

lib. Building  
42

STATEMENT IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSED NEW LIBRARY  
BUILDING FOR OBERLIN COLLEGE.

The proposed building, in accordance with the conditions of Mr. Carnegie's gift, is to be used not only as a Library for Oberlin College, but also for a Library for the village of Oberlin, and must contain rooms suited for the use of children and high school pupils, as well as College students and adults. To build a building providing for all these needs, and at the same time large enough to meet the reasonable growth which may be anticipated for the College, will be a very difficult thing with the sum at command. The building itself must cost complete and ready for occupancy, not to exceed \$90,000.00, while the remaining \$35,000.00 will be required for the stack and furnishings.

General Requirements for the Building.

First and chiefest of all, it must be absolutely fire-proof. As far as possible the use of wood is to be avoided, through perhaps this principle need not be carried so far as to exclude wooden doors and casings for the interior. It is desirable, upon the sides which will be near other buildings, namely the North and East, that windows casings and frame be of some other material than wood, or, if this is impossible, of wood treated chemically in such a way as to greatly diminish danger of fire.

Floors and ceilings should be made in accordance with the most approved method of fire-proofing. Floors do not necessarily have to be of wood since heavy linoleum will be placed over them in order to secure quiet; at the same time, concrete floors, according to my observations, raise infinite dust, and it would be desirable to have such