
Proceedings and Findings: Pertaining to a Request for Action Submitted by Mrs. Joan Bodger under the Program of Action in Support of the Library Bill of Rights

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PROCEEDINGS AND FINDINGS

Pertaining to a Request for Action Submitted by Mrs. Joan Bodger Under the Program of Action in Support of the Library Bill of Rights

Findings

ON DECEMBER 7, 1969, the Office for Intellectual Freedom received a Request for Action under the *Program of Action in Support of the Library Bill of Rights* from Mrs. Joan Bodger, formerly children's consultant for the Missouri State Library. In her Request for Action Mrs. Bodger alleged that the Missouri State Library, the Missouri State Library Commission, and the University of Missouri violated various propositions of the *Library Bill of Rights*.¹ Mrs. Bodger also alleged that members of the State Library Commission, members of the administrative staff of the State Library, and units of the Missouri Library Association failed to support her actions in opposition to the alleged violations of the *Library Bill of Rights*.²

The Office for Intellectual Freedom staff reviewed Mrs. Bodger's complaint and concluded that, on the face of the complaint, there existed a possibility that propositions of the *Li-*

brary Bill of Rights had been violated in the situation described by Mrs. Bodger. On the basis of this finding it was recommended to Edwin Castagna, chairman of the Intellectual Freedom Committee, that the Committee accept Mrs. Bodger's Request for Action, and that it address itself to those charges involving possible violations of the *Library Bill of Rights*.

On December 22, 1969, Mr. Castagna appointed a Fact-Finding Subcommittee consisting of Homer Fletcher, Edwin Castagna, and Alex Allain, chairman, to implement Mrs. Bodger's Request for Action. Mr. Fletcher, for personal reasons, resigned from the Fact-Finding Subcommittee and was replaced by Florence DeHart.

Mrs. Bodger's Request for Action was included on the Intellectual Freedom Committee's agenda at the Midwinter Meeting, January 1970 (Chicago). Concurrent with its study of the request, the Committee notified the Missouri Library Commission of receipt of the Request for Action and

of the formation of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee.³

On February 27, 1970, Mr. Allain requested by mail specific information in regard to Mrs. Bodger's departure from the Missouri State Library from the principal parties noted in Mrs. Bodger's Request for Action.⁴

The Fact-Finding Subcommittee met with the staff of the Office for Intellectual Freedom and ALA legal counsel, William North, on April 6, 1970, at ALA Headquarters. Mr. Castagna was unable to attend this meeting. The Subcommittee established tentative procedures to be followed in regard to acting upon Mrs. Bodger's request.⁵

On April 14 Mrs. Krug, on behalf of Mr. Allain, notified by mail the persons with whom the Subcommittee wished to speak regarding Mrs. Bodger's departure from the Missouri State Library. Members of the State Library Commission at the time of Mrs. Bodger's departure, the state librarian, the associate state librarian, the immediate past-president of the Missouri Library Association, and the current president of the Missouri Library Association were so notified.⁶

Eight other persons expressed to the Office for Intellectual Freedom their desire to offer statements regarding Mrs. Bodger's dismissal from the Missouri State Library. The Subcommittee agreed to accept first-hand information from them, and they were so notified by Mrs. Krug on behalf of Mr. Allain.

James Leathers, president of the Missouri Library Association, served as liaison between the Subcommittee and the persons with whom it wished to speak. Mr. Leathers arranged for interview rooms and scheduled times with those persons who agreed to meet with the Subcommittee.

Mrs. Jerome Duggan, Mrs. Frank Steury, Hubert Wheeler, and Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman (all members of the State Library Commission at the time of Mrs. Bodger's departure) for various reasons declined the Subcommittee's invitation to meet with it. John Herbst, past president of MLA, accepted the invitation but was unable to be scheduled due to a conflicting commitment.⁷ Doris Bolef and Elsie Freivogel jointly submitted a written statement to the Subcommittee but did not appear before it.⁸

On Monday, April 27, 1970, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee met in the St. Louis County Public Library with

Mrs. Susanna Alexander,⁹ Mrs. Nina Ladof,¹⁰ Mrs. Helen Kreigh,¹¹ and Mrs. Rosetta Bullard.¹²

On Tuesday, April 28, 1970, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee met in the Missouri Library Association Headquarters in Columbia with Charles O'Halloran,¹³ Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski,¹⁴ James Leathers,¹⁵ and Mrs. Joan Goddard.¹⁶

On Wednesday, April 29, 1970, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee met in the Missouri Library Association Headquarters in Columbia with Ralph Parker,¹⁷ Judge Temple Morgett,¹⁸ and William DeJohn.¹⁹

Transcripts of the interviews with the above persons are confidential and are on file in the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom.

As a result of its study of Mrs. Bodger's complaint and the interviews with the persons named above, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee has established the following events pertinent to the departure of Mrs. Bodger:

1. On February 12, 1969, members of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) distributed copies of *New Left Notes*, January 22, 1969, and *The Movement*, February 1969, from a booth in the University of Missouri Student Union. Dean of Students, Jack Matthews, ordered the SDS salesmen to stop distribution of the papers which he termed "vulgar literature."

ALA REPORT

On February 19 the *Free Press Underground*—published by University of Missouri students, some of whom were SDS members—carried a cartoon from *New Left Notes* and an article from *The Movement*. The *Free Press Underground* termed these items "obscene" in additional commentary. Campus police ordered the *Free Press Underground* salesmen off the University of Missouri campus. The salesmen left the campus and began selling the newspaper on a public sidewalk adjacent to the campus. County sheriffs arrested four of the *Free Press Underground* salesmen and seized the papers.²⁰

2. Over the weekend of February 22–23, Mrs. Joan Bodger, children's consultant at the Missouri State Library, drafted a letter in which she condemned what she believed was an act of censorship by the University of Missouri in regard to the removal of *New Left Notes*, *The Movement*, and the *Free Press Underground*, and the arrest of the students. Her intention was to publish the letter in a local newspaper, the *Columbia Tribune*.²¹

On Monday, February 24, before sending the letter to the newspaper, Mrs. Bodger showed its contents to her immediate superior, Mrs. Susanna Alexander, associate state librarian. Mrs. Alexander agreed with the content of the letter, but she suggested that Charles O'Halloran, state librarian, read the letter before Mrs. Bodger mailed it. Mrs. Alexander called Mr. O'Halloran, who was in Kansas City, and read the letter to him over the telephone. Mr. O'Halloran telephoned Mrs. Bodger and approved the publication of the letter.²²

Both Mr. O'Halloran and Mrs. Alexander considered Mrs. Bodger's letter to be an appropriate statement of the State Library's position in regard to the removal of publications from the University of Missouri campus.²³

Mrs. Bodger then typed the letter on stationery bearing the State Library letterhead, and signed it with her official title.

