

May 13, 1975

The Laurens Library Board met with the following members present: Chm. Joe Halterman, Mattie Kruel, Frances Hakes, Pat Harms, Glenn Kees, Jeanne Cowan, Lulu Cook, Dolores Robinson, and Evelyn Pitluck and Earl Dwyer. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

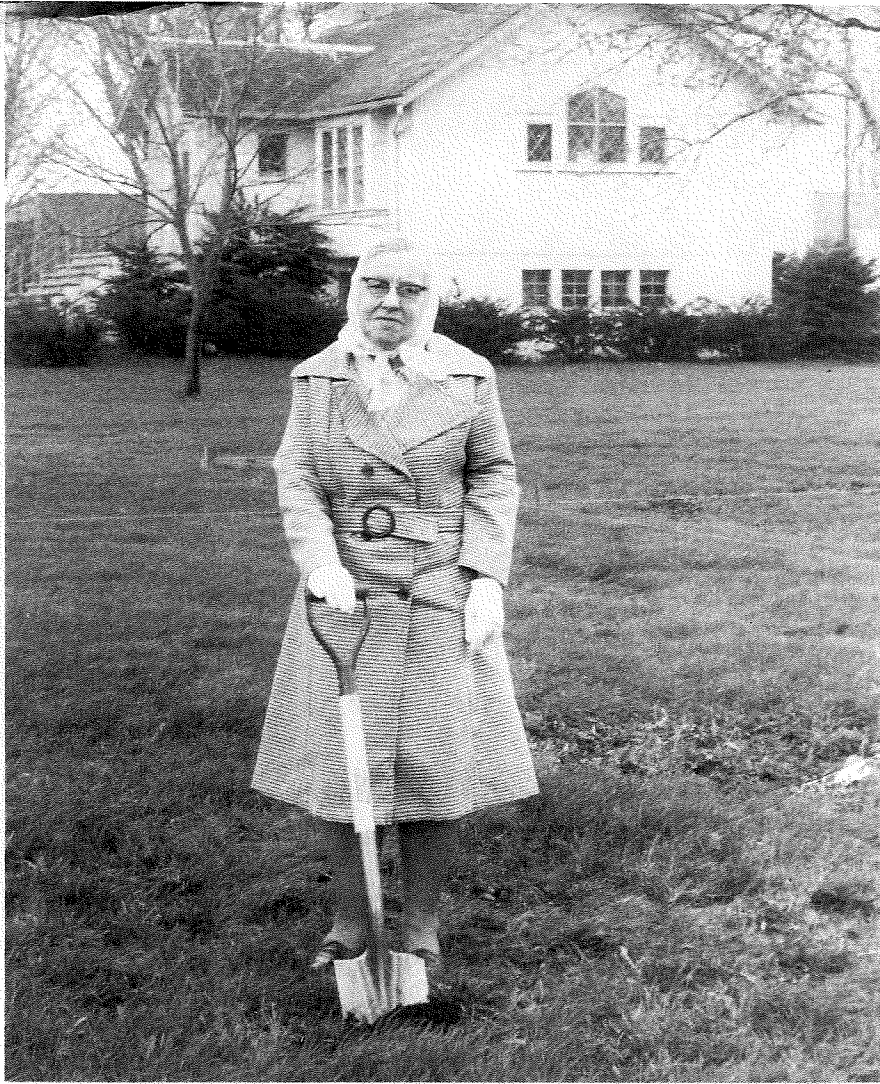
Frances Hakes moved and Earl Dwyer seconded that the following bills be paid:

Mrs. Ron Harms - shovel	\$ 6.48
Farmers Coop	75.48
Reynertsen's	4.96
Don's Cloverfarm	6.05
National Geo. Society	8.15
Iowan - 2 yr. subscription	13.00
Means Service Center	6.26
General Learning Corp.	8.60
Laurens Municipal Utilities	15.78
Ranger Rick	37.00
Book of the Month Club	10.86
Crolier Year Book, Inc.	9.60
Iowa State Univ. Press	4.84
Mrs. Clarence Siepker - cleaning	20.25
Molls Educational Bks. & Toys	135.04
Pocahontas History Sales	19.00
Baker & Taylor Co.	32.94
Newsweek	8.64
Northwestern Bell Telephone	18.73
Pocahontas Public Library-mileage	10.50
North Iowa Library Extension	53.44
Silver Burdette Co.	6.60
Postmaster, Laurens - stamps	5.00

Payroll

Leota Olson	92.25
June Hansen	111.00
Delaine Wurr	16.50
Lulu Cook	250.00
Dolores Robinson	15.00
Petty Cash	18.55
Bank Balance	820.59

A discussion was held on the groundbreaking ceremony held Wednesday, May 7, 1975. Pres. Joe Halterman welcomed everyone there and introduced Mrs. Frances Hakes who gave a talk on behalf of the Library Board. Mr. Elof Blomgren turned the first shovel of dirt, assisted by many others who turned shovels of dirt, including Eric Blomgren, and Ellen Blomgren. A sister, Thea Blomgren, was unable to attend. All members of the City Council, with, except Fred Gilchrist and Arne Hersom, along with members of the Library Board, with Fred Ekstam missing as he was out-of-town, were there, along with members of the different organizations that helped ~~xxx~~ raise money for our new Library. This included persons such as Joyce Rigby, chairman of the committee to raise funds for the library, her committee members, Mrs. Lynette Ziegler, Virginia Hodges, Helen Ducommun, Eloise Stewart, Marce ~~RUSSEY~~ Bussey, Dorothy Dean. These girls represented the different organizations in Laurens, such as Women's Club, Progressive Club, and Wo-Tan-Ya. Dolores Robinson, Leota Oleson, and many others were also there. Neil Maurer and Dave Weiss from the Sun Office were there



Mrs. Lulu Cook, Librarian
Groundbreaking for new library
May 7, 1975

Speech given by Frances Hakes at the groundbreaking of the Library.

It is a pleasure and an honor for me to represent the members of the Laurens Library Board on this great occasion. It is a great occasion for them, because for years they have been looking forward to a new Library.

The old building built in 1909 has served well and ~~now~~ we have all been proud of the fact that Laurens was at one time the smallest town in the U.S. with a Carnegie Library.

But it became increasingly difficult to maintain good library service and Laurens deserves the best. Therefore, we are gathered here today for the ground-breaking ceremony for a new building.

This is not the work of one man or one woman or one pair of hands or one mind, but the assembled efforts of the entire community. On behalf of the Board, I want to thank first, the Blomgrens, whose generous contribution made this day possible. I want to thank Mayor Oleson and the town council for their cooperation and helpful suggestions at all times. I want to thank Mrs. Joyce Rigby and the Woman's Club, The Wa-Tan-Ya Club and other organizations, as well as businessmen for the outstanding entertainment at the Carnival which brought in welcome dollars. I want to thank the Progressive Club for already giving toward furniture for the children's section of the new Library. I want to thank the Kinney-Lindstrom Foundation of Mason City who recognize the need of new libraries for which they have contributed. I want to thank old friends and new friends and all those who sent in donations no matter what denomination. All were gratefully received. But particularly, I want to thank the citizens of this community, the voters, who gave the go-ahead at the last election.

A tribute to the Librarian, Mrs. Cook, and her staff is given for all the extra work this project entailed.

May the new building serve as a monument to the future and for the use of generations to come.

The members of the Board are Mattie Krueel, Pat Harms, Jeanne Cowan, Evelyn Pitluck, Joe Halterman, Pres., Earl Dwyer, Clemm Kees, Fred Ekstam, and Frances Hakes.

Today their dream has come true.