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EDITORIAL

During one of the recesses of the Conference, the librarians of Canterbury, as many as were available, met and after a brief discussion passed a resolution "That a Canterbury Society of Librarians be formed and application be made to become affiliated with the New Zealand Library Association to be known as The Canterbury Branch of the New Zealand Library Association." The branches in other centres have been busy during this last year or two on local library affairs, many remits from them being on the Conference agenda. A Canterbury branch would give an opportunity to discuss current events, local and general, in the library world. We feel that it would possibly be the means of deepening and strengthening library interest locally and if so, this would be a definite gain and help to bring us into line with other centres.

The thought of the perfect co-ordination of all the libraries in New Zealand North and South, whereby any book in the Dominion would, under certain condi-

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

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tions be available to any borrower, is one that stirs the imagination and would be a most potent factor in the growth and development of a truly enlightened democracy. To those of us who for many years have given voluntary service in local library affairs for the benefit of our fellows this presents an opportunity to help in the wider and larger movement.

It gives us great satisfaction to record that Mr Ernest J. Bell, Librarian of the Canterbury Public Library, was unanimously elected to the office of President of the New Zealand Library Association at the recent Conference of that Association held in Wellington.

It is chiefly a tribute to the solid and useful work he has accomplished during many years past, both in Christchurch as Librarian of the Canterbury Public Library, and to his excellent work on the executive and as Secretary of the New Zealand Library Association.

His wide knowledge of librarianship and matters connected with library work, combined with an engaging personality, ever ready to help and guide those who seek it, make us glad that to Mr E. J. Bell of Canterbury and Christchurch has this honour been given.

By Our BOOK REVIEWER. Demon Of The Air, by E. M. Keat, is a story of stolen jewels and the finding of the criminal. A young journalist writing a brilliant article on the similarity between a number of cases of thefts from large country houses, gives Scotland Yard a clue which enables them to trace and follow the actions of a mysterious aeroplane, in which, on being forced down from want of petrol, was found some of the missing jewels. The story, though highly improbable in many ways, deals with police routine, the technique of flying and aeronautic science and is a sound and thrilling tale of adventure.

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