3. On February 26, 1969, Mrs. Bodger's letter was published in the *Columbia Tribune*. Following its publication, other Missouri newspapers printed editorials and letters to the editors condemning Mrs. Bodger, Mr. O'Halloran, and Mrs. Alexander. The president of the State Library Commission and the governor of Missouri received letters and telephone calls attacking Mrs. Bodger and the State Library.²⁴

4. In response to the controversy, on March 11, 1969, the State Library Commission met for five hours in executive session. Present at the meeting were Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman, Judge Temple Morgett, Ralph H. Parker, Mrs. Frank Steury, Hubert Wheeler, and Mrs. Jerome Duggan, president. Mr. O'Halloran, state librarian and secretary of the Library Commission, was present for part of the meeting but was requested to withdraw when the Commission turned its attention to the incident involving Mrs. Bodger's letter.²⁵

At this meeting, Mr. O'Halloran submitted to the Commission a statement defending Mrs. Bodger's actions and explaining the principles of intellectual freedom as enunciated in the *Library Bill of Rights*.²⁶

Stating that "there is further information which we desire to obtain before we make any decision," the Commission adjourned and scheduled another meeting for Thursday, March 20, 1969.²⁷

5. On March 20, 1969, the State Library Commission met for five hours in executive session. "All Commission members were present."²⁸

Mr. O'Halloran submitted to the Commission a second statement in which he outlined the basic issues involved in the incident concerning Mrs. Bodger's letter. In this statement, he made comments which were later taken out of context by the Commission and used in the Commission's official statement to the public.²⁹ Members of the Commission considered the official statement to be a "gentle slap on the wrists" of Mr. O'Halloran.³⁰

6. After the March 20 meeting of the

State Library Commission, Mr. O'Halloran requested that all State Library staff members refrain from publicly commenting on the incident involving Mrs. Bodger's letter and the *Free Press Underground*.³¹

7. On April 3, 1969, Mrs. Bodger appeared as a speaker at the Library Aide's Workshop at the St. Charles County Library Branch in O'Fallon. Approximately thirty-five persons, some representing an organization called Society to Oppose Pornography (STOP), picketed the library branch. The picket signs attacked Mrs. Bodger, Mr. O'Halloran, and others involved in the *Free Press Underground* incident.³² William Orthwein, a reporter from the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, attempted several times to question Mrs. Bodger. Mrs. Bodger explained that she had been asked not to speak about the incident. When Mr. Orthwein persisted in his questioning, Mrs. Bodger said she was bored with his repeated questions. Mr. Orthwein's newspaper later reported that Mrs. Bodger said she was bored with the whole incident.³³

8. On Friday, April 4, 1969, Mrs. Jerome Duggan, president of the State Library Commission, contacted Mr. O'Halloran and spoke about the adverse publicity to the State Library which Mrs. Bodger's appearances attracted.³⁴ Mr. O'Halloran told Mrs. Bodger the same day that it would be desirable for her to cancel future workshops until public reaction died down. He suggested a "cooling off" period.³⁵

9. After considering Mr. O'Halloran's advice, Mrs. Bodger decided that to curtail her activities would render her work as children's consultant ineffective. Between Friday, April 4, and Monday, April 7, she decided to resign from the State Library.³⁶ Mrs. Bodger wrote her resignation letter and made multiple copies to distribute to the staff and to submit to the news media.³⁷ Mrs. Bodger submitted her letter of resignation to Mr. O'Halloran on Monday, April 7, 1969.

10. Mr. O'Halloran felt that the State Library Commission should have the opportunity to read the letter of resignation before it appeared in the newspapers. He telephoned Mrs. Jerome Duggan and read the letter to her.³⁸

Mrs. Duggan unilaterally decided that the state librarian should not accept the resignation.³⁹ Mrs. Duggan ordered the state librarian, in his capacity as secretary of the State Li-

brary Commission, to write a letter which she dictated to him over the telephone. The letter dismissed Mrs. Bodger from the State Library.⁴⁰

Mrs. Duggan directed Mr. O'Halloran to poll by telephone the members of the State Library Commission on the question of Mrs. Bodger's dismissal. Following her directions, Mr. O'Halloran attempted to contact each Commission member. Judge Temple Morgett voted in favor of dismissal. One other unidentified commissioner voted in favor of dismissal. Mr. O'Halloran states that he was unable to reach the other members of the Commission.⁴¹ (Ralph Parker was not contacted and did not vote on the question.)⁴²

Mr. O'Halloran reported the results of the telephone poll to Mrs. Duggan. Mrs. Duggan decided that there was a majority in favor of dismissal.⁴³ (Mr. O'Halloran stated that Rabbi Isserman had resigned from the Commission prior to the telephone poll.⁴⁴)

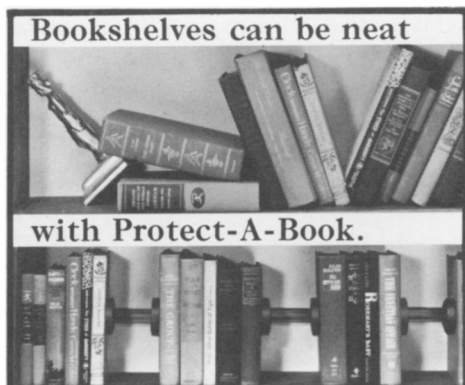
11. On Tuesday, April 8, 1969, Mr. O'Halloran gave Mrs. Bodger the letter of dismissal.⁴⁵

12. On April 8, Mrs. Bodger protested her dismissal to Mr. O'Halloran and requested to speak to Mrs. Duggan. Mr. O'Halloran telephoned Mrs. Duggan and gave the telephone to Mrs. Bodger. Mrs. Bodger repeated several times to Mrs. Duggan that she had already resigned, but Mrs. Duggan refused to reply in any way. Mrs. Bodger said, approximately, "She doesn't have the guts or the courage to even speak to me."⁴⁶

13. Mr. O'Halloran immediately announced his action to the other members of the State Library staff.⁴⁷

14. The Missouri Library Association met in Conference on October 1-4, 1969. A printed statement, initiated by members of the Missouri Social Responsibilities Round Table, with over twenty signatures, was presented to the Missouri State Library Commission.⁴⁸

