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Linwood Library Gazette

The Official Organ of the
Linwood Public Library

Vol. 1 December 1935 No. 3

EDITORIAL.

The Editor has been honoured by a letter from the Prime Minister (Right Hon. G. W. Forbes) in which he expresses his regret at being unable to contribute a special article to the Linwood Library Gazette, owing to the heavy pressure on his time in connection with the general election.

He has, however, kindly sent us a copy of a statement on the Government's library policy recently made by him and further expresses the opinion that our Gazette can do much towards furthering the Government's aims.

Owing to the pressure on our limited space we have decided to publish our Prime Minister's statement in two instalments, the first of which appears on the front page.

A Word to Novel Readers.

We would be failing in our duty towards our reading public, did we not attempt, in some small degree, to persuade inveterate readers of fiction to devote some of their leisure hours to the reading of educational and informative literature.

Some readers of popular novels—mystery stories, "thrillers," Western yarns and modern romance, shudder at the word "educational." Yet many of our

Our readers' opinions upon any matter relative to Library matters are welcomed.

Address all correspondence to "The Editor,"
Linwood Public Library.

non-fiction books are far more "thrilling" than exciting adventure novels, and when the reader turns the last page of some authentic "travel" book, he feels that not only has he acquired knowledge; he has also found his imagination stirred by heroic deeds that are not the figment of some author's fertile brain.

A novel, however exciting or well-written, is soon forgotten, but a good travel story or maybe some biography leaves a lasting memory in addition to broadening our outlook on life.

ABOUT THAT CHRISTMAS GIFT.

In our previous issue we commended to subscribers the idea of giving to their friends a year's subscription to our Library as a worthy Christmas gift. Twelve months of that pleasure associated with good reading costs but six shillings, but to the reader it is worth several pounds. We wish to give you this final reminder.

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR.

The remarks made by the Rt. Hon. G. W. Forbes, Prime Minister, in reference to a Municipal Library in Christchurch, as reported in the daily papers recently, have added a deeper interest and a more hopeful outlook for library affairs in Christchurch and suburbs. For the present we refrain from any comment but this:—that it is good to see that the unique position of library affairs in our city bids fair to be altered, and that, sooner than was hoped for.

The question of a new building for our library is one that has caused much thought in Linwood. Some years ago the Linwood Public Library Committee waited upon the City Council, to ask for a new building, but only received a vague assurance that in the following year something might be done. Early this year we again approached the Council but were informed that finance was not available.

For years the building we now occupy has been too small for the business conducted there. The crowded condition of the shelves is apparent to anyone acquainted with Library work, while the administrative work is done under grave disadvantage and discomfort. The widening of Stanmore Road on the East side from Hereford Street to Gloucester Street is almost completed, except for the Library building and the Post Office. Both these must, at some future date, be moved some feet further back, but even to take one foot of our present building would not

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