

*To the People of Haines Falls Village  
and the Neighboring Parks:*

Twenty-seven years ago the Haines Falls Free Library opened its doors. It has had an honorable record, standing in the estimation of the New York State Library authorities among the best public libraries of its size in the State.

Its book collection is of unusual excellence. Its activity as shown by the numbers and high grade of books circulated bespeaks intelligent management and service. Except for the War years when educational and peacetime interests gave way to other activities, its growth has been uninterrupted. During the last four years with its encouragement of the State authorities its extension work has been increased for both school children and the general public. It has become an asset to the summer business of Haines Falls.

Recently the responsibility for funds has more and more narrowed down to a small group of generous and regular donors. It is becoming difficult to find persons either in the village or the parks to hold office and otherwise work for the Library. Service has been maintained only through the keen interest of a few who have what they believe to be the best interests of both the summer and winter residents at heart and who have given a disproportionate amount of their time. The trustees have been forced to the conclusion that unless there is greater appreciation of the value of the Library and more general co-operation in its support, it will have to be closed and the books disposed of as provided by law. The trustees would take such a step with the greatest reluctance but are forced to consider it as the only alternative to the continuation of the present situation which seems to them demoralizing and intolerable.

They have, therefore, instituted a publicity campaign to lay before every member of the community, whether taxpayer or tenant, winter or summer resident, the facts concerning the Library and its situation. They ask every member of the community over 16 years of age to consider seriously the benefits conferred by the Library and to express their position definitely for or against its continuation. Voting blanks may be obtained at the Library, the Post Office and from officers. They should be filled out and mailed to the Secretary, care of the Library, before August 27th. It is asked that every vote be the expression of independent individual opinion without regard to what may be imagined to be the opinion of others. Only by such direct personal declaration will the trustees be able to learn the actual sentiment of the community. Continuation of the library will depend upon (1) a sufficient expression of approval, (2) immediate support and (3) the outlook for continued support.

The trustees earnestly urge the public to give them the necessary backing to maintain the library. In so prosperous a community there are few indeed who cannot subscribe a modest sum and many who can afford substantial gifts.

Contributions may be sent on the assumption and in the hope that the Library may be continued. In case it becomes necessary to close, all funds on hand will be returned pro rata to subscribers.

THE TRUSTEES,

- MRS. A. C. BLUNT
- MRS. L. C. BOOTH
- MRS. CARL FOWLER
- MRS. EDWARD HAINES
- MISS HELEN JOHNSON
- DR. LINDA B. LANGE
- MRS. RALPH MCKEE