The statement said: "We are not interested in placing blame, but only in acquiring fact. We feel that there are basic relationships between a librarian and his board of trustees involved here and it is important that they be discussed." The petition further requested that the Commission make public the minutes from its meetings concerning Mrs. Bodger because it would assist "in informing Missouri citizens of Commission policies."⁴⁹



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Mrs. Jerome Duggan asked that Dr. Parker be allowed to answer the petition.⁵⁰ In Dr. Parker's answer, he made the following statement:

The case of Joan Bodger had nothing whatsoever to do with the matters of censorship. . . . Mrs. Bodger had every right as an individual citizen to express her opinions. There was never any question of that. . . . Mrs. Bodger then drafted a letter of resignation and I'm a little confused here on the exact sequence of events; but instead of simply being willing to turn in a letter of resignation and let it go through normal channels, she felt called upon to call up Mrs. Duggan. . . . Mrs. Duggan said nothing. *But she was harangued with foul and filthy language the result of which was that the Commission voted not to accept her resignation, but terminated her services.* . . .⁵¹

On April 29, 1970, Dr. Parker told the Fact-Finding Subcommittee that he was speaking on behalf of the Commission when he addressed the MLA Conference, and that his statement was impromptu.⁵² Judge Temple Morgett, the current president of the Commission, contradicted Dr. Parker's statement. Judge Morgett stated that the Commission endorsed Dr. Parker's statement except for references to a phone call between Mrs. Bodger and Mrs. Duggan.⁵³

Commentary on Facts

Regarding Mrs. Joan Bodger

In the opinion of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee, the letter written by Mrs. Joan Bodger to the *Columbia Tribune* clearly enunciates a responsible librarian's professional concern for the repression of and lack of accessibility to controversial materials. In making this observation, the Subcommittee is in agreement with Mr. O'Halloran and Mrs. Alexander.

On the question of Mrs. Bodger's authorization to write the letter, the facts are clear. Her act was submitted to her immediate superior, Mrs. Alexander, and to the state librarian, Mr. O'Halloran. Both approved of the letter and consented to its publication.⁵⁴

The State Library has no policy governing the use of stationery bearing the State Library letterhead. Neither the State Library Commission nor the state librarian has ever enacted such a policy. Since the state librarian and the associate state librarian were aware that Mrs. Bodger

spoke as children's consultant, it appears that they considered her use of State Library stationery to be within the scope of unwritten policy.

The State Library Commission and newspaper editorials, notably one in the *Jefferson City Post-Tribune*,⁵⁵ have stated that Mrs. Bodger's injection of the State Library into matters completely the concern and responsibility of the administration of the University of Missouri was rash, impetuous, and impertinent. Even a casual reading of Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Tribune* makes clear that this aspect of her arguments is greatly overshadowed by the larger issues involving intellectual freedom, censorship, and the accessibility to controversial materials. It should be noted that almost all of the public responses to the letter referred to Mrs. Bodger's espousal of "obscene literature," not to the intrusion of the State Library into the affairs of the University of Missouri. The intrusion issue only became a cause of concern after the State Library Commission introduced the issue into public debate in a statement for general release after its March 20, 1969, meeting.⁵⁶

If, in fact, Mrs. Bodger's letter constituted an intrusion of one state agency into the affairs of another, thus breaking established policy, she cleared herself of responsibility for the act by submitting the letter to the state librarian before publication.

It has also been stated that Mrs. Bodger was not dismissed because of the content of her letter to the *Tribune*, but because of objectionable criticism of the State Library Commission's policies contained in her letter of resignation, April 7, 1969. A comparison of the letter to the *Tribune* and the letter of resignation shows that the content is substantively similar.⁵⁷ Mrs. Bodger, however, did insist upon publishing her letter of resignation. The Subcommittee feels that her insistence, more than the content of the letter of resignation, may have precipitated the actions of the president of the Commission. Certainly her insistence upon publication was a major factor in Mr. O'Halloran's decision to contact Mrs. Duggan.

It has also been stated that Mrs. Bodger was dismissed because of the content of a telephone conversation between Mrs. Bodger and the past president of the Library Commission, Mrs. Jerome Duggan. Facts established by the Subcommittee clearly

show that the reported conversation occurred *after* Mrs. Bodger was notified of her dismissal.⁵⁸ The testimony of Mrs. Bodger and a witness to her side of the reported telephone conversation also establishes that her statements to Mrs. Duggan were not "foul and filthy," as stated by Dr. Ralph Parker at the MLA Conference in October 1969.⁵⁹

In assessing Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Tribune* and the events leading to her dismissal, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee concludes that:

1. The supposed intrusion of one state agency into the affairs of another does not compare in any measure with the significant, basic issues raised by Mrs. Bodger in regard to suppression of materials.

2. If, in fact, Mrs. Bodger's act constituted an intrusion of one state agency into the affairs of another, the responsibility for the consequences of this act should not have fallen upon Mrs. Bodger, who clearly had the authorization of the state librarian to write the letter.

3. Mrs. Bodger's insistence upon publishing her letter of resignation was the probable cause of its referral to Mrs. Duggan.

4. Mrs. Bodger, in defending the issues of intellectual freedom which were under attack, took a stand which the Intellectual Freedom Committee and the American Library Association have long espoused.

Regarding Mr. Charles O'Halloran

It has been stated that Mr. O'Halloran exercised poor judgment when he approved Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Tribune* and allowed its publication over her official title. The Fact-Finding Subcommittee does not agree that Mr. O'Halloran's approval of the letter was an incident of "poor judgment." Only if the Subcommittee viewed the "intrusion" factor as more important than the suppression of materials could it agree with the Commission.⁶⁰ Mr. O'Halloran, however, has indicated in a public statement that "her letter represented her own, and my, protest at an act of censorship. . . . It was our belief that censorship or the suppression of any publication should be challenged whenever it occurs."⁶¹

The Subcommittee recognizes that, perhaps, a method of protest other than publication of a letter might have been more effective and avoided adverse publicity. Alternative methods might have included direct com-

munication, discussion, or mediation with University officials and students. The Subcommittee, however, cannot accept as fact that such a protest—whether in the form of a letter to the press or a direct communication with University officials—constitutes an intrusion of one state agency into the affairs of another.

