

File Canadian Free Library

Toronto March 7th '12

S. C. Swift M.A.

Dear Sir.,

I have not preserved a copy of my letter to Mr Johnson, but I feel quite sure I do not charge your "Board" with breach of contract, it runs in my mind that if that charge was made it comes from the Winnipeg contributors, but I have no hesitation at all in charging you with a woful want of "business acumen" to lightly throw away a sum of money annually amounting to the interest on \$15,000.00, and for what for the sake of purchasing a machine whivh could have been stored away with a little oil on it and been in good condition any time you wanted to use it.

The only contract figuring in the matter is on the reverse of this letter, this you saw and passed and I sent hundreds throughout the west and I often use those left ever to write my reports on.

The gross amount received from Winnipeg was \$1061.00 net \$800- as you state.

Your Board will of course take any action it chooses in this or in any other respect, but for myself I utterly repudiate any responsibility for such action based on your statement that "this is the only honorable course which your action ~~has~~ in this matter has left for us to pursue", I may say moreover that if my services on behalf of the Library are to be stultified in this way, if half the income necessary to the support of the Library can be so lightly given up then in my opinion your "Board" has no adequate idea of the quality or quantity of the work required to be done and there is no encouragement for me to continue in the work. If I am in Toronto at the time you meet I shall be pleased to attend, in conclusion I may say I am beginning to suspect a little want

S.C.Swift M.A.

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of proper appreciation of my services, you should understand the difficulty of the work from the result of your own efforts, you have advertised liberally, you have endeavored to show the public the great draw back of "commissions " against the fund and how much more desirable it would be to send contributions to the Officers direct, with what result? \$700-, \$900- or \$2000.00 a year?, I do not think so.

I confirm all I wrote to Mr Johnstone, I go further and say I doubt very much if you are justified in giving up any portion of the Library"s income, and in this connection it is to be noted that the list ~~I have worked up to~~ during the years past, is a list of yearly subscribers to the support of the Library , and you will find their names with the same amounts opposite them every year.

Yours truly

Arthur G. Galt

W H O W I L L H E L P ?

In November 1906 a few citizens of Ontario - themselves blind and who possessed amongst them 190 volumes printed in -Point - incorporated the First Free Circulating Library for the Blind in Canada. Beginning with these few books, a membership of 27 and a book issue of 982 Volumes, the library has grown by leaps and bounds, and now has a book issue of over 10,000 Vols., largely educational. Its members are scattered all over the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans, applications for the use of the books are coming in from widely distant parts of Canada and the supply of books is inadequate. The use of the library is absolutely free to all wherever residing in the Dominion; the books are carried by the Post Office Dept. to and from the members free of all expense, and the library is doing much good to a large number of our fellow citizens who are as deserving as they are unfortunate.

One very serious drawback to the utility of the library is the cost of the books, bought in the United States or in England, being printed in Point they are expensive, averaging at least \$4.00 per Vol., this difficulty could be overcome if the library owned a tactile press, cost about \$700.00. With this machine four books could be printed where now they buy one. The Institution is heartily endorsed by Canada's leading men and by the Press throughout the country.

Who will help to buy this Tactile Press? Contributions will be received and thankfully acknowledged by the Library's official Collector and Agent, Mr. A. Gate, 367 Delaware Ave., Toronto, Ont., who will be glad also to answer any enquiries.