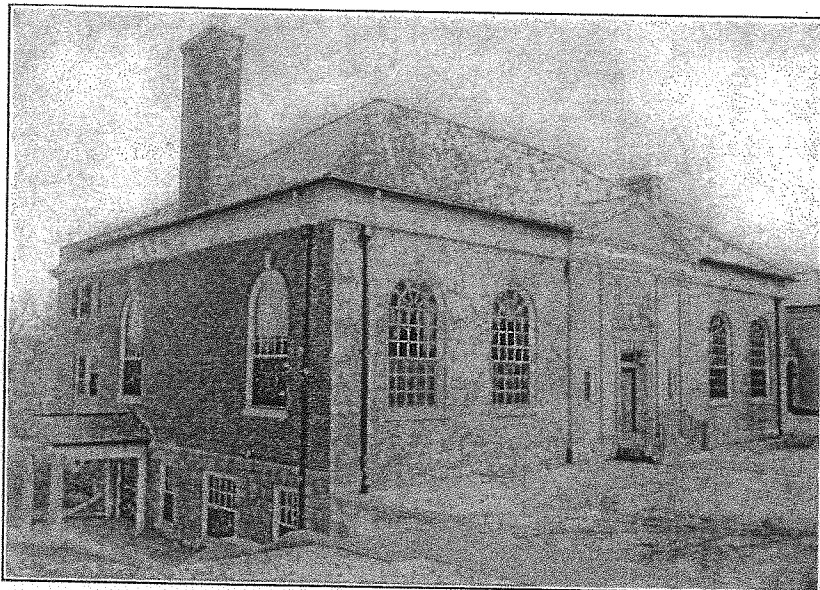


Manchester Public Library



WHITON MEMORIAL

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Dedication Exercises

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MAY TENTH, NINETEEN THIRTY-TWO

Manchester Library



In 1891 a Circle of King's Daughters was started, in what was then known as North Manchester, by Mrs. William C. Brown. The members were eager for work, and their leader felt they needed a definite outlet for their energies and suggested that they start a loan library. This was done in 1895; its first home was a room in the Patten and Brown building, its first librarian Miss Fannie Foulds. By 1898 the Library, a success from the start, had outgrown its quarters and the time seemed right to ask the town to assume its direction and take advantage of the \$100 in books given by the State to Town Libraries. This was carried out, and the first Directors were Rev. C. H. Barber, William Foulds, Walter E. Lydall, Dr. F. H. Whiton, Mrs. A. V. Pulsifer, and Miss Edith Cowles. Mr. Barber was chosen chairman, and served in that capacity until he left Manchester in 1905. Miss Cowles was the secretary, and Mr. Lydall treasurer. Mrs. Gertrude Boynton became librarian in October, 1898, and continued until her resignation in May, 1929. The McCormick house on North Main Street was the next home of the Library.

Our growth went steadily on, from year to year, until we were greatly handicapped from lack of space. Upon the completion of the Robertson School in 1914, the Eighth District offered us the use of a large room in their new building. This offer was due to the efforts of Judge Herbert O. Bowers, who was very anxious to see the Library and the school more closely linked together. His purpose was

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Program

2:30 O'CLOCK

MUSIC

An Ensemble of the High School Orchestra
Directed by MISS MARION DORWARD

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

EDWIN A. LYDALL, Presiding
Chairman of Board of Directors

INVOCATION

REV. MARVIN S. STOCKING

ADDRESS

"The Library in a Democracy"
E. W. BUTTERFIELD, L.L.D., LL.D., Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education
Chairman of Connecticut Public Library Committee

DELIVERY OF THE KEYS

To Chairman of the Board of Selectmen
THOMAS J. ROGERS
By Chairman of the Building Committee
WELLS A. STRICKLAND

ACCEPTANCE ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN

THOMAS J. ROGERS
Chairman of Board of Selectmen

BENEDICTION

REV. FREDERICK C. ALLEN



The building will be open for inspection
at the close of the exercises.

NAMES OF FORMER DIRECTORS
OF LIBRARY

WILLIAM FOULDS
DR. FRANCIS WHITON
WALTER LYDALL
MRS. A. V. PULSIFER

R. G. CAMPBELL
WILLIAM W. ROBERTSON
ARTHUR J. STRAW
MISS ANNIE STARKWEATHER

THE DIRECTORS OF MANCHESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1932

EDWIN A. LYDALL, *Chairman*
CHARLES B. LOOMIS, *Treasurer*
MRS. EDITH STRICKLAND, *Secretary*
WILLIAM FOULDS MRS. CALLA BURR MRS. LILLIAN BOWERS
MRS. INEZ WOLCOTT, *Librarian*
MRS. FLORENCE SHEARER, *Assistant Librarian*

BUILDING COMMITTEE

WELLS A. STRICKLAND, *Chairman*
THOMAS J. ROGERS MRS. EDITH STRICKLAND
SCOTT H. SIMON MRS. CALLA BURR
WILLIAM W. ROBERTSON MRS. LILLIAN BOWERS

HUTCHINS AND FRENCH, *Architects*
GUSTAVE SCHREIBER & SONS, INC., *General Contractors*

Manchester Library

[Continued from Page 1]

attained, but again the element of growth entered in, and we wondered what would be the next step.

The names of all who have served as Directors are given later in this program. Mr. William Foulds is the only member of our present Board who has seen continuous service. Dr. Francis Whiton also served from 1898, until his death in 1922, and was chairman after the withdrawal of Mr. Barber in 1905.

Dr. Whiton's interest in the Library never lessened. He always wanted the best within our means, in books and equipment. This interest he perpetuated by giving the funds, which have made possible this our attractive new home. Mrs. Whiton shared the Doctor's love for the Library, and joined with him in this splendid memorial.

In the fall of 1930, when the plans had been completed for the new Y. M. C. A., it was considered wise by the Board of Selectmen to start activities for a new Library building. Upon the gift to the town, by the Manchester Community Club and the Y. M. C. A. Directors, of a building site, the Library became part of a Community Center, as you now see it. A Building Committee was appointed by the Selectmen with W. A. Strickland chairman. The building was started in the spring of 1931, and is being formally turned over to the Town today. We have put our house in order very carefully through the efforts of our present librarians, Mrs. Inez Wolcott and Mrs. Florence Shearer, and hope to give you more efficient service than has been possible hitherto. We think we have now a pleasant place for old and young in which to read and study. We shall need your hearty support in order to give you perfect service.