Future City Envisioned
By Speakers At Meet Of
Men's And Women's Clubs

Rabbi Wolf Says City Needs Non-Partisan Government
C. H. Milam Makes Plea for Central Library—Edward
Hungerford Suggests Stone Bridge To Eliminate
East Avenue Grade Crossing.

Visions of a future Rochester more
tiful, more cultured, and better served
by officials and citizens than today, were given
by four speakers at a joint meeting of
the Women's and Men's City Clubs at
Powers Hotel at noon today. The
meeting was in charge of Mrs. Helen
B. Montgomery, president of the Women's
Club, and Professor Justin
Nixon, president of the Men's Club,
and, as the unfavorable weather
forced the attendance of many
men and women.

The four speakers were Carl H.
Milam, secretary of the American Library
Association, who discussed "A Central Library;
Mrs. Helen B. Montgomery, who spoke on "What Kind of Citizens?"; Rabbi
Horace J. Wolf, who spoke on "What Kind of
Government Rochester Should Have"; and
Mrs. Olive Probst Montgomery, who talked on "Kind
of a Library." The discussions were
followed by a short question period.

Mr. Milam said Rochester
sounded the need for Central Library.
"As the city grows, more and
more will be needed in the way of
libraries, and I believe that
a central library is an absolute
necessity," he said.

Mrs. Montgomery said that,
while the city is growing, the
people are growing, too.
"We need more libraries, and
we need them now," she said.
Mr. Milam said that the city
is growing, and he thinks that
we need more libraries, and
we need them now," he said.

Rabbi Wolf said that Central
Library is an absolute necessity.
"We need more libraries, and
we need them now," he said.

Mr. Milam said that the city
is growing, and he thinks that
we need more libraries, and
we need them now," he said.
Mayor And City Librarian Favor Spring Street Site For Central Library Building

Say Site Fronting on New Boulevard Would Be Ideal for Library and Art Gallery Building Which Would Be Combined Memorial to Reynolds Family and Morton W. Rundel—Convenient for Public.

The plot of ground between Spring street and the new boulevard which is being built over the bed of the Erie canal, now occupied by the Northern Tier and other cities and the problem has been worked out and the satisfaction of all concerned and to the great benefit of the public. Mayor Arun, this morning, that he believed the present Reynolds site in Spring street would be ideal for a building.

"I believe the opening of the new boulevard will shift the Four Corners to the west so that the Reynolds site will be practically in the center of the city. It would be served on both sides and yet would not be in a position to be annoyed by the din of surface cars. I wish that the plans for the combination of the Rundel and Reynolds funds could be worked out.

Dr. Charles A. Dewey, trustee and chairman of the Reynolds Library Board, said this morning that the proposal to combine the two funds and to place the central library building on the Spring street site had never been officially presented to the Reynolds trustees and therefore could not be discussed by them.

The board of trustees of Reynolds Library is composed of Dr. Max Barbour, Dr. Charles A. Dewey, Dr. H. R. Taylor, Dr. Rush Rhees, Dr. C. A. Dewey, E. G. Miner, central library trustee, Granger A. Holister, John R. Sierch, Edward Harris, C. Schuyler Davis and Mortimer R. Armstrong.

Dr. Rush Rhees and Edward G. Miner are also trustees of the Rochester Memorial Art Gallery, and Mayor Van Zandt is president of both the Reynold and the other members, besides Dr. Rhees and Mr. Miner are Charles A. Linn, James A. Barbour and Charles F. Moynan.

Central Library Needed.

In his annual message to the Common Council Mayor Van Zandt calls attention to the need of a Central Library. While stating that the city lacks the funds to proceed at once toward building and equipping such a library he makes the following concrete suggestions:

That the city provide a site for a central library.

That a building fund be provided by combining the Rundel fund and the Reynolds library fund, if such a plan is feasible.

That a definite proposal be made to the Reynolds library to co-operate with the city in the establishment of a central library, co-operation along similar lines having worked out satisfactorily in other cities.

In making these suggestions Mayor Van Zandt gives official recognition to one of the city's great needs. A central library is the crown and capstone of a city's educational system.

Branch libraries are useful and convenient and have been well patronized. They cannot, however, furnish the books and trained staff to serve the needs of the student or reader who wishes to get to the bottom of a given subject or range widely over the field of literature.

Yet it is just this intensive study or wide culture that it is most to the interest of the city to make available to its residents.

That the co-operation of existing foundations should be sought for a plan common sense. In New York the Astor and Lenox libraries added their collections and resources to the creation of the great central public library. The same plan has been worked out in other cities.

Education does not end with formal schooling. A library is one of the best means of enabling the ambitious to repair the defects in their early training.

Thomas Edison, the great inventor, stands out in most people's minds as a type of man capable of original thought, with wonderful natural ability to see what others have overlooked. Yet his biographers tell us that before Edison begins independent research he invariably reads everything bearing upon the matter in hand.

The pace of modern progress is largely due to the fact that through preserving a printed record knowledge once gained is retained and serves as a foundation for further advance.

