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In the vaults, below the general reading room, there are valuable manuscripts and first editions. These are only shown to the public at rare intervals.

The vaults also contain the book-binding department, which employs a dozen men and girls binding books for the district libraries. The very latest machines and methods are incorporated in the department.

The administration offices of the City Librarian's Department are also in the Library building, so that the Mitchell serves as a distributive centre for the city's culture.

Above and below the offices there are dozens of high bookshelves containing hundreds of volumes of books. The books least likely to be asked for are placed on these shelves.

There is an employee on each floor, and messages from the counters in the reading-room are 'phoned to the floors. The required volumes are sent down in hatches for all the world like those connecting kitchens with dining-rooms.

But that doesn't mean to say that Glasgow swallows its culture like so much "sausages and mashed."

The Library Committee of Glasgow Corporation have given further consideration to the scheme for the extension of the Library, the cost of which is estimated at £65,000.

Recently the plans for the internal arrangements were agreed to, and at the last meeting the committee approved of the elevation plans.

The extension of the Library has been decided on in order to give extra accommodation for the storage of books, which for a considerable time past has presented a serious problem. Storage space, which at present is equal to about 500,000 volumes, will be doubled by the erection of the new building, and the working arrangements for the whole library services of the city will be greatly facilitated.

The new wing will be erected on ground belonging to the Libraries Department situated between the present Mitchell Library and the St. Andrew's Hall.

**BOOKS WORTH READING**

**Palestine on the Eve.** By Ladilas Farago.

A most interesting book, showing the dangerous and critical conditions existing in Palestine today.

It shows the Jews, split up into different factions, some far from alluring or inviting; Jews of the town and peasant Jews, Marxists and Fascists, all of whom oppose one another, bitterly and ruthlessly.

Then the Arabs, though united in their hostility to the Jews are far from being in unison internally.

Palestine is one of the most difficult of the problems that beset the Empire today for it is full of most sinister possibilities.

A book well worth reading—being both informative and provocative.

**Everest and After.** By T. Howard Somervell.

Mr Somervell is a native of the Lake District, where, as a youth he developed an ardent love for mountain climbing. In 1922 and again in 1924, he was a member of the expeditions which attempted the conquest of Everest.

While in India in 1922, he found the field of his future activities among the sick and suffering of that vast country. Following the attempt on Everest in 1924 and being fully qualified, he settled at the L.M.S. Hospital at Neyyoor.

This volume is absorbing in its interest and charm, unfolding and revealing, as one reads through its pages another of those splendid men who gladly give a life of service. Earnest, unassuming and lovable, his is an attractive personality. This is a book that may be wholeheartedly recommended.

**A Naval Wife Goes East.** By Eileen Walker.

A chatty, friendly book. Mrs Walker, wife of Commander Walker, whose ship is in China Seas, goes East where she takes the reader to several sea ports, visiting friends, going to parties and moving from place to place, to meet her husband's ship. Enjoyable, easy to read, possessing a humour without sting.

**Return to Malaya.** By R. H. Bruce Lockhart.

Mr Bruce Lockhart is the author of "Memoirs of a British Agent" and "Retreat from Glory." Both of these books have been in great demand in our library and this volume will be very welcome to our readers. The reviews are excellent and assure us that "Return to Malaya" is fully worthy of its predecessors.

In preparation for the celebration of the centenary of New Zealand, Dr. G. H. Scholefield, Chief Librarian of the General Assembly Library, is at present engaged on a New Zealand Biography, to be compiled on the lines of the famous Dictionary of National Biography.

The New Zealand dictionary will contain only the names of those who are dead, and will include the great men and women of the European and Maori races. The basis of selection will be public service or historical importance.

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