

Library purposes. The election of officers resulted as follows:—

Patron: The Mayor of Christchurch, Mr. C. Alison.

President: Mr. W. W. Tanner.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Councillor H. Otley, Councillor W. Horsley, A. Henderson, A. Marshall, W. A. Smith, G. W. Russell, M.P.

Treasurer: Mr. G. Clarke.

Management Committee: Messrs. Archbold, Aiken, Chappell, Harvey, Lough, Meers, McKay, O'Connor, Rountree, Richardson, Rutland, and Dr. Inglis.

Votes of thanks to Mr. W. W. Tanner for his services in connection with the preliminary arrangements, and to Mr. H. M. Chappell, for having acted as Secretary to the Provisional Committee, were accorded.

At the conclusion of the public meeting, those present went into committee, and Mr. W. Harvey was elected secretary. Sub-committees were appointed to deal with the matter of books, magazines and newspapers, also for fitting up the necessary shelving.

The report of the Provisional Committee as amended by this meeting reads as follows:—

- (1) That a Library and Reading Room be at once established in the old Borough Council Chambers, according to the offer of the Christchurch City Council to let that building for this purpose, at a rental of 10/- per annum.
- (2) That the Library be registered in the Ordinary form under the existing law dealing with similar institutions.
- (3) That three Trustees be appointed, in whom should be vested all property belonging to the Library, such Trustees to be Messrs. D. Richardson, W. W. Tanner and G. W. Russell, M.P.
- (4) That the officers of the Library be a Patron, President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be ex-officio members of the Committee, all officers to be elected annually.
- (5) That a Management Committee of twelve members be elected by the subscribers on the second Friday in June each year, whose duties shall be to make due provision for the working of the Library, subject to the By-laws.
- (6) That the Linwood representatives on the Christchurch City Council be ex-officio members of the Committee of Management.
- (7) That the Reading Room be Free.
- (8) That an annual subscription of Five Shillings be charged for the Lending Library, which may be paid half-yearly in advance from date of membership.
- (9) That Honorary Members be invited to join at a fee of not less than 10/6 per annum. Life Members at £2/2/-. Such Honorary and Life Members to be entitled to all privileges of membership of the Library.

(10) That the Annual Meeting for the election of officers and presentation of the Report and Balance Sheet be held on the second Friday in June each year.

(11) A Special Meeting of Subscribers may be called at any time by a requisition signed by twelve (12) financial members, and that a month's notice thereof be given, and cost of such meeting be covered by a deposit, handed to the Secretary. Only the special subjects mentioned shall be discussed.

Thus the Provisional Committee, as such, ended its labours and became merged into the First Elected Committee. Amongst the names is that of Mr. C. P. Rutland, who for 19 years, with but a slight break, has actively participated in the work as member of committee, and during the last year, 1927-28, has occupied the Presidential chair.

The newly-formed committee held their first meeting as such on June 25th, 1909, those present being Mr. W. W. Tanner (in the chair), and Messrs. T. W. McKay, C. P. Rutland, A. Archbold, H. M. Chappell, A. Marshall, W. Meers, J. Clark, A. Rountree, Dr. Inglis, and W. Harvey (Secretary).

Ever keen on finance, they empowered the Trustees to let the building to the Licensing Committee for election purposes. The Books Committee were authorised to spend £25 on books, and arrangements were made for cataloguing all books purchased. At the meeting on June 11th, 1909, it was resolved that practically the whole committee should draw up the necessary rules and by-laws, but at this first committee meeting it was decided that Messrs. W. W. Tanner, A. Marshall, C. P. Rutland and A. Archbold should undertake this work. These members met at Mr. A. Marshall's house some time during June-July, 1909, and discussed this subject thoroughly, and in at least one important matter, arrived at a decision that has been of supreme value to the Linwood Public Library all through its history, and which has been, and is to-day, one of the main factors contributing to its success, viz., that one subscription entitled the subscriber to one book, but that extra books could be taken out on payment of 3d. per volume. It is very probable that the members of committee, when making that decision, hardly realised what a splendid foundation they were laying for the future, and that the apparently insignificant sum of 3d. should produce in one year, 1927-28, the very fine sum of £324/16/9, which, being interpreted into books, means that during that year 25,987 books were taken out as extra books upon a charge of 3d. per book.

With the steady and consistent increase of books upon the shelves, the number of subscribers increased, and thus was set up a reciprocal movement, beneficial to both subscriber and