A city which fails to provide a central reservoir of books is denying its ablest minds the tools which work.

Rochester should and must have a central library.

W. J. Brown, Rochester, April 19, 1923.

Would Put Central Library At South Ave. And Court St.; Scholaistic Gothic In Style

Assemblyman Adler Suggests Tall, Rather Narrow Building Like the D. & H. Building in Albany—Would Have Light From All Sides and Make Unnecessary Purchase of Land by City.

Everyone is talking Central Library nowadays and the latest and one of the most promising is a plan coming from Simon L. Adler, Republican leader in the Assembly, who is back in the city from Albany for a flying weekend trip.

Should Mr. Adler's suggestions materialize the Central Library will be situated at Court street and South avenue and will be a tall, rather narrow building, in the Scholaistic Gothic style of architecture, which the D. & H. building in Albany is one of the finest examples in the country.

"I can see many advantages in this plan," said Mr. Adler discussing the matter with a reporter for The Times Union this morning. "There is first and foremost the fact that such a site would be central, probably as central as any site which could be picked in the city. It would face directly on the new street and the people of this city don't yet realize what a wonderful thoroughfare that new street is going to be.

"Facing on the river across the new boulevard the building would have a position equal to that of the other great buildings of the city, an elevation of light, all the more as the city's present plans of course include the widening of the street.

"There is no doubt that a beautiful building, a building which would be a credit to the city and to the citizens and a structure of architectural significance, could be put up on this site.

"I put forward the idea for what it is worth and to stimulate general discussion of the subject among the people. The more they talk over the different plans which may be advanced the more interest they will take in seeing that the best possible plan is agreed upon eventually."

Mr. Adler declined to be quoted regarding his plan until the consent of Mayor Van Zandt had been obtained and when this was asked, Mr. Van Zandt said:

"Go ahead, go ahead, the more there is in the papers and in the conversation of the people about the central library, wherever it is situated, the better off we shall all be."
Gives Principles To Guide Choice Of New Library Site
Librarian Yust Says Building Should Be Object Lesson in Architecture—Should Be Accessible, Should Have Dignified Setting and Approach—Rochester Is Behind Every Large City in This Respect.

City Librarian Charles F. Yust, in the following letter to the Times Union, sets forth some pertinent facts to be considered in connection with the selection of a site for the new public library. In the first place due consideration should be given to the strong influence which the architecture of public buildings has on the ideas and ideals of the people. This applies especially to a library on account of the nature of its contents. We call it the dwelling place of books, the product of the master minds of the ages, and as the public library is the people’s university.

The library building therefore should strike the observer less as a place of architecture, beautiful, dignified, impressive, permanent. It should give the impression that it is an educational institution, not only identified with the instruction and development of the people and their daily assistance that books can do, but also showing for all that is noblest and best in the life of the community.

It should be located where it will best fulfill its purposes. In locating it the following points should be considered:

1. Accessibility. It should be near the center of the population to be served. It should be remembered also that this center of population may shift in the course of time. It should be on or near the great thoroughfares or thoroughfares of the city. Nearness to intersecting street car lines is desirable, though if they are too near, the noise will interfere.

2. Approach. Sufficient ground on all sides is desirable, but especially in front to provide a dignified setting and approach. There are library buildings, however, which adjoin the sidewalk. This has the advantage of greater convenience to passers-by and affords better advertising possibilities, but it detracts from the architectural effect.

3. Distance. Distance is necessary to the appreciation of a monumental building such as a library should be.

4. Light and Air. The location should be high and dry with ample space around it to admit an abundance of natural light and fresh air. This forbids the nearness of high buildings or large chimneys emitting smoky smoke or gases.

5. Growth. There should be room for addition to the building without impairing its architectural appearance or impairing its administration.

It may be in the center or on the boundary line between the two. Most of the large cities of the country have chosen the center, perhaps because there is a suitable site was more easily available or they have compromised on an intermediate location. This is gaining ground that the library is most useful close to the street in the very heart of the business section, because there it makes a stronger appeal to the man in the street than it does in a residence section at a greater distance from the passing crowd. This is one way of bringing the library to the attention of the people and projecting it into their daily thought.

This principle has had much weight in locating some of our present branch library quarters.

4. Relation to other buildings. It is desirable for it to stand on its own ground, to be independent of other buildings and institutions, such as the city hall, a school, a business house etc. This adds to its appearance, ease of administration and safety from fire. It may well be one of a group of public buildings, such as a school, an art gallery, as in the modern city, which is the best. Distance among such buildings has an important effect on the position it occupies in the minds of the people.

5. Cost. It is next in order. In securing a library site the cost of land is another important factor, which may have a modifying influence on any of these points. The opportunity for Rochester to obtain a suitable library site cheap is gone forever. It is still possible to obtain a good site, but it will cost money and a good round sum. It should be the best the city can afford. On the other hand the city can afford the best. It should not be content with anything else.

