

GIVE THIS JOURNAL TO A FRIEND

Linwood Library Gazette

"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body."

Vol. 2 No. 5



FEBRUARY 1937

GLASGOW'S TREASURE HOUSE OF BOOKS

"It is a good thing to read books, and it need not be a bad thing to write them; but it is a pious thing to preserve those that have been sometime written."

Next year the Mitchell Library, the British Museum of Scotland, celebrates its diamond jubilee.

Recommendations have been tabled which lead to great expansions in the library. Soon Glasgow's famous reference building will be the finest in Britain.

The Mitchell has played a big part in the social life of the city. It was the first free library in the country, with the exception of the Stirling, in Miller Street, which it later incorporated.

The tobacco lords of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries have been blamed for a great deal that is bad in the city. One of them at least, Stephen Mitchell, benefited the city and Scotland as a whole by bequeathing sufficient money to found what is now the Mitchell Library.

That was in 1874, and the sum was £66,998. When it had accumulated to £70,000 the trustees laid the foundation stone in the Candleriggs. It was completed and opened on the first of November, 1877, with a total of 14,000 volumes, not one of which was a novel.

In the first year of the Library's

existence the Scottish Poetry section was founded; this is now supreme in the world.

Lack of Facilities

It was not until the sun had set on the old century that the rates contributed a penny to the upkeep of the Library. Then that sum was gained in the face of very strong opposition in the Council Chambers.

In 1895 a newspaper commented on the lack of facilities in the Library. "One determined couple were on their knees on the floor with a large bound newspaper file busily making extracts." Certainly the search for knowledge seemed to be conducted along unorthodox lines.

The party which clamoured for support from the rates quoted the instance of a reader of the Library books who had won in weekly competitions a gold medal, a silver medal, six pianos, two American organs, and over £75 in cash.

The opposition promptly replied that the Town Council could not be expected to lend its support to gambling projects.

The battle was long and bitter, but the liberally-minded carried the day.

The present premises were opened by Lord Rosebery in 1911. There are four hundred thousand books in the reference rooms, and the number is being continually added to.

Among the four hundred thousand there are many rare volumes, particularly in the Jeffrey Collection, which has a big room to itself.

Your Watch

WILL KEEP BETTER TIME IF IT
COMES FROM

PETERSENS

Our Mr E. E. Wiltshire will be pleased to
allow all Linwood Library subscribers

TEN PER CENT CASH DISCOUNT

Petersens Limited

JEWELLERS

248 HIGH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH

PICTURE FRAMING

*For Artistic Work
Quality and Service*

H. FISHER & SON

275 HIGH STREET
(Near Bank Corner)

FOR YOUR NEXT PAINTING JOB try

W. T. FAITHFULL

35 years' practical experience.
ESTIMATES SUPPLIED FREE.

All work guaranteed.

We specialise in indoor decorating.
363 WORCESTER STREET
Near Stanmore Road.

Suits, Costumes, Coats, School Uniforms, etc.

Tailor made to order.

Correct Style, Perfect Fitting, Best Lining,
Personal Service. Moderate Terms.

J. BACKLOCK

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Tailor
Residence: 79 BUCKLEY'S ROAD
Workroom: CANBERRA BLDGS.
Cashel Street
(Near Corner Linwood Avenue)

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.

**GREEN'S
HAM and BACON**

is unrivalled for
QUALITY and FLAVOUR

TRY

GREEN'S SAUSAGES

Pure, Nourishing, Economical

T. H. GREEN & CO. LTD.

Established 1862

REMEMBER!

The constant publication of this Gazette is rendered possible by the support of the advertisers.

This shop has consistently advertised and merits your support in return. For quality of goods and excellence of service at no higher cost, try us and be convinced.

FOR GROCERIES PHONE 36-680

A. SORRELL & SON

(Members of the Target Stores)
CORNER WORCESTER STREET AND
OLLIVIERS ROAD, LINWOOD

Stanley L. Hall

Chemist - Linwood

(Opposite Linwood Library)

OPEN SATURDAY NIGHT

7 TILL 9

Shop Phone:
35-350

Night Phone:
34-177

Residence: 137 Rolleston Street

THE DAPHNE CAKE KITCHEN

330 STANMORE ROAD
FOR QUALITY AND SERVICE

Socials and Dances catered for.
Patronise the local Kitchen for
satisfaction.

A. ASTON - - Proprietor

D. HARRIES

SHOEING AND GENERAL BLACKSMITH

Motor Car Springs repaired.
Oxy and Electric Welding.
No job too small and none so far too big.

329 STANMORE ROAD

AVON SERVICE STATION

NORTH AVON ROAD
Prompt service and civility.
Punctures repaired.

D. G. McKENZIE - Proprietor

F. J. NEALE

THE VALUE BUTCHER

270 STANMORE ROAD

Late M.M.M.

SIDES MUTTON, LEGS, CHOPS GRAVY BEEF
and MINCE.

Ladies' Hairdresser

As soon as the necessary alterations are
completed

MRS M. FORSYTH

will open an up-to-date ladies' establish-
ment in WORCESTER STREET, close
Stanmore Road. Latest shock-proof
Eugene Permanent Wave machine will be
installed.

