

required the expenditure of approximately £10,000 for rebuilding.

At the next meeting of the Committee, it was reported that the Council had, in the meantime, made a grant of £250 of which £125 had been allocated to the Reference Library, £75 to the Children's Library, and £50 to the Reading Room. This was the first Council grant in the history of the Library. It was then resolved that the

Board of Governors be asked if they would be willing to transfer the Public Library to the City, and on what terms as regards endowments etc. (30)

When the Committee met again on August 26, a letter was received from the Registrar of Canterbury College advising that a Special Committee had been set up to report on the Public Library, and Councillor Guthrie was authorised to investigate the question of the extra maintenance costs involved in the event of the Council's taking over the Library. (31) He reported, on October 16, that, if the Council contributed not less than £1000 per annum, subscriptions could be reduced and more people encouraged to make use of the institution, with the result that the income would be in the vicinity of £5000 per year. On this sum, a really first class library service could be maintained, and co-operation with suburban libraries should be possible. Once the new Reference Library had been constructed, there would be little added expenditure. It was then resolved to meet the Board and recommend, subject to the Council's ratification,

1. "That the Council undertake to substantially increase (sic) its subsidy for one year."
2. "That combined steps be taken by the Council and the College Board to obtain legislation authorising the transfer of the Library property and the bequests to the Council."

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30. *ibid* p.1050.

31. *ibid* p.1063.