The city of Rochester does not possess a single building erected for library purposes. In this respect it is behind every other large city in the country, and behind many of the smaller villages in this state. Having waited so long for this important development the city should insist on a building that will be a model from the standpoint of architecture and administration. Such a building will be possible only if a site is especially selected for that purpose.

More Branches Needed.
The library now has a few more branches, better branches and a central library, the report adds. Instead of the branches we should have fifteen. The others are needed in the following sections:

The Park avenue section of the 12th ward; the Seneca parkway section of the 10th ward; the Canal road section of the 19th ward; the Clinton ave. section of the 10th ward; the Highland Park section of the 13th ward; the South street ward.

For twelve years these sections have been paying for branch libraries in other parts of the city but they have had none of their own. The front building is known as a branch building. They do not need to be terms of learning, but they should at least have the stamp of responsibility. They might well be objects lesson in architecture, expresses of what is noblest and best in the life of the community. No other building in this town can compete with its beauty, its utility, its relation to the public buildings. There are buildings where the library buildings which have been remodelled and adapted to the needs of the times, but there are no better branches.

A central library and a central building need of Rochester today. Rochester is unique and must be different. It is the only large city in the United States without a central library. This is true not only for cities of its own size but even for cities as small as 50,000. For years we took comfort in the fact that in this respect Albany was also in our place. Now even Albany has opened our eyes, our companionship, leaving Rochester behind and alone in its indifference to this question.

There is a wide-spread conviction that the establishment of a central library should not be delayed longer but should be undertaken with the greatest dispatch. This has been intended in the library's budget report in the last session, but we are disappointed with which both a Central Library and a Central Building.

This is not due to the maintenance appropriation of having set aside money to make per capita allowances only 40 cents per person. This has had the effect of what other cities are doing, modest in view of the city's ability and very modest in view of Rochester's boasted pre-eminence. In the words of a famous writer of 1895:

The Convention Hall site is another possibility. This would be peculiarly appropriate if the library was made a memorial library, since the hall was reconstructed out of the old arsenal and faces the Civil War monument.

The abandonment of the University's plans for further building on the present campus makes the erection of a central library there flanking the Memorial Art Gallery, a suggestion in many ways admirable since with the inevitable further eastward moving of the city's center of population the site will for many years increase in convenience.

Other sites may be suggested, but all should be considered with Mr. Yust's conditions in mind. Those who have ideas on the subject are invited to make them known at once through the Democrat and Chronicle, for action on the project should be taken at once. If the site selected is ill placed or in other ways inadequate the whole city of the future will suffer.

The Library Site.

The city should act at once to acquire an adequate site for a central library. The Mayor has recommended action and action is demanded by common sense, for the longer the city waits the higher the price will be obliged to pay.

Quick action should prevent the city getting a site that is wholly adequate, but the conditions of a wholly adequate site were admirably set forth by the City Librarian in a statement published in this paper last Friday. Accepting his conditions, since Mr. Yust is recognized as one of the best qualified public librarians in the country, public sentiment should at once be directed to actual selection.

Arnold Brunner and Frederick Law Olmstead in 1911 suggested the east side of North Union street, between Main street east and University avenue, facing Anderson Park. Their suggestion has not been improved upon, since the site is near the center of the city's population, is served by car lines on two main streets and faces a park which affords an adequate approach to a building of noble architecture such as the library must be. Part of this site, however, has been acquired for a large apartment house, so that the city must move quickly if it is to acquire it.

The east side of Franklin Square also has been suggested. With the contemplated street improvements in that section completed, it would well serve the purpose.
Central Library Project
Discussed At Round-Table
Women's City Club Adopts Resolutions, Offering Cooperation—Dr. John R. Slater Says Some of Proposals Are Impractical—Leroy Snyder Declares Picking of Right Site Is Important.

Through the efforts of the Women's City Club, a group of prominent citizens of Rochester, the citizens of Rochester were persuaded at a round-table discussion of the central library project, held in the clubrooms of the City Hospital.

In addition to the talks of members of the club, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, that it is desirable to bring into conference on the central library project representative of all interested groups, including the Rochester Public Library, Reynolds Library and trustees charged with the administration of the fund, in order that the chairman of this meeting be empowered to appoint a committee to further such conferences and to recommend to the City Council.

Resolved, that this group congratulate the Mayor of the City of Rochester in his public interest in the project of a central library, and that we offer our cooperation in furthering the same.

The discussion was opened by Dr. John R. Slater, head of the department of sculpture at the University of Rochester. Mr. Slater made a short talk on the library and its usefulness. He said that Rochester had a need for a better library, and that the city should do something about it. Mr. Slater then discussed the existing library and the need for a new one.

Mr. Rundell, the chairman of the committee, then talked on the question of site. He said that the site chosen for the new library was the best possible, and that it would be a great asset to the city.

Mr. Rundell also discussed the question of financing the library. He said that the city should be able to raise the necessary funds, and that the library would be a good investment for the city.

Mr. Rundell then proposed that the City Council be asked to consider the matter, and that a committee be appointed to make a thorough study of the question.

The meeting adjourned at about nine o'clock.

