

JUST FRIENDS BACKING MRS. BROWN'S SUIT

Ruth W. Brown, discharged city librarian, and Mrs. Darlene Essary, former library board member, denied, yesterday, rumors that any organization, political or racial, was helping them in their litigation against the city in which Miss Brown petitioned for her old job back.

The suit is being backed by a group of interested citizens, originally 193 but now considerably larger, which is interested in determining the legality of the commission's action in firing Miss Brown and the old library board, Mrs. Essary explained.

"No organization, as such, is sponsoring this," she said. However letters have been sent to the American Library association and the Oklahoma Library association and these organizations intend to investigate the library problem, Mrs. Essary continued. But they are not interested in the suit filed against the city of Bartlesville, the former library board member stated.

At the time of Miss Brown's dismissal, the city said it was neither the allegedly communistic literature nor her racial policy that brought about her discharge, the women said.

Members of the old board submitted a report to the commissioners concerning charges that communistic literature was being circulated in the library. Shortly afterwards, a citizens committee was appointed. According to Mrs. Essary, the commissioners never held any discussions or conferences with the old board concerning any part of the report.

(The commissioners heard a report of the old library board in an open meeting on May 25, 1950.)

When asked if they thought the city dads wouldn't discharge them for another reason in the event they won their legal suit, and find someone else who would see more eye to eye with their policies, they declined to comment.

"That's a question that will arise in the future and will have to be answered then," Mrs. Essary said. Right now, the co-plaintiffs indicated, they were more interested in determining the legality of the action of the city.

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