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**FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR.**

A few words about the method of issuing T. E. Lawrence's classic, "The Seven Pillars of Wisdom" will, perhaps, be of interest to those anxious to read it.

We bought two copies and as the book runs to over 600 pages, have decided to divide each book into two volumes, and have these strengthened and re-bound. Further, owing to the keen demand, the time limit is reduced from the usual 14 days to 10 days—and please take note—subscribers retaining the volume over 10 days will incur a fine of 1d per day—strictly enforced. If subscribers read the book in less than the prescribed time please return as soon as possible. The quicker we can re-issue; the greater will be the satisfaction to all.

We request that every care shall be taken of these volumes. They are expensive and when worn out, will probably be difficult to replace.

Use the permanent bookmark attached. Carefully examine each volume at the time of issue, as returning subscriber will be held liable for damage.

We are pleased to be able to announce that at the meeting held on October 16th, the General Committee authorised the purchase of two additional copies of this work. We need scarcely add that no time will be lost in placing these in circulation. The waiting list is much longer than we expected, but if subscribers return the books without waste of time, our difficulties will be correspondingly lessened, and the list reduced.

**OUR FOUNDERS—No. 2.**

**William Taylor McKay.**

One of the prime movers, with Mr D. Richardson, in the matter of establishing the Linwood Public Library was Mr McKay. Early in life he realised the great value of libraries in furthering education and within a few years of settling in Linwood became interested in a number of local activities, including the Linwood Citizens' Association, a body that will be remembered by its successful endeavours to secure Linwood Park for the people and for its advocacy of a Greater Christchurch scheme. As one of the Library's founder's he, together with Mr A. Marshall, was responsible for the selection of the first books to be placed on the shelves.

Mr McKay was born at Strichen, Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1864. He arrived at Lyttelton in June, 1866. The Lyttelton tunnel was then in the making, so that his fellow passengers were forced to walk to Christchurch via the Bridle Path, the weaker sex taking small boats to Ferry Mead, near Ferry Road.

He has many interesting recollections of the early days, his schooling taking place on the site now occupied by Warners' Hotel. His first impressions of Linwood were gained about 1875, when the first Grand National was run over country in the vicinity of Rolleston Street and Gloucester Street. The big water jump in this

event was just east of the corner on which the Baptist Church now stands in Worcester Street extension.

In 1880, our friend was apprenticed to the "Lyttelton Times" as a compositor. Upon the completion of his apprenticeship he was transferred to newspaper work and after fifty-five years service has recently retired. Long may he be spared to indulge his longings for work of a social nature on behalf of his fellow citizens.

**COMMITTEE MEETING.**

At the monthly meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday, October 16th, the Secretary reported that 39 adult and 19 juvenile new members had joined the Library; resignations for the period numbered 50. The total on the roll now being 1857. The receipts from all quarters totalled £70/13/9, and the expenditure on books and magazines amounted to £57/18/1.

It was decided to continue the concessions to Old Age Pensioners and those wishing to avail themselves of it either for renewals or new membership may do so on production of their certificates.

Owing to the heavy demand it was decided to purchase two more copies of the "Seven Pillars of Wisdom."

**OBITUARY.**

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr C. J. Cox who passed away at his residence on October 22nd. He was one of the oldest members of the Library Committee, having served some nineteen years and holding several important positions during that period. He held office as President for a term and acted as co-book-buyer for a while.

He was ever willing to do more than his share as committeeman and librarian; for many years sacrificing his Saturday afternoons in the Library's interests, in addition to his usual Monday evening duties. His presence will be sorely missed from the Library and we know that subscribers will join with the Committee in extending their deepest sympathy to his relatives in their sad loss.

**NON-FICTION BOOKS RECENTLY PURCHASED.**

From Silver to Steel—The Romance of Broken Hill, By Roy Bridges. This unusually interesting book tells us of a hill in a sheep station, trodden by sheep and shepherds. Then the discovery of the precious metal by one of the shepherds, later silver and tin, and finally iron. A mountain of metal. Mr Bridges has given us a most fascinating book on men and metal in and on a hill.

Masters of Modern Science. T. C. Bridges and H. H. Tiltman. This book is somewhat reminiscent of David Masters' "The Glory of Britain," as it very largely deals with the researches and discoveries of Britain's sons. Among the galaxy of genius, shines the devotion and sacrifice of Sir Ronald Ross in his search for the

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