Meantime it is the privilege of the Rochester Public Library to fill the position of the most distinguished public library in the world. As it is in the purpose of this discussion to determine the location of the central library, it is to be understood that the present discussion should be confined to the question of location only.

The question of the advisability of a central library in any particular city has always been a matter of controversy. Some people believe that the public is sufficiently well served by the existing libraries, and that a central library is not necessary. Others believe that the public is not well served by the existing libraries, and that a central library is necessary.

There is no doubt that the public is well served by the existing libraries. However, there is also no doubt that the public is not well served by the existing libraries.

The question of a central library is not a question of building a new library. The question is a question of how the public is to be served by the existing libraries. If the public is not well served by the existing libraries, then a central library is necessary.

In the case of Rochester, there is no doubt that the public is not well served by the existing libraries. Therefore, a central library is necessary.

Armand Wyle offers hope that City Will Take Up Eastman Offer and That It May Lead to Central Library.

Armand Wyle, superintendent of the Jewish Orphan Home at 1410 Eastgate street, offers hope that the city will accept the offer of Mr. Eastman to build a new central library. Mr. Eastman, in a letter written yesterday to Mayor Van Zandt, said that he will build a central library and that it will be a great asset to the city.

Mr. Eastman said that he has been considering the matter for some time, and that he believes that the city should accept his offer. He said that the city will be able to raise the necessary funds, and that the library will be a good investment for the city.

Mr. Eastman also said that he would like to see a central library built in the block between May Street and Eastgate, near the Jewish Orphan Home.

Mr. Eastman's offer has been welcomed by many prominent citizens of Rochester. It is hoped that the city will accept his offer, and that it will lead to the building of a central library.
A Central Library Site.

Suggestion of the site between Court street bridge and the new Aqueduct boulevard for location of a central library brings proper realization of this important civic project decidedly nearer. **June 15, 1923**

That the land already owned by the city is the first and most obvious advantage. Purchase of a site having anything like the same advantages with reference to location near the center of population and important transfer points would involve great expense.

Rochester needs a central library which will serve as a storehouse for a much larger collection of books than can be housed in any branch library. Such a library, by affording means for acquiring information along different lines and covering the field of good literature in a reasonably adequate fashion is the crown and capstone of the educational system of a large city.

Nearly every other city approaching the size of Rochester has a such a library. Here such books as we have are scattered, with many duplications in lines where proper service would mean concentration of purchases and a more extensive and down-to-date collection.

If the city can take the initiative by providing a proper site it is to be hoped that some such combination of existing funds and foundations as has been worked out successfully in other cities can be effectuated here. The Rundell fund and the Reynolds library foundation come to mind at once in this connection.

Ultimate test of the value of a library is the number of readers and the extent to which they are benefited.

So far as the number of readers is concerned the argument for a location as central and as easily accessible as possible is conclusive. Quality of service is the main argument for a large library. Only by the aid of such a collection properly housed, can those who wish to "dig into" a subject and make extensive use of books for cultural, scientific and business purposes properly be served.

In addition to the advantages of present city possession and central location this site will give plenty of light and air on all sides. Its area of 320 by 200 feet is ample. There are said to be no engineering difficulties.

Let us hope the proposal to reserve this plot will mark real progress toward a central library worthy of Rochester.

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**Rochester Library Project Described By Simon L. Adler In Talk Before Lions Club**

Site on River Front, on Property Acquired by City as Result of Erie Canal Purchase—Location Ideal for Erection of Great Central Library With Opportunity for Expansion if Found Necessary.

The Rochester Public Library project, its history and present status, were described by Assemblyman Simon L. Adler of 17 Argyle Street, in an address before the Lions Club at the Hotel Rochester this noon. Mr. Adler has been closely connected with the plans of the library committee for the erection of a central library to serve the entire city, and made clear just how far preparations for such a building have progressed.

Actual plans for erecting the library have not as yet been started, but the site of the building has been selected, and as soon as funds for construction are obtained, work on the proposed building will commence. Mr. Adler's remarks, briefly, were as follows:

"A city library has two principal purposes; the first is to provide for the current reading of the community, and the second is to serve as a reservoir for the knowledge of the ages. In Rochester, the development of the public library system in establishing branch libraries throughout the city has been calculated to fill the first function. The other, and perhaps more important function can be fulfilled only by the establishment of a large, central library.

"Probably no other city of this size in the country is without a great central library. Rochester has a great many books available for reference, but these are to be found principally in the libraries of the University of Rochester and the Theological Library, and in the Rundell Library; these are open to the general public, but are not easily available.

"For some time past, it has been a subject for the thoughtful consideration of many persons, to determine where and when a central library should be erected. A number of sites were proposed. Finally, after the city acquired from the State of New York the abandoned Erie Canal, and when the property was utilized for the new subway which is now in course of construction, and for a new street parallel to Main street, the south, and crossing the river over the old aqueduct, it was found that the city owned a comparatively large area situated directly in the center of the business district, an area available for the erection of a building or buildings of large size.