The State Library Commission says it did not consider the censorship question.⁶² Its only concern was the "intrusion" element.⁶³ In that respect, the Commission concluded that Mr. O'Halloran had exercised poor judgment and publicly censured him for it.⁶⁴

Mrs. Bodger, some librarians, and the library press have charged that Mr. O'Halloran, under pressure from the Commission, withdrew his support of Mrs. Bodger. These charges, in the view of the Subcommittee, seem to arise from public misinterpretation of statements made by Mr. O'Halloran to the press and to the State Library Commission. The statement most widely misinterpreted was issued to the State Library Commission at its meeting March 20, 1969: "... Intrusion of the State Library into a matter

completely the concern and responsibility of the administration of the University of Missouri was rash, impetuous, and impertinent. As individual citizens, we may all have opinions regarding any and all of the acts of any governmental agency; as employees of one agency charged with specific duties we have no right to interfere in the affairs of another, especially in the public press."⁶⁵ This statement has been widely misquoted as referring to Mrs. Bodger as being rash, impetuous, and impertinent in her publication of the letter to the *Tribune*.⁶⁶ In fact, the statement refers to the "intrusion of the State Library," not Mrs. Bodger. Since Mr. O'Halloran is state librarian, his statement refers to himself, not to Mrs. Bodger.

Mr. O'Halloran's statement has fostered further confusion because the State Library Commission quoted the statement, out of context, in its news release.⁶⁷ The quote entirely eliminates Mr. O'Halloran's strong defense in support of Mrs. Bodger's action concerning the two intellectual freedom issues—her protest of censorship and her statement voicing the need for a library to make information, includ-

ing all points of view, available to the public. In none of his public statements did Mr. O'Halloran ever fail to support either Mrs. Bodger, in this regard, or the principles of intellectual freedom.⁶⁸

It has also been stated that Mr. O'Halloran should not have submitted Mrs. Bodger's letter of resignation to Mrs. Duggan before accepting it. In the view of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee, Mr. O'Halloran was justified in doing so because of 1) Mrs. Bodger's expressed intent to publish the letter of resignation, and 2) his knowledge of the Commission's concern about publicity and activities regarding Mrs. Bodger. However, it is also the view of the Subcommittee that Mr. O'Halloran had the authority to accept the resignation without the approval of the State Library Commission.

In assessing Mr. O'Halloran's actions in regard to Mrs. Bodger's dismissal, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee concludes that:

1. Mr. O'Halloran's approval of Mrs. Bodger's publication of her February 26 letter was not an act of "poor judgment." The Subcommittee, furthermore, cannot accept as fact that

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her letter constituted an intrusion of one state agency into the affairs of another.

2. Mr. O'Halloran did not withdraw support from Mrs. Bodger's defense of the principles of intellectual freedom at any time.

3. Mr. O'Halloran, considering the Commission's views, was justified in submitting Mrs. Bodger's letter of resignation to the president of the State Library Commission before accepting it.

Regarding the Missouri State Library Commission

As stated before, several members of the Missouri State Library Commission at the time of Mrs. Bodger's dismissal declined the Fact-Finding Subcommittee's invitation to appear before it.⁶⁸ Consequently, not all of the actions of the Commission in regard to Mrs. Bodger can be discussed by the Subcommittee with the detail and authority that would clarify some points of conflict and dissension involved in the controversy.

Statements received from Judge Temple Morgett, current Commission president, and from Ralph Parker, former Commission member, confirm other information which indicates that the question of Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Tribune* came to the attention of the Commission through telephone calls and letters to Mrs. Jerome Duggan, then Commission president.

The Commission first discussed the matter in executive session on March 11, 1969. The substance of the Commission's discussion is not included in the formal minutes of the meeting.⁷⁰ Beyond stating that "the Commission has given serious consideration to many aspects of the matter before us,"⁷¹ and announcing another session for further discussion, little official information came from the March 11 meeting.

On March 20, 1969, the Commission met again to discuss the matter. During this meeting, the Commission concluded that Mrs. Bodger had done what she should in regard to getting clearance to publish the letter.⁷²

Also at this meeting the Commission discussed the State Library's acquisitions policy.⁷³ This policy has been described as impractical and totally inapplicable to actual, current acquisition needs and practices.⁷⁴ At least two members of the State Library professional staff stated to the Fact-Finding Subcommittee that such an ac-

quisitions policy did not exist.⁷⁵ During the meeting of March 20, the Commission expressed some concern about not wanting to be in a position of restricting materials.⁷⁶ From the discussion of the acquisitions policy, the need for its revision, and the fear of restricting materials, the Commission, in the view of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee, did recognize that Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Tribune* commented on serious problems involving intellectual freedom.

In addition, the Commission, at the March 20 meeting, discussed policy statements regarding extracurricular activities of State Library staff members. No specific action was taken in regard to either the acquisitions policy or the policy regarding extracurricular activities.⁷⁷

In its discussion of Mrs. Bodger's letter, the Commission concluded that if the letter had come from Joan Bodger as a private citizen, the Commission would have had no objection to it.⁷⁸ On the face of the letter, however, it is obvious that Mrs. Bodger's letter, even if not over her official title, would have clearly identified her and the State Library. Without this identification, the letter would have had no strength or meaning in regard to Mrs. Bodger's protest.

Mr. O'Halloran presented a statement to the Commission at its March 20 meeting.⁷⁹ The Commission read Mr. O'Halloran's statement and incorporated parts of it, out of context, in a statement which the Commission included in its Minutes and released to the press.⁸⁰ On the question of Mrs. Bodger's letter, the Commission's statement said: "The letter to the press by a member of the library staff, sent with the approval of the state librarian, which injected the State Library into the matter was a display of indiscretion."⁸¹ Comments from Mr. O'Halloran's statement are used to support this opinion of the Commission.⁸²

The purpose of the Commission's official statement of March 20 was to censure Mr. O'Halloran. Two Commission members have stated that, as far as the Commission was concerned, the entire matter ended with the publication of the official statement.⁸³ In statements to the press, Mrs. Duggan and Dr. Parker confirmed this view.⁸⁴

However, after the March 20 meeting, the Commission president, Mrs. Jerome Duggan, did telephone Mr. O'Halloran in regard to pickets and

protesters at a workshop near St. Louis where Mrs. Bodger appeared. Though not by specific action of the Commission, Mr. O'Halloran, on the advice of Mrs. Duggan, requested that Mrs. Bodger curtail her speaking activities.⁸⁵

This curtailment of her activities precipitated Mrs. Bodger's letter of resignation in which she again protested the attitude of the Commission toward the suppression of publications.⁸⁶

Mrs. Duggan refused to accept Mrs. Bodger's resignation, and it was at her unilateral initiation that the telephone poll resulting in Mrs. Bodger's dismissal was made by Mr. O'Halloran. There is no evidence to indicate that there was any notice that such an action would be considered or that all of the Commission members were aware of the action until it was actually accomplished. There is evidence that Mr. Wheeler and Dr. Parker were not reached by the telephone poll.⁸⁷

The results of the telephone poll which determined Mrs. Bodger's dismissal are not contained in the May 13, 1969, Minutes of the Commission. Judge Morgett, the current president of the Commission, has stated that it is normal procedure for the numerical results of votes on all issues of importance to be recorded in the Commission Minutes.⁸⁸ The Fact-Finding Subcommittee finds the lack of such a record appalling because it initiates serious doubts as to the actual existence of a majority vote in favor of dismissal.

