

May 22, 1965
(cont.)

The process of applying for and securing this aid has involved much paper work. This is essentially true of all Federal applications, but especially true in this case - for the legislation authorizing Federal and State aid, was of so recent a date, that there was no precedent for implementation. Consequently, the rules have been somewhat subject to change as the nationwide project got underway. However, our library met the deadline of Sept. 15, 1964, in submitting blueprints, specifications, and formal application for aid. This, however, proved to be tentative, and a more elaborate and formal application was called for in January of the present year.

This required a statement signed and sealed by the Rhode Island Secretary of State; a standing commitment from the bank, a notarized document regarding the library's financial status and available assets, a xeroxed copy of the act of incorporation in 1882, and the answering of a formidable and detailed questionnaire as to our plans and purposes. The formal application, and the appurtenances thereto, were then read and signed in the presence of the Smithfield Library Council, the secretary of the Council signing as witness to the signature of the President. Having complied with the detailed instructions and having got this considerable mass of data together, I submitted it as directed to Miss Myer, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Library Services on January 15, 1965. Miss Myer in turn submitted it to the Rhode Island Commission and the application was approved at the state level, early in February. It then went forward to the office of the United States Commissioner of Health, Welfare, and Education for final approval. On May 20th, just in time for its announcement at the present meeting of our Association, official word was received from Washington that our application had been accepted. So I now await a new influx of instructions and paperwork, and I am meanwhile stirring up the architect preparatory to the call for construction bids. In other words, we are at the turning point where the hoped-for success of our project will gradually become a reality.

Respectfully submitted,