"Measurements made by the city engineer showed that in the area between South avenue and Court street the new street and the east bank of the river there was a space 300 feet wide and 300 feet long which could be eaten, both as an artistic and as an educational feature of the city's facades."

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**ASSEMBLYMAN SIMON L. ADLER.**

Witte, chairman of the library board, that this would be an ideal site for the great central library for which the city had been waiting. Mr. Witte immediately saw the advantages of the location and made a study of the problem with the result that the library board has requested the city to set aside this site for the purpose.

"The space is large enough for a building even of great size, which can be erected along the river bank, leaving sufficient space for a plaza between the building and South avenue. It is also large enough to provide space for any expansion of the building which may later be required.

"The location is ideal in that it is practically in the center of the city. It is so situated as to make it easy to reach in two or three minutes from any part of the business or financial section; it will also be at one of the main stations of the subway which is soon to become an important part of the city's transportation facilities.

"It will be a structure of such artistic merit and intrinsic beauty as persons unfamiliar with the plans have no conception of. The location will assist in beautifying the river front, an opportunity which should eagerly be taken, as similar opportunities have been in the past.

"On the whole, the location of a great public library on this site will be a tremendous advantage to Rochester and its educational interest, both as an artistic and as an educational feature of the city's future."
Project For City Central Library Furthered At Meeting Of Trustees

BUILDING WOULD OVERLOOK RIVER AND BOULEVARD

Common Council Petitioned
To Set Aside Site Suggested by Simon Adler,
Who Also Recommends
Type of Architecture.

The project of erecting a municipal
Central Library at Court street and South
avenue was received gratefully
when the Public Library Board petitioned
the Common Council last night to set aside the proposed location
which is owned by the city for library
purposes.

The proposed site is bounded by Court
street, South avenue, new boulevard over the old Erie canal and the Genesee river. It is proposed to build the library over the Johnson
crossing. The site will, at least in mind, cost about $1,000,000, which the city already has about $400,000 left for the city, by the Rundell estate.

Assemblyman Simon L. Adler, who is of the opinion it would be
Central Library on the site recommended by the Library Board, was
unanimously approved by the action taken by the trustees. Mr. Adler’s article was published exclusively in The Times-Union some time ago. Mr. Adler stated that the site was
selected by the architect himself, in order to avoid the expense of
Albany, and architects are preparing drawings on the site recommended by the Library Board.

It is not likely, however, that plans for the inclusion of the architecture for
the building will be approved at this time. City Librarian William F. Yust said this morning that invitations would probably be sent out to
the public to submit sketches for a building that would best suit the city.

The Public Library Board of Trustees, which petitioned the Common
Council to set aside the site for the
Central Library purpose is comprised of Charles H. Willette, president; Mayor Van Zandt, ex-officio; Dr. Rush Rhees, Ed
ward G. Minor, Mrs. Constant Hickey, Dr. Clarence A. Barber, Charles F. Wray and William F. Yust, secretary and city librarian.

The site has been described as follows:

City Librarian William F. Yust described the site for the Rochester
Public Library in this manner: “The site is located on Court
street and the new boulevard which is
the crossing of the Genesee river. It is only two minutes walk from the heart of the city, it is on South avenue.

The site is at the heart of the city; it is only four minutes’ walk from
South avenue, and the main thoroughfare of the city. It is the
most public library in the most

Growth. Another established principle is that there should be room
for the building with its architectural appearance. There is insufficient area here for several buildings which would be large enough for a hundred years. A type of building could be adopted consisting of a number of units. These units could be built and left at a time as they are needed. This method has been used to produce the best results for the time being and ultimately to
get a finished structure at once, complete and final. The second alternative would yield more room than is possible
for library purposes, it has been suggested that any one
for other city departments would in the understanding that the space occupied to be wanted of the grove and has need for additional room.

Cost of land. The high cost of land is generally the chief obstacle in
finding an ideal site for a central library. The larger the city, the
more difficult this problem becomes. To buy a site on Main street similar in size and location to the
site of this river site would cost $3,600,000. The city has all side vision of the site, but the site on this river site would cost $3,600,000.

The site is ideal, however, for the building. It is on the south side of the river, over the Genesee river. The site is not far from the
subway and the edge of the river will not be greater than the cost of
excavating would be on another site.

The site engineer has made a study of various construction problems in
the neighborhood, and the difficulties of the way, such as the location of the river site for a monumental
building．

And so it is clear that the site is ideal, but the cost of the site
will be greater than the cost of the site. The city is already own it.

The cost of constructing the building will be $3,600,000. These costs
will further increase the appropriateness of the river site for a monumental
building.

It is the most important point of the whole plan. The open space around the building will admit of natural light and fresh
air, and this is of great importance. The site is at the heart of the city, and the site is not far from the
subway and the edge of the river will not be greater than the cost of
excavating would be on another site.

In closing, Mr. Yust expressed the hope that the Library Board would
establish a tourist in the library and that it could be used in the residential districts. Some of

Letters From Readers
Opposes River Site

For Central Library

Editor, Times-Union:

Before the location for the new
library is decided, I would like to make my protest against the pro
posal. In my protest I submit the site the people of Rochester will
never regret that they did not rise up in protest before it was too late.

