

3. "That the Council undertake to erect a new Reference Library building." (32)

These resolutions can be regarded as the first signs of any real interest in the future of the Library.

When the two Committees met on November 26, the proposals, which the Board put forward, appeared to coincide with those of the Council, but the question of the allocation of a portion of the College endowments was discussed and held over. (33) Although the Special Committee recommended the Council to place £1000 on the Estimates for 1937-38 (34) as a subsidy for the Library, and resolved that a full and comprehensive report, upon the question of transferring control of the Library to the Council, should be prepared by the Committee, in conjunction with the Board of Governors, no action was taken and once more the matter was allowed to lapse. Although there is no definite information on the matter, it appears as if it was once again the question of the endowments that caused the deadlock. (35) The right of the Library to a share of the endowment was no longer challenged, but the amount remained in dispute.

It is an amazing fact that, although the Board of Governors had, since the early 1860's, been trying to rid itself of its responsibilities towards the Public Library, on the grounds of lack of finance, no satisfactory solution had been arrived at nearly sixty years later. This state of affairs suggests that either the financial position, in the first instance, was not as serious as was made out or else

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32. *ibid* p. 1081.

33. *ibid* p. 1087.

34. *ibid* p. 1095.

35. "Press" January 2, 1937.