

it is only necessary to state here that, at the resulting conference, Mr. E.J. Bell outlined this purpose to the assembled delegates.

Continuing in similar vein, Mr. G. Manning dealt with the manner in which libraries could be utilised; by securing standard educational writings and books of an authoritative nature on modern problems; by guiding readers in their choice of books; by organising periodic lectures and discussions within the library; by supplying a list of books of an educative nature with a view to the establishment of an inter-loan service. Before proceeding further it is my considered opinion that these suggestions could have provided an excellent nucleus for reform on the basis of a centralised or semi-centralised system.

However, in the general discussion that followed there was no unanimity of opinion. While the Linwood delegates averred that many of the suggestions already applied in their institution those from Sydenham declared that they could not support the idea of guiding readers in their choice of books. Furthermore, the representatives of the St. Martins Library stated that, while the financial position would not permit the expense of non-fiction, lack of time would prevent voluntary helpers being present to advise readers. Although the meeting adjourned on an unpromising note Mr. Manning, in summarizing the discussion, pointed out that three definite and practical suggestions had been made; the displaying of selected books on a prominently placed table; the issue of selected magazines to encourage the use of non-fiction; the establishment of a special non-fiction department. If the suburban libraries adopted these suggestions, the speaker felt sure that they could confidently approach the City Council