I think the question is too important to be decided lightly. I think the people of Rochester should have a voice in the decision, either by some kind of popular vote or public meeting. There are any number of sites preferable to the chosen.

Not being the mind the cost have a building the city will always be proud of and on the most

C. G. Huntington.
Lions' Club Endorses Site For Central Library After Suggestion Of Assemblyman

Time-And-Times, June 29, 1922

Following a talk on the Rochester Central Library project, given by Assemblyman Simon L. Adler before the Lions' Club at the Hotel Rochester yesterday noon, that organization heartily endorsed the site suggested by Mr. Adler, and adopted the slogan "A Central Library in 1925." Mr. Adler, who had been the first to suggest the river site for the proposed building, explained the history of the project, and pointed out the advantages of the suggested location for Rochester's central library.

After the address, the members of the Lions' Club unanimously passed the following resolution:

Resolved: That the Lions' Club cordially approve the site suggested by the Board of Trustees of Rochester Public Library for a central library building at the corner of Court Street and South Avenue and express the confident opinion of the city and the Board of Trustees that such site will fully meet the highest and best requirements for the location of a central and reference library so greatly needed by our community and that we endorse for co-operation in every proper manner the slogan, "A Central Library in 1925."

This resolution was amplified by an explanatory statement advancing four principal reasons for favoring the proposed site, between South Avenue, Court Street, the "new" street, and the east bank of the river:

1. It has been estimated that the investment of from $600,000 to $750,000 is necessary for a site.
2. It is centrally located as could be for all interests; the east side, the west side, the public service, the business center, the retail district, it is near the center of population; it is situated upon what will be the Rochester main artery of traffic, namely the subway and the new Boulevard.
3. In addition to the new existing arteries of traffic approaching this site and those under construction, another wonderful development is bound to come. With the city purchasing the land between the river and South Avenue and the already existing barge canal, harbor approaches to the river, Court and Clarissa streets, there is only one block directly to the University site along the river from the Clara area to Court Avenue.
4. A central library on the river site could become the center of culture because of the natural river views and surroundings. It adds possibilities this omen for the future civic and cultural development of our city.

CITY TO MAINTAIN RIGHTS IN RIVER SITE FOR LIBRARY UNTIL BETTER LOCATION IS OFFERED

The city of Rochester under no circumstances will relinquish its interest in the site caused by the intersection of South Avenue and Court Street, and the new thoroughfare until it is definitely established that there is a more advantageous library site. It was stated yesterday afternoon at the City Hall. The Common Council has before it a communication from the Library Board asking the city to see that the site is reserved for the public library. No formal action was taken by the council, but it is stated, nothing will be done to give up the site until it is shown that there is a better library site.

Interest in the location of the public library at South Avenue and Court Street, recently established for the project, was considered by the city last Wednesday evening by Herman Russell, assistant and general manager of the Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation, declaring yesterday that the corporation never seriously considered the South Avenue site for an office building and said that if the city should select it as the location for the new library, the corporation, which controlled water rights in the river, will cooperate in the project.

It was pointed out that the city is in no position to finance the construction of a public library at this time, but it was stated that the corporation would be willing to cooperate in the project. Discussion of sites for the library, also for the new city hall, was considered by the corporation last Wednesday by only one of speculation, as it was pointed out that the city's finances will not permit any improvement at this time, in view of the heavy demands on city coffers by the Department of Public Instruction.

A CENTRAL LIBRARY

One of Rochester's greatest needs suggests my theme for next Sunday night (November 19th) at the Baptist Temple. We will also offer a delightful program of music and song.

If you believe "Education is the handmaid of Religion," come and help us build "A Central Library" sentiment. The teachers and librarians of Rochester will be our special guests.

Clinton Wunder

P.S. We cannot guarantee seats after 7:30 P.M.
LIBRARY PLAN IS PROPOSED BY VAN ZANDT

Suggests Combining Rundel Bequests with Reynolds Library Resources.

CUT IMPROVEMENTS

Urges Sacrifice of All But Imperative Works to Canal-bed Project.

The delay of all except imperative local improvements until the industrial and rapid-transit railroad project is completed and the establishment of a central public library area urged by Mayor Van Zandt in his 1922-1923 message to the Common Council last night.

Central Library Needed.

The need of a real central library and the extension of the branches predicted many months ago is emphasized by the Mayor. While he points out that the present condition of the branches is such that immediate construction of such a building is recommended that a proper site be provided and that a building fund be provided to secure the funds and construct the building.

More Economy Urged.

In my first message to your honorable body I called attention to the imperative need for the fulfillment of those changes and improvements which were made in the budget of 1919. The budget was reduced by the Board of Estimate and the Board of Public Service. This resulted in an economy of $40,000 less than required.

Sacrificing all but necessary improvements is the only method by which savings can be made.

Nearing Debt Limit.

