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New Memorial Library For Halifax Approved

Halifax's long talked of new memorial public library was given definite approval by City Council last night with construction ordered to start "on or before 1949."

The Council agreed "in principle" to a proposal by Mayor J. E. Ahern that more than one third of the \$700,000 civic post-war fund be earmarked for the purpose but, before making a final decision on the amount to be spent, invited the Citizens Library Council to confer with the Board of Works concerning the type and site of the structure.

The response from the Library Council was immediate. Chairman Don Crowdis who was at the meeting agreed, on behalf of his organization, to meet the City, and Miss Marion L. Mosher, Supervisor of the Library Extension Division of the New York State Department of Education, who was also present, offered to lend her services to the effort. Miss Mosher is in Nova Scotia making a study of library needs for the Provincial Government.

See Early Start

Possibility of the erection of the library building starting next year was seen by Ald. J. E. Lloyd who pointed out that the start of its construction originally had been set for 1949 so the retirement of the debt service charges of the City could be levelled out. But if the post-war fund was to be used, the City would not have to be concerned about this angle, he said.

Only sign of opposition to the library proposal came from Ald. John Walker who thought that "there is more important work than the library to start on. . . I think there is a hash-up as to what we get from the Wright fund (\$60,000 George Wright bequest) and the Carnegie fund. . ." He joined with the rest of the Council, however, on the final vote of approval.

Mayor Ahern said his proposal to take \$250,000 from the post-war fund was merely a "guide line" for the undertaking and did not mean that it would be no more or no less than this amount.