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A SENSATION ! 1936 WALLPAPERS

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resulting from those long hours dampened
my passion for reading—which still en-
dures. Its gratification has been the most
continuously satisfying of all pleasures.

But enough of these personal recollec-
tions, for, in accordance with my under-
taking, I must say something, however
little, about the ostensible purpose of this
article. All right, let me say it if I can
do so without incurring the criticism of
trying to climb up on to some pedestal of
excellence, loftier than that of the ordin-
ary reader. It is this: that the pleasure
derived from the reading of the best books
on serious subjects surpasses the most
intoxicating joys of the confirmed novel-
reader, when one has really acquired the
habit and developed a genuine interest in
the subjects about which he reads. The
subsidiary advantages should be obvious
to all. One's interests, knowledge, and
vocabulary are enormously widened. Life
becomes more expansive. The range of
common interest uniting one to his fellow
men is greatly extended. Increase in
capacity for friendship; improved mental
culture; increased self-respect, should
automatically follow.

One other thing. The best way to
learn to read in a way most calculated to
yield good results, is to select the hard-
est book you know of—provided you have
some interest in the subject—and read
that one book slowly, line by line, until you
have got the author's full meaning. All
other reading will thereafter become
easy.

This do and thou shalt become a read-
er in the true meaning of the word, and
the non-fiction section of your Library will
become to you of the greatest importance.

In the meantime, may I congratulate
the promoters of this magazine on their
enterprise. It is a great idea, and, if it
is intended to include a book-review page,
it will be eagerly looked for by the patrons
of the Library, and prove a valuable help
to the devoted and energetic committee
which controls the Library.

SOME NEW NOVELS

The Hills Sleep On. By Joanna Cannan. On
account of his knowledge of the country James
Raeburn, an ardent mountaineer, is sent on a
secret service mission to Tibet, and how he
carried it out is graphically described by Miss
Cannan. The book is full of life, intrigue and
adventure, whilst the descriptions of the scenery
should appeal especially to all mountaineers. It
is interesting from beginning to end.

Blow Desert Winds. William Corcoran. A
good "western" story told of the earlier days of
the small grazier settlers and their struggle
against unscrupulous companies. Lovers of
western tales will find plenty of excitement fol-
lowing the hero, a nominal killer, through his
adventures from the time he breaks gaol to the
time he is granted a pardon and settles down
with the mate of his choice.

The Eunuch of Stambul. Denis Wheatley.
A secret service romance with modern Turkey
under Kemel Pasha as a background. Readers
of Mr Wheatley's "Forbidden Territory" will find
this novel equally as thrilling and interesting.

Understudy to Sylvia. By Marjorie Warby.
Diana Dean, with a crippled brother dependent
on her, works as confidential secretary to John
Tempest and falls in love with her employer who
looks upon her as no more than a necessary piece
of office furniture. How does she overcome the
situation? It is a delightful story of love out-
side office hours, and is told with delicate charm,
pathos and wit.

FOR THE JUVENILES

Girls

Kits at Clynton Court School May Wynne
The Fifth at Cliff House Irene Mossop
Marjolaine Isabel M. Peacocke
Sir Anthony's Champions Mrs E. Whalley-Tooker

Boys

Standish of the Air Police Percy F. Westerman
Thrilling Flights Capt. W. E. Johns

The spirit of the New Zealand pioneers, with
its stress on cultural development should not be
allowed to lapse, and it need not if New Zea-
landers will only renew the faith in British ideals
which their pioneer fathers respected so much.
Mr G. B. Shaw in his recent visit to Christ-
church gave utterance to this thought when he
said that the old traditions of public action and
spirit must be retained, and the country must
ensure that the level of culture does not drop
and that the son and grandson of the settler are
more cultured than their ancestor.

—Outline of Library Development, Munn-Barr
Report.

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