In regard to the total number of Commission votes in favor of dismissing Mrs. Bodger, Mr. O'Halloran, who made the phone calls, has stated that he reached only Mrs. Duggan, Judge Morgett, and Mrs. Steury.⁸⁹ Judge Morgett has affirmed that he was reached and voted in favor of dismissal.⁹⁰ Dr. Ralph Parker has affirmed that he was not polled, he did not vote for dismissal, and he had no knowledge of the vote until after the dismissal was accomplished.⁹¹

Mr. O'Halloran has told the Fact-Finding Subcommittee that Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman resigned from the Commission prior to the vote on Mrs. Bodger's dismissal.⁹² Rabbi Isserman, however, stated in a published interview with a reporter from *Wilson Library Bulletin* that "both as a liberal and as a human being" he voted against firing Mrs. Bodger.⁹³ Rabbi Isserman also told *Wilson Library Bul-*

letin that he has since resigned from the Commission without fanfare, in order not to add to the effect of the controversy on state policies.⁹⁴ The Fact-Finding Subcommittee was unable to interview Rabbi Isserman due to his ill health and hospitalization.

The Subcommittee concludes that there is strong evidence to indicate that there were six Commission members at the time of Mrs. Bodger's dismissal. Since only three members voted in favor of dismissing Mrs. Bodger, it is probable that there was not a majority vote in favor of dismissal.

After its telephone poll vote to dismiss Mrs. Bodger, the Commission took no further action until May 13, 1969. At a meeting on that date, attended by Mrs. Duggan, Mrs. Steury, Judge Morgett, and Mr. O'Halloran, the Commission formalized its dismissal of Mrs. Bodger, effective April 8, 1969, and indicated this action in its Minutes.⁹⁵ No tally of the vote was recorded.⁹⁶

During the period of March 21 through April 8, 1969, Mrs. Duggan and Dr. Parker made statements to the press which substantially confuse the issues in terms of the Commission's

intentions and the propriety of its dismissal of Mrs. Bodger.

On March 21, 1969, the Jefferson City *Post-Tribune* (the newspaper which initially attacked Mrs. Bodger) carried the following comments on pages 1 and 5:

... Dr. Ralph Parker, librarian at the University of Missouri who is a member of the Commission, explained that the Commission can hire or fire a state librarian who hires his own staff. Parker said dismissals must be handled the same way. ... Dr. Parker and Mrs. Jerome Duggan, who heads the Commission, said the final paragraph [of the attached Commission statement] *in no way meant that the dismissal of any employee was still under consideration.* ...

On April 8, 1969, the Jefferson City *Post-Tribune* published the following comments on page 1:

... Mrs. Duggan said the Commission decided March 20 to "terminate" Mrs. Bodger's employment with the Library. She said the firing was not immediate because Mrs. Bodger was working on projects which were not complete. ...

On the same day, the *Columbia Tribune* published the following comments on pages 1 and 2:

... Reached at her St. Louis home this afternoon, Mrs. Duggan explained that she had, indeed, refused to talk with Mrs. Bodger. ... "No one can argue by himself," Mrs. Duggan said. "I believe it was unnecessary to talk with her." ... Mrs. Duggan told the *Tribune* that *she was acting on behalf of the entire Commission*, which had decided on March 20 to fire Mrs. Bodger, but only after the children's consultant had finished one of her projects. ... Mrs. Duggan said the action was taken because Mrs. Bodger, in a letter to the editor of the *Tribune* published February 26, identified herself as a member of the State Library staff. ... The Commission president said the action was also taken because Mrs. Bodger, by her letter to the *Tribune*, had "involved," in a way, the library and the Commission in the business of the University of Missouri. ...

If the report of the conversations with Dr. Parker and Mrs. Duggan may be relied upon to be accurate, their statements give rise to serious questions of propriety in regard to the State Library Commission's dismissal of Mrs. Bodger. On the one hand, a Commission member states on March 21 that no further consideration will be given to terminating the members of the State Library staff involved in the incident. On the other hand, the president of the Commission publicly

contradicts this statement on April 8 and goes on to give previously determined grounds and intent to dismiss Mrs. Bodger. Dr. Parker's statement clearly says that the Commission does not have the authority to dismiss Mrs. Bodger, and that such authority rests with Mr. O'Halloran. Yet, the Commission did dismiss Mrs. Bodger.

Beyond the question of the State Library Commission's authority to dismiss Mrs. Bodger is the question of the method by which she was dismissed. She was denied any opportunity to petition the Commission; the Commission and the State Library have no grievance procedure which she could implement. She was denied notice; she received a letter of dismissal effective the day of receipt, thus denying the fundamental principles of due process. She was denied any compensatory salary. Her own letter of resignation, giving thirty days notice, was summarily dismissed by the Commission. Members of the Commission have stated to the Fact-Finding Subcommittee that each of these practices was without precedent in the history of the State Library Commission.

In assessing the role of the Missouri State Library Commission in the dismissal of Mrs. Bodger, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee concludes that:

1. The State Library Commission refused to consider as important the principles of intellectual freedom expressed in Mrs. Bodger's letter or in Mr. O'Halloran's statements to the Commission.

2. The Commission failed to establish an adequate acquisitions policy for the functioning of the State Library.

3. The Commission failed to make known to the State Library staff policies and procedures in regard to the use of State Library letterhead stationery.

4. The Commission acted hastily, without precedent, without authority, and without consideration for due process when it ordered the dismissal of Mrs. Joan Bodger.

