

1938 —

*The Great Depression -  
"Since June, the Library  
has had the help of  
W.P.A. workers who have  
contributed somewhat to  
the need for assistance."*

1942 —

*World War II - "The  
Library has served as  
collection center for books  
in the Victory Book Cam-  
paign, and 604 books have  
been sent to the New Bed-  
ford U.S.O. Club.*

1949 —

*Classes in practical arts for  
adults were held in the  
Lecture Room, sponsored by  
the school department.*

March 5, 1790 — Article VIII — Same as above.

Voted. That Nathan Daniels, Jr., Jabez Fisher, Esquire, John Richardson, Peter Whiting, and Deacon Joseph Whiting be a committee to report to the town at May meeting in what way and manner the Library that was sent to this town by Dr. Franklin shall be improved. Voted to refer the eighth article to May meeting.

May 15, 1790 — Article XII — Same as above.

Voted. For some future meeting.

Oct. 4, 1790 — Article IV — To take the most proper and Effectual Measures to decide to whom the property of the Books belong that were sent into this town by the Late Dr. Franklin as a donation that so they may become Usefull agreeable to the Dr.'s expressed Design. Referred to a future meeting.

Nov. 26, 1790 — Article II — Same as above.

Voted. That the Rev. Nathaniel Emmons be Directed to lend the Books presented to this town by the Late Dr. Franklin to the Inhabitants of this Town at large, and until the town shall order other ways, they being accountable to him for the use and improvement of said Books.

Dec. 24, 1790 — Article III — To dispose of the late Dr. Franklin's Donation of Books in Manner as he has expressed in his Letters and to hear and Act on any Proposal that may be made Respecting the Disposition of said Donation.

Voted. Whereas, it appears to this town that the principal design of the late Dr. Franklin in making a donation of Books as the foundation of a Parish Library in this place was to furnish this People with the Means of attaining to greater degrees of Useful Knowledge & to improve their minds to the best purpose, Especially if they should agree to second his views and build on the foundation he has laid by purchasing a Number of Valuable Books in addition, that so the Whole may contain a sufficient Number to accommodate each proprietor so often as he may incline to apply for a Book. But by reason of Disputes Respecting the property of the Donation and doubts whether the town without the aid of the General Court can vote a Legal Tax to raise Money for the purpose of purchasing an additional Number of Books the Generous design of the Doctor has hitherto failed of its desired Effect, — therefore to end disputes Concerning the property of the Donation and to render a tax Needless for raising Money to purchase an additional Number of books as aforesaid — Voted that every person of the age of twenty-one years of age being a legal Inhabitant of this town, a Man and His Wife to be Recond but one, shall have a single share in the said Donation and Such other donations which have been made and also in all the Books that may hereafter be purchased in addition provided, and it is to be understood that no person is to have a share in the additional Numbers