The financial statements attached to the message shows that the city lacks $32,215.50 which is 10.6 per cent of the assessed valuation of the city for taxes of 1922. The valuation was $305,000, 845.80. The city debt at present amounts to $32,600.

If this message is promptly acted upon the money will be raised to the amount of $32,215.50, while expenses are taken into consideration and the Mayor requests that the market is carried to be of the same amount, as well as popular, of the Public Works Department. The income from the market is to be, and each bond is issued for its construction, and the income from the sale of the city is to be reflected on the reduction of the city debt.

Water Revenues Large.

Water revenues for the past year approximately one million dollars, the Mayor says, a larger amount than in any previous year. This amount was far exceeded by the water actually sold, over, and not revenue from any other source.

During the year the city lost $42,907.96. Settlements made required a total payment of $36,271.14.

One hundred and thirty compensation claims were filed during the year. Eighty claimants in these cases were paid on the payroll and the remaining claimants were settled for $14,727.64.

Lions’ Club Endorses Site For Central Library After Suggestion of Assemblyman.

Following a talk on the Rochester Central Library project, given by Assemblyman Simon L. Adler before the Lions Club at the Hotel Rochester yesterday noon, that organization heartily endorsed the site suggested by Mr. Adler, and adopted the slogan “A Central Library in 1923.”

Mr. Adler, who has been first to suggest the river side for the proposed structure, explained the history of the project, and pointed out the advantages of centralization for Rochester’s central library.

After the address, the members of the club passed resolu-
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY EAST OF RIVER URGED AS WISEST CHOICE FOR GREAT BUILDING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.

so far agree ... on that site. With the Reynolds ad Rundel aid the city surely can provide sufficient funds to complete the project.

Mr. Yust Points Advantages

Land Cost Small.

Cost of land. The high cost of land is generally the chief obstacle in securing an ideal site for a central library. The larger the city, the more difficult this problem becomes. To buy a site on Main Street similar in size and location to the proposed river site would cost three million dollars. The City of Rochester is not in position at present to pay such a sum for this purpose, at least that is the opinion of those who are in charge of its financial affairs. The river site has an estimated real estate value of a half million dollars, and it will not cost a cent, because the city already owns it. The cost of constructing piers, walls, arches, etc., over the subway and the edge of the river will not be greater than the cost of excavating property to be on another site. The City Engineer has made a study of the various construction problems involved, and he states that there will be no engineering difficulties in the way.

Business Site Preferable.

Residence business section. Two distinct and opposing ideas exist with regard to the proper location for the Library. Some folks would have it on the avenue, as close to the business center as possible. Others would have it on a residential section. It is the considered opinion of the Library trustees that the most desirable site for a central library will be one that is a short distance from the business center and a residential section. The Central Library should be at the head of the business section, but should not be in the center of it. It should be in a quiet section of the city, but not too far away from the business center. The Central Library should not be near the railroad station. The Central Library should be near the business center.

Build It All At Once.

It is proposed that the entire Central Library facilities should be built all at once, although all the room provided for the future growth of the library would not be needed for some years. In the meantime the City of Rochester would have the benefit of the present library. A small new building can be completed in a few months. It is proposed to have the building ready for occupancy in a few months. It is proposed to have the building ready for occupancy in a year. That building will be used as a temporary library until the permanent building is completed. The building will be used as a temporary library until the permanent building is completed.

Plenty of Light and Air.

Light and air are of fundamental importance. The open space around the building, particularly the absence of natural light and fresh air, will be greatly appreciated by the people who use the building.

Growth. Another established principle is growth. The library building will be built to accommodate future growth. The building will be designed to accommodate future growth. The building will be designed to accommodate future growth.

The Mayor’s Message.

D.C. March 27th

The sound judgment of the principal suggestions which Mayor Van Zandt made in his annual message to the Common Council should be evident to all. In his principal suggestions lie advocated two projects of major importance and urged the Common Council, and through the aldermen the taxpayers of the city generally, to indenture of sacrificing all but imperative local improvements to the completion of the one major project that already is well under way.

As a permanent policy, of course, such a method of conducting a city’s financial affairs would be unwise; but the Mayor has no thought of urging it as a permanent policy. He believes that the rapid-transit subway should be completed as soon as possible, and he is right, for the sooner the subway is completed the sooner will the city enjoy its advantages and the money return that will accrue from its operation.

Of greater importance, because it touches the educational and spiritual life of the city, is the central library project. Rochester long has had the unenviable distinction of being the only city of its class in the whole country without an adequate central library. Its branch library system has been admirably conducted and has developed independently in keeping with the local needs that it serves. The needs which a central library will serve, however, have been growing more acute as the city has increased in population and in the range of its activities until they have gone far beyond the capacity of the libraries of the University and two seminaries, and the Reynolds Library, to meet them.