(Only the members of the Missouri State Library Commission at the time of Mrs. Bodger's dismissal are the subject of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee's assessment. These include Judge Temple Morgett, Dr. Ralph Parker, Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman, Mrs. Frank Steury, Hubert Wheeler, and Mrs. Jerome Duggan, president. Due to the subsequent resignations

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from the Commission of Dr. Ralph Parker and Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman, the present composition of the Commission may include persons who had no part in the Commission's consideration of Mrs. Bodger's actions or dismissal.)

Regarding Dr. Ralph H. Parker

Dr. Ralph H. Parker, at the time of Mrs. Bodger's dismissal from the Missouri State Library, was dean of the University of Missouri School of Library and Information Science and acting director of the University of Missouri Library. As acting director of the University of Missouri Library, Dr. Parker served as an ex officio member of the State Library Commission.⁹⁷

Because he is a prominent member of the library profession and has a strong history of defense and support of intellectual freedom, Dr. Parker's role in the Missouri State Library Commission's dismissal of Mrs. Bodger has been the source of speculation and adverse criticism among professional librarians.⁹⁸

Specifically in regard to Mrs. Bodger's dismissal, the Subcommittee believes it is important to state that Dr. Parker was not reached in the telephone poll of the Commission conducted under Mrs. Duggan's directions. Therefore, he did not vote to dismiss Mrs. Bodger.⁹⁹ Dr. Parker was also absent from the May 13, 1969, meeting during which the Commission voted to formalize its termination of Mrs. Bodger's employment.¹⁰⁰

Dr. Parker, however, acting under Mrs. Duggan's direction, addressed the MLA Conference on October 4, 1969, delivering a statement concerning Mrs. Bodger's dismissal.¹⁰¹ The Fact-Finding Subcommittee, in accordance with Dr. Parker's wishes, did not question Dr. Parker concerning the address to MLA.¹⁰² Dr. Parker volunteered to the Subcommittee that his statement was an impromptu one, and that he was directed by the Commission to make the statement.¹⁰³ All other information about the statement has come to the Subcommittee from other sources. These include the published transcript of Dr. Parker's address, which appeared in the December 1969 *ALA Bulletin*,¹⁰⁴ and interviews with several members of MLA and one member of the Commission who were present at the time of the address.

When he met with the Subcommittee on April 29, 1970, Judge Temple

Morgett, current president of the State Library Commission, stated that the Commission now endorses Dr. Parker's statement with the exception of any reference to a phone call between Mrs. Bodger and Mrs. Duggan.¹⁰⁵ In effect, the Commission's failure to endorse this portion of Dr. Parker's address renders the entire address meaningless, since its purpose was to give the reasons and facts for Mrs. Bodger's dismissal.¹⁰⁶ The only reason given in the address was the nature of the content of the phone call. As the Subcommittee has established, the phone call occurred after the Commission had voted to reject Mrs. Bodger's resignation and fire her. Consequently, the phone call—whatever its content—could not have constituted the Commission's grounds for dismissal.

The Commission's endorsement of the rest of Dr. Parker's statement raises further questions as to the Commission's integrity because, as the Subcommittee has established, other portions of Dr. Parker's address are inaccurate. The questionable portions of Dr. Parker's statement include the following:

1. "The case of Joan Bodger had nothing whatever to do with the matters of censorship."¹⁰⁷

In the view of the Subcommittee, Mrs. Bodger's letter to the *Columbia Tribune* regarding the suppression of underground newspapers clearly involves "the matters of censorship" and the broad area of intellectual freedom.

2. "... but instead of simply being willing to turn in a letter of resignation and let it go through the normal course, she felt called upon to call up Mrs. Duggan. . . ."¹⁰⁸

Mrs. Bodger was perfectly willing to allow her letter of resignation to "go through the normal course." She submitted it to Mr. O'Halloran, her employer. Mr. O'Halloran then contacted the president of the Commission. The Commission, without consulting with Mrs. Bodger, rejected her letter of resignation and ordered her dismissal.¹⁰⁹ Mrs. Bodger did not feel "called upon to call up Mrs. Duggan" until after this sequence of events had occurred.

3. "There was never any question about whether the material belonged in the library. I think it should not be in a children's collection. But this is not the issue."¹¹⁰

The propriety of the Children's Examination Center collecting under-

ground newspapers such as the *Free Press Underground* was very much a question. It was most heavily debated in the press,¹¹¹ and appears to have been of great concern to political figures in Missouri.¹¹² Further, the Children's Examination Center is not only or primarily a "children's collection." The Center is intended for use by adults who work with children and adolescents. Therefore, its collection ranges widely among pedagogical and popular publications for and about young people.¹¹³ To date, the State Library does not collect underground newspapers and never has. The state librarian told the Subcommittee that there are no plans for collecting such materials in the near future.¹¹⁴ The Subcommittee views the question about whether the material belonged in the State Library as one of the principal issues in the entire incident.

4. "... but I do know that not one single member of the Commission was ever interrogated regarding the incident. . . ."¹¹⁵

Statements [quoted on p. 700 of this report] attributed to Dr. Parker and Mrs. Duggan, appeared in the *Jefferson City Post-Tribune* and the *Columbia Tribune* on March 21 and April 8 and were cited as coming from interviews with the two members of the Commission. *Wilson Library Bulletin*, November 1969, reported an interview with Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman, who was a member of the Commission at the time of the incident.¹¹⁶ (Subsequent to Dr. Parker's address to MLA, the Fact-Finding Subcommittee invited all members of the Commission to meet with it and comment upon the Bodger incident. As stated previously, only Judge Morgett and Dr. Parker accepted the invitation.)

5. "... No member of the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the Missouri Library Association ever said one word or inquired of the State Library Commission regarding its activities until this petition, signed by twenty-four people, present here, was presented to the Commission this afternoon."¹¹⁷

Mrs. Helen Kreigh, past chairman of the MLA Intellectual Freedom Committee, presented to the Fact-Finding Subcommittee a copy of a proposed news release concerning the Bodger incident. The proposed release was read over the telephone to Mr. O'Halloran who requested that it not be released to the news media, either with or without his approval.¹¹⁸

1. Dr. Parker was not reached for the telephone vote to dismiss Mrs. Bodger, and he was not present at the May 13, 1969, meeting during which the Commission formalized her termination of employment. Therefore, he did not vote to dismiss Mrs. Bodger.

knowledge of the misinformation contained in his address to the MLA Conference cannot be determined by the Subcommittee.

Regarding the University of Missouri

As previously indicated, the question of whether the university administration did, in fact, remove *Free Press Underground* salesmen from the campus and whether the university administration called the county police and requested the arrest of the

The Subcommittee believes, however, that there is no question that the University of Missouri administration did remove specific issues of *New Left Notes* and *The Movement* from distribution in the student union. This point is not contested by persons interviewed or in the press.

