

# REGIONAL LIBRARY PLAN SUPPORTED BY MANY OF TOWN ORGANIZATIONS

*Light-Herald.*  
Recommendations from five Yarmouth Organizations, favoring the participation by the Town, in a regional library for Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby counties, were read in Town Council last week.

Councillor Harold Huskilson, chairman of the Town Council committee on the regional library question, said he had asked the town to budget \$1,700 for library purposes, but had been turned down. If the Library had been set up late in the year, this would have been enough to carry on until the end of the year, he figured. There was no money for anything in connection with the proposals as a result of the action of the Council at the budget meeting, he made it clear.

The town organizations advocating action by Council were Center Home and School Association, Y's Men's Club, Business and Professional Women's Club, Kinsman's Club, and Diamond Lodge 51, IOOF. A few nights prior to the Council meeting the Board of Trade went on record as favoring a regional library, but had no letter before Council on the matter.

## VALUE TO TOWN

Councillor Huskilson said the proposed regional library had been likened to a new industry which would be worth \$50,000 a year to the town. He figured this estimate should be nearer \$100,000.

He said Lockeport had adopted the Regional Library plan, and believed Shelburne would adopt it next year. Only reason Shelburne did not adopt it this year, he believed, was because of the increase in the tax rate in that town.

He believed the other towns, also the municipalities, were looking for Yarmouth to show

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a lead in the matter.

Councillor Bain believed it was up to others to take the lead, not the town. He thought the areas outside town would benefit most. The town was paying to keep up the local library, and if the town could afford it, he would have no objection. "I would not vote one way or another," he added.  
**TAKE WHOLE LOAD**

Councillor Ernest McKinlay said the Municipality of Yarmouth, at the joint expenditure meeting, had been opposed to participating in a regional library. He felt that the only reason the town was being asked to take a lead in the matter was because some felt the town would assume the full load of the project. He felt the municipalities had more to gain from the plan than the town.

The only good point Councillor Nate Bain had heard in favor of a regional library, he said, was that more books would be made available.  
**HANDS ARE TIED**

Councillor Huskilson paid high tribute to the Yarmouth Public Library, but the library did not have sufficient funds to operate to best serve the needs. Joining in the Regional Library plan would help in this respect, he indicated.

Referring to the Town Council committee on the regional library, he said, "We have gone as far as we can. Our hands are tied."

Councillor McKinlay said he was not against the regional library, but he had "reservations about the methods".

The various letters read earlier in the meeting were ordered turned over to the committee headed by Councillor Huskilson, with no action being taken on them.