

Letters To The Editor

Dewey, Okla.
Aug. 10, 1950

To The Editor:

Since reading the facts written by Mrs. F. E. Rice on July 27, 1950, concerning the action of the city commissioners in taking the law into their own hands without consulting the new Bartlesville Library Board, and thus dismissing Miss Ruth Brown is something that concerns every law abiding citizen of Washington County, and should not be casually brushed aside by any intelligent citizen regardless of race, color or creed.

To ignore this action of usurping power on the part of the City Commissioners is letting our most cherished heritage, freedom of speech and press die of disuse and stagnation. I don't even know who the City Commissioners are, but I say woe! be unto him who uses his authority unjustly. Who ignores the voice of justice, tolerance, righteousness and truth in this day of science and enlightenment.

To dismiss Miss Ruth Brown as librarian of the Bartlesville

Library after thirty years of efficient love and service, is to me the most glaring instance of ingratitude that has ever come to my knowledge.

To me, Miss Brown is a symbol as it were who has always stood for justice, liberty, progress, tolerance, purity and efficiency at its best and to be treated as she has been is a Relic of the Dark Ages, but it is proverbial that people always kill off their Saviours. St. Jerome and Galileo were persecuted, threatened and vilified. Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. The Great Teacher was forsaken on Calvary because of his liberal ideas.

In defending this noble woman I think I am expressing in my feeble way, the sentiment of every man, woman and child who like myself have been enlightened, ennobled and above all been inspired by Miss Brown and the wonderful books in the Bartlesville Library.

I hope the men in authority will not like Hitler who burned all the German Classics do any further damage, but will live to see the error of their way and repent of their sins, and as the Great Teacher of Galilee would say: "May God forgive them for they know not what they do."

I have known the City of Bartlesville since it was a lonely Indian Trading Post on the Caney River.

Sincerely
Susie Keefer Allen