Edwin Castagna, Florence DeHart, and Alex Allain, chairman, Fact-Finding Subcommittee, Intellectual Freedom Committee.



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NOTES

¹ At p. 4 of Joan Bodger's Request for Action, December 7, 1969, she states, under question #4: "This is a formal complaint against MLA, MSL, and the Commission." In Mrs. Bodger's addenda to p. 4, question #3 [labeled "Section II, #3, (4)"], she states: "That the State University was abridging free expression made it all the more incumbent that the State Library should redress the balance. . . ."

² At p. 4 of Joan Bodger's Request for Action, December 7, 1969, under question #4, she states that she would consider a satisfactory resolution of the problem to include: ". . . A professional knucklerrapping of Parker, et al. . . . An investigation into . . . the Commission's . . . refusal to confront me. . . . An investigation into O'Halloran's role. . . . Why did he crumple so easily? Why did he refuse outside help or publicity? Is the cause of library freedom really helped by his action? . . ."

³ Letter to Mrs. Jerome Duggan, president, Missouri State Library Commission, January 22, 1970, from Mrs. Judith F. Krug, director, Office for Intellectual Freedom.

⁴ Letters and questionnaires to Mrs. Jerome Duggan, et al, February 27, 1970, from Alex P. Allain, chairman, Investigating Committee, ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee.

⁵ Notes, Meeting of IFC Subcommittee investigating the Bodger case, Monday, April 6, 1970.

⁶ Letters to Mrs. Jerome Duggan, et al, April 14, 1970, from Mrs. Judith F. Krug, director, Office for Intellectual Freedom.

⁷ Letter to Mrs. Judith F. Krug, April 20, 1970, from John Herbst.

⁸ Statement from Doris Bolef and Elsie Freivogel, March 10, 1970, to Mr. Alex Allain, chairman, re: Missouri Association of College and Research Libraries Resolution, April 26, 1969, concerning dismissal of Joan Bodger, children's consultant, State Library, Columbia, Missouri.

⁹ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Susanna Alexander.

¹⁰ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Nina Ladof.

¹¹ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Helen Kreigh.

¹² Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Rosetta Bullard.

¹³ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran.

¹⁴ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski.

¹⁵ Transcript of Meeting with James Leathers.

¹⁶ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Joan Goddard.

¹⁷ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker.

¹⁸ Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett.

¹⁹ Summary of Meeting with W. DeJohn.

²⁰ The facts established by the Subcommittee concerning the incident between the Students for a Democratic Society and the administration of the University of Missouri are essentially the same as those reported in *Wilson Library Bulletin*, November 1969, p. 270.

The selective description of events used by the Subcommittee in its report includes only statements which were confirmed by Dr. Ralph H. Parker and Mrs. Joan Goddard.

One major point of contention in the various reports of the incident involves the question of whether or not a member of the University of Missouri administration requested that the Columbia police arrest the student salesmen. Dr. Parker asserts that the administration did not do so. Mrs. Goddard asserts that the administration did.

²¹ "Banish the stargazers?" Letter to the Editor, *Columbia Tribune*, February 26, 1969.

²² Transcripts of Meeting with Mrs. Susanna Alexander, pp. 9-12; Charles O'Halloran, pp. 2, 8-9.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 2; also various clippings from Missouri newspapers verify that letters protesting Mrs. Bodger's stand were published.

²⁵ Missouri State Library Commission, March 11, 1969, Minutes, p. 2. Also see Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 4; Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1; and Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, p. 1.

²⁶ "A Statement Regarding the Letter by Mrs. Joan Bodger," *Columbia Tribune*, Charles O'Halloran, state librarian. Also see Transcripts of meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 4; Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 2.

²⁷ Missouri State Library Commission, March 11, 1969, Minutes, p. 2.

²⁸ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, p. 1.

²⁹ Statement by Charles O'Halloran (given to the Commission on March 20, 1969); also see Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment.

³⁰ Summary of meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 2. Also see *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1562, for Dr. Parker's statement to the MLA Conference.

³¹ Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 1.

³² Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Nina Ladof, p. 1; from typed statement presented.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

³⁴ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 5.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 5. Also see Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 3.

³⁶ Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, pp. 3-4.

³⁷ Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 4. Also see Transcript of Meeting with Mrs.

Rosetta Bullard, p. 1; from typed statement presented.

³⁸ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6. Also see Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 4.

³⁹ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6.

⁴⁰ Letter to Mrs. Joan Bodger, April 8, 1969, from Charles O'Halloran: "At the direction of the Missouri State Library Commission this is to notify you that your employment by the Missouri State Library is terminated as of 5:00 p.m. this day, April 8, 1969."

⁴¹ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6.

⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 6. Confirmed by Dr. Ralph H. Parker. See Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, pp. 2-3.

⁴³ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 6. Confirmed in Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 4.

⁴⁶ Work Sheet, Joan Bodger, p. 4. Confirmed by Mr. O'Halloran. See Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 7.

⁴⁷ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Rosetta Bullard, p. 1; from typed statement presented.

⁴⁸ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561. Confirmed by Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski. See Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski, p. 1; from typed statement presented.

⁴⁹ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561.

⁵⁰ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561. Confirmed by Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski and Dr. Ralph H. Parker. See Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Bernadine Hoduski, p. 1; typed statement presented; and, Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1.

⁵¹ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561.

⁵² Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1.

⁵³ Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, pp. 3-4.

⁵⁴ Transcripts of Meetings with Mrs. Susanna Alexander, pp. 9-12; and Charles O'Halloran, pp. 2, 8-9.

⁵⁵ "Library Commission Leaves Unanswered Questions," *Jefferson City Post-Tribune*, March 26, 1969.

⁵⁶ A comparison of newspaper articles such as the one cited at footnote #55 will show that, prior to March 20, 1969, "obscenity" was the issue. After March 20, 1969, "intrusion" became an issue.

⁵⁷ Compare A Statement of Position from Joan Bodger, Consultant, Children's Services, State Library of Missouri, April 7, 1969, to "Banish the stargazers?" Letter to the Editor, *Columbia Tribune*, February 26, 1969.

⁵⁸ See page 696 of this report.

⁵⁹ See pages 696-97 of this report.

⁶⁰ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment.

⁶¹ A Statement Regarding the Letter by Mrs. Joan Bodger in the *Columbia Tribune*, Charles O'Halloran, State Li-

brarian, p. 1.

