁽⁵⁾ While Councillor Sorenson said that the Board wanted to take but was not prepared to give, Councillor M'Coomb's accused the Board of starving the Library to fatten the Museum. He remarked that an attempt should be made to force the hand of the Board, although the same matter had been urged in the Council about twenty-five years ago. But this attitude appears indefensible, as the Council was in a position to relieve the Board's financial burden yet refused to regard both the Library and the Museum as valuable additions to the city, which it was a Council's duty to aid. Thus each body expressed dissatisfaction with the views held by the other, and it appeared as if a position of stalemate had again been reached.

4. *ibid* September 2, 1913.

5. The Board was naturally not prepared to hand over the Library unless it was relieved of a liability. The Board also refused an offered grant of £470 because they felt that, if the Council thought that £470 was sufficient to keep a library going, the Board might as well do it.