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# **LIBRARIANS' VACATIONS**

Editor the Republic: In all the talk about the vacations of the library staff, as reflected in the editorial in Thursday's paper, one or two facts are entirely overlooked. In the first place, the library is open until 9 o'clock in the evening and on Sunday, which is not true of the industries mentioned in comparison. Even in the mornings the staff is at work doing necessary things which cannot be done during the time when books are being circulated. Also the vacations are taken during the summer when the pressure of work is lighter. If we tried to save money by cutting down the staff—which is the only way we could save money—and having fewer workers during the summer, the full staff would have to be on duty all the rest of the year anyhow, so that the saving would be largely theoretical and almost negligible. As it is, our library circulates more books with the number of people working than almost any other library.

The board has no desire and no intention, to carry on a discussion about the matter, but when people are discussing it, they might at least look at the whole picture. The only reason we get along with the staff we have is that they are willing to work long hours, and that not just during a rush season but the whole year.

The board may be inefficient, or stupid, or anything you please, in which case we should have another board; but why not give a little recognition of the fine library staff we have in Yakima?

W. D. ROBINSON,  
Yakima, Oct. 5.

LOCAL HISTORY