⁶² Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, pp. 8-10; and Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph Parker, p. 2.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, Morgett, pp. 8-10; and Parker, p. 2.

⁶⁴ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ A Statement of Position from Joan Bodger, etc., p. 1.

⁶⁷ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment.

⁶⁸ See three statements by Charles O'Halloran: #1: A Statement Regarding the Letter by Mrs. Joan Bodger . . . , #2: "There are really only three basic issues. . . .", and #3: Statement by Charles O'Halloran.

⁶⁹ See p. 695 of this report.

⁷⁰ Missouri State Library Commission, March 11, 1969, Minutes, p. 1.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

⁷² Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 1. Also see Transcripts of Meetings with Charles O'Halloran, pp. 1-2; Mrs. Susanna Alexander, pp. 4-5; and Judge Temple Morgett, p. 7.

⁷⁵ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Susanna Alexander, pp. 4-5. See also Letter from Joan Bodger, April 10, 1970, to Mrs. Judith F. Krug.

⁷⁶ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 1.

⁷⁸ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment. See also Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 2; Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, p. 10.

⁷⁹ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, pp. 10-11.

⁸⁰ Missouri State Library Commission, March 20, 1969, Minutes, Attachment.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*

⁸² Compare Mr. O'Halloran's statement with the Commission's final press release. Pertinent sections from Mr. O'Halloran's statements are incorporated, with quotation marks, into the Commission's press release.

⁸³ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 2; Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, p. 1.

This statement, although confirmed in the press by Mrs. Duggan and Dr. Parker, on March 21, 1969, was refuted by later statements to the press by Mrs. Duggan, who said that the plan was to fire Mrs. Bodger after she completed all her projects. See this report, pp. 699-700.

⁸⁴ See this report, p. 700.

⁸⁵ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, pp. 4-5.

⁸⁶ A Statement of Position from Joan Bodger, Consultant, Children's Services, State Library of Missouri, April 7, 1969, p. 2.

⁸⁷ Transcript of Meeting with Charles

O'Halloran, p. 6; and, Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, pp. 2-3.

⁸⁸ Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, p. 13.

⁸⁹ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6.

⁹⁰ Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, pp. 14-15.

⁹¹ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, pp. 2-3.

⁹² Mr. O'Halloran, at p. 6 of his Transcript, states that: "The Rabbi had, by that time, resigned from the Commission so he was no longer being counted as one of the Commission members."

Judge Morgett, at p. 4 of his Transcript, states that: "I believe that Rabbi Isserman had resigned by that time because he told us, after that last meeting in March, that his health was such that he wouldn't be able to make trips to and from Jefferson City. . . . And I don't remember whether he actually tendered it prior to this action or not. . . ."

In a letter, May 20, 1970, the Office for Intellectual Freedom requested from Mr. O'Halloran a copy of Isserman's resignation. Mr. O'Halloran responded on May 22 and enclosed a Memorandum, dated April 22, 1969 which includes this note:

"I have resigned from the Library Commission and the governor has accepted my resignation. . . . Kindest regards. F. M. Isserman." Mr. O'Halloran concludes that the rabbi's resignation was probably effective sometime around April 1, 1969.

The OIF also contacted Rabbi Isserman to confirm the date of resignation, but received no response. Consequently, the question remains unanswered.

⁹³ *Wilson Library Bulletin*, November 1969, p. 266. Confirmed in telephone conversation with William Eshelman, editor, *Wilson Library Bulletin*, May 20, 1970.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*

⁹⁵ Missouri State Library Commission, May 13, 1969, Minutes. Confirmed by Dr. Parker and Judge Temple Morgett.

⁹⁶ Missouri State Library Commission, May 13, 1969, Minutes. See Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, p. 13, for confirmation of lack of tally.

⁹⁷ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561.

⁹⁸ *Wilson Library Bulletin*, November 1969, p. 274: "Ralph H. Parker . . . failed to take any action to defend the students' right of free speech on campus. As a member of the State Library Commission, there is no evidence to indicate that he voted in favor of retaining Mrs. Bodger. . . ."

Library Journal, December 15, 1969, p. 4469: "'The Hayakawa Award for Functional Semantics' to Ralph H. Parker, for his statement at the Missouri Library Association that 'the case of Joan Bodger had nothing to do with the matter of censorship . . . ' but that Bodger was fired for her language during a telephone call that occurred after she had been terminated from the Mis-

souri State Library."

⁹⁹ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, pp. 2-3. Confirmed by Charles O'Halloran. See Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 6.

¹⁰⁰ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 6. Confirmed by Missouri State Library Commission, May 13, 1969, Minutes, p. 1.

¹⁰¹ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1. See statement delivered to MLA Conference by Dr. Parker in *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561+.

¹⁰² Dr. Parker requested this agreement in a Letter, April 3, 1970, to Alex Allain, chairman of the Fact-Finding Subcommittee. Mr. Allain agreed to the request in a Letter, April 16, 1970, to Dr. Ralph H. Parker.

¹⁰³ Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, p. 1.

¹⁰⁴ See footnote #101 for citation.

¹⁰⁵ Transcript of Meeting with Judge Temple Morgett, pp. 2-4.

¹⁰⁶ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1561.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 1562.

¹⁰⁹ Transcript of Meeting with Mr. O'Halloran, p. 6.

¹¹⁰ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1562.

¹¹¹ Various press clippings confirm the newspaper coverage of the Bodger incident.

¹¹² Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, p. 8; Summary of Meeting with Dr. Ralph H. Parker, pp. 1, 3-4.

¹¹³ Transcripts of Meetings with Mrs. Susanna Alexander, pp. 1-2; and Charles O'Halloran, pp. 1-2.

¹¹⁴ Transcript of Meeting with Charles O'Halloran, pp. 16-18.

¹¹⁵ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1562.

¹¹⁶ Articles from the press.

¹¹⁷ *ALA Bulletin*, December 1969, p. 1562.

¹¹⁸ Transcript of Meeting with Mrs. Helen Kreigh, p. 1; from typed statement presented.

Action

The ALA Executive Board approved the following actions on June 29, 1970:

1. That "Findings" and "Commentary on the Facts" of the Bodger Report, with relevant documentation, be distributed to Mrs. Joan Bodger, Mr. Charles O'Halloran, Dr. Ralph H. Parker, Judge Temple Morgett (in his capacity as president of the Missouri State Library Commission), and Mr. James Leathers (in his capacity as president of the Missouri Library Association).

2. That "Findings" and "Commentary on the Facts" be published in the July-August issue of *American Libraries*. □□□