LIBRARY BUILDING COMMISSION: Public contracts—what constitutes collusion between bidders.

July 19, 1933.

Hon. Louis J. Bailey,
Secretary, Indiana State Library
Building Commission,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:
I have before me your letter with reference to the bids received by the commission on wood furniture and metal furniture for the new state library, which were opened in public before the bidders on July 12, 1933. You state that among the bidders is a manufacturer of such equipment and also a local dealer who is not a manufacturer. At the time the bids were opened, a statement was made by a representative of the manufacturer bidder that they had quoted prices to the dealer bidder on certain of the articles included in the proposal. Your question is as to whether this constituted collusion within the meaning of statutes governing the bidding on public works.

In my opinion, that fact alone would not be sufficient to constitute collusion.

PRINTING BOARD: Right of state board to contract for printing paid for out of federal funds allocated to State of Indiana.

July 19, 1933.

Hon. Robert E. Mythen,
Clerk, Board of Public Printing,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:
I have before me your letter in which you request an opinion as to the right of state institutions, to which are allocated federal funds, to contract for public printing independent of the board of public printing in case the printing is to be paid for out of the federal funds thus allocated to such institution.

Section 13856 of Burns Annotated Indiana Statutes, 1926, provides that:

"All the printing, binding and stationery authorized by law to be paid out of state funds shall be executed