The Mayor, though recognizing the importance of this need, also recognizes that city funds for the erection of an adequate central library building will not be available at least until the canal-bed railway is completed. What he proposes, therefore, is that the city at once shall get a site, which is wise because the longer the matter is delayed the less available will be the few desirable sites for such an institution become; and then make a definite, responsible proposal to the Reynolds Library trustees for a plan of co-operation with the city in using its resources, together with the funds in the Rundel bequest, in establishing the library on that site. With the Reynolds and Rundel aid the city surely can provide sufficient funds to complete the project.
It may be difficult for some taxpayers to reconcile the Mayor's advocacy of the completion of one expensive major improvement and the inauguration of another, with the admonitions to economy of expenditure which are contained in other parts of his message. The message is consistent in both, however, for real economy consists not alone in avoiding unnecessary expenditure but involves adequate expenditure for major necessities as well.

And the canal-bed subways and a central library are major necessities of great importance to the welfare of Rochester.
Much interest has been displayed by passers-by in the Central Library posters which have been on display during the past week in the windows of the Monroe Branch Library, in Monroe avenue. The Women's City Club is displaying these posters in various windows throughout the city in an effort to arouse public interest in Rochester's need for a central library. Some time in the spring one of the posters will be chosen as the official poster for Central Library publicity.

The Central Library Location

The attention which the Central Library is at present receiving prompts me to state a few principles which should guide in the selection of a site. In the first place due consideration should be given to the strong influence which the architecture of public buildings has on the ideas and ideals of the people. This applies especially to a library on account of the nature of its contents. We call it the dwelling place of books, the products of the master minds of the ages, and we refer to the public library as the people's university.

The library building therefore should be an object lesson in architecture, beautiful, dignified, impressive, permanent. It should give the impression that it is an educational institution, not only identified with the instruction and development of the people and giving daily assistance to those who use it, but also standing for all that is noblest and best in the life of the community.

It should be located where it will best fulfill its purpose. In locating it the following points should be considered:

1. Accessibility. It should be near the center of the population to be served. It should be remembered also that this center of population may shift in the course of time. It should be on or near the great thoroughfares or thoroughfares of the city. Nearness to interesting street car lines is desirable, though if they are too near, the noise will interfere.

2. Approach. Sufficient ground on all sides is desirable but especially in front to provide a dignified setting and approach. There are library buildings, however, which adjoin the sidewalk. This has the advantage of greater convenience to passers-by and affords better advertising possibilities, but it detracts from the architectural effect. Distance is necessary to the appreciation of a monumental building such as the library should be.

3. Light and air. The location should be high and dry with ample space around it to admit an abundance of natural light and fresh air. This forbids the nearness of high buildings or large chimneys emitting heavy smoke or gasses.

4. Growth. There should be room for addition to the building without maring its architectural appearance or impairing its administration.

5. Residence section or business. It may be either section or on the boundary line between the two. Most of the large cities of the country have chosen the residence portion probably because there a suitable site was more readily available or they have compromised on an intermediate location. But the idea is gaining ground that the library is most useful close to the street in the very heart of the retail business section, because there it makes a stronger appeal to the man in the street than it does in a residence section at a secluded distance from the passing throng. This is one way of bringing the library to the attention of the people and projecting it into their daily thought. This principle has had much weight in locating some of our present branch library quarters.
Much interest has been displayed by passers-by in the Central Library posters which have been on display during the past week in the windows of the Monroe Branch Library, in Monroe avenue. The Women's City Club is displaying these posters in various windows throughout the city in an effort to arouse public interest in Rochester's need for a central library. Some time in the spring one of the posters will be chosen as the official poster for Central Library publicity.

6. Relation to other buildings. It is desirable for it to stand on its own ground, to be independent of other buildings and institutions, such as the city hall, a school, a business house, etc. This adds to its appearance, ease of administration and safety from fire. It may well be one of a group of public buildings, such as a school, a church, an art gallery, as in the modern civic center. The position it occupies among such buildings has an important effect on the position it occupies in the minds of the people.

7. Cost of land. In securing a library site the cost of land is an important factor, which may have a modifying influence on any of these points. The opportunity for Rochester to obtain a suitable library site cheap is gone forever. It is still possible to obtain a good site, but it will cost money and a good round sum. It should be the best the city can afford. On the other hand the city can afford the best. It should not be content with anything less.

The city of Rochester does not possess a single building erected for library purposes. In this respect it is behind every other large city in the country and behind many of the small villages in this state. Having waited so long for this important public improvement, it should insist on a building that will be a model from the standpoint of architecture and administration and usefulness. Such a building will be possible only on a site especially selected for that purpose.

The site formed by the junction of Court street, South avenue and the subway thoroughfare, suggested as the location of the Central Library, was set aside last evening by the Common Council for municipal purposes. An ordinance preserving the site for municipal purposes was passed by unanimous vote. The ordinance was introduced by Alderman Martin B. O'Neil, floor leader.

Mayor Van Zandt has declared that the city will not consent to locating the Central Library on any site until it is shown conclusively that the site proposed is more advantageous than the one at Court street and South avenue. Many sites have been suggested, including one on the extension of University avenue at Franklin Square. No definite plan for the construction of the Central Library is under consideration because of the condition of municipal finances.