Linwood Library Gazette

The Official Organ of the
Linwood Public Library

Vol. 2 February 1937 No. 5

EDITORIAL

Our President will doubtless have something to say, in our next issue, concerning the N.Z. Library Conference, held at Wellington on February 16, 17 and 18, at which Linwood Public Library was represented by three delegates. These representatives consider the time well spent, much knowledge being gained that must prove of ultimate benefit to the library.

Some sixty librarians met in Conference and the interchange of ideas between men and women from all parts of the Dominion should result in incalculable gain to all concerned. The gathering was the most successful the Association has yet experienced, a friendly atmosphere permeating the proceedings.

The topic of prime importance was "The New Zealand National Library System." At the Conference held two years ago this subject was extremely nebulous and during the intervening period between that gathering and the recent Conference, much spade work has been done by the Council and it would appear that the day

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

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

is not far distant when the actual foundation of a National System becomes an accomplished fact.

An outstanding feature of the Conference was the support of the Non-fiction section of library work. Some libraries concentrate practically all their energies upon this most important branch of literature; others, such as our own library, regard the fiction department as a means of providing light mental recreation to meet popular taste. But this does not imply that Linwood Library treats non-fiction books as of secondary importance. The three thousand books in our non-fiction department is proof of this and we urge our fiction-loving readers to browse among this collection of books occasionally; we feel sure that once the plunge is taken the reader who dives into the realms of travel and biography will find that truth is indeed stranger than fiction. We would suggest that a start could easily be made by reading those books reviewed in this journal each month.

The 28th Annual Meeting of Subscribers will be held at the Library on Tuesday, March 9. During the past few years the attendances at these meetings have been most satisfactory and it is hoped that our members will again show their interest in the usual gratifying manner. The Committee spends a lot of time during the year in the interests of subscribers and the individual members are but human in their appreciation of a metaphorical pat on the back, the friendly touch in this instance being a large audience at the yearly meeting, showing that the work is appreciated.

AULSEBROOK'S Latest Sensation

"KRISPY" Cracker BISCUITS

(Slightly Salted)

"FAME BUILT ON QUALITY"

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT.

JOHNSTON'S FRUIT MART

709A GLOUCESTER ST. Cnr. Woodham Road.

We are pleased to give our help in the publication of this magazine, and at the same time advise residents of Linwood that it is our purpose to supply only the Choicest Fruit, Vegetables, Confectionery and Dairy Produce. We shall be pleased to give prompt delivery to phone orders. No order too small or too large to receive our best attention.

MRS A. M. BULLEN, Proprietress Phone 41-517

ARE YOU THINKING OF BUILDING ?

If so, consult

A. F. W. JONES

Builder and Contractor

Flat Specialist.

FINANCE ARRANGED.

PHONE 36-872

A. S. WHITTA

CYCLE DEALER 374A WORCESTER ST.

For workmanship and good service in Cycle
Repairs we defy competition.
A trial will convince this is no idle boast.

Telephone

36-774

If you have some Electrical Problem which other firms
have not been able to solve satisfactorily bring it to—

A. E. STRANGE

404 WORCESTER ST., E.1., - - - LINWOOD

The Suit with the Prestige

Tailored to your order.

**CROWN TAILORING CO.
LTD.**

132 Manchester Street

MISS E. A. PREBBLE

A.T.C.L.

Teacher of Pianoforte, Elocution, Theory. Pupils entered for Exams. and Competitions if desired. Elocution Classes, Junior Girls, Wednesdays; Senior Girls, Fridays; Boys, Saturdays. Parents, attend to your child's musical education now, while the fingers are pliable, and the mind is free.

Studios: WEBLEY'S and 150 STANMORE ROAD

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

H. B. JONES & CO.

(W. R. CAVERHILL, Proprietor)

168 HIGH SREET (late of 609 Colombo Street)

LOCKSMITH AND TENNIS SPECIALIST

Motor Car Locks a speciality. Prompt service guaranteed.

COTTRELL BROS.

FOUR SQUARE STORES

For GROCERIES, FRUIT and DAIRY PRODUCE

All of the very best. Phone us, we'll do the rest.

Two Busy Shops:

Corner STANMORE RD. & ARMAGH ST.

Phone 41-988

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR

In the "Press" of Tuesday, February 2 there appeared an interesting item under the title "The Function of Libraries."

It recorded that Mr Pitt, Chief Librarian of the Public Library of Victoria, passed through Christchurch the previous day and gave readers a variety of views and opinions held and expressed by our visitor from Australia. He found it difficult to account for the lack of interest in public libraries, for though the cost is often a deterrent, money can still be found for city halls and racecourses. Library progress overseas has been greatly accelerated by the large number of librarians and educationists who have preached the value of good books and reading; but in Australia and New Zealand, he thinks, educationists have not sufficiently championed the public library, nor have the majority of officials and rate-payers fully appreciated the value of the public library as an agency for popular education and culture, in continuing the work of the schools. He thinks the establishment of a free public library service depends partly on individual leaders, who will become champions of the belief that widespread opportunities for the education of the people are essential to a democracy and that this popular and continuing education can best be secured through public libraries.

The chair was unlucky not to meet Mr Pitt, but at least we can say that there is perfect accord and harmony in our thoughts and beliefs and we can but hope that his visit here has been pleasant for him and the results beneficial to Christchurch.

—:—

NEW NOVELS

By OUR REVIEWER

The Cat Climbs. By C. A. Tarrant. This is a thriller that will hold readers of this class of fiction interested to the end. The main character in the story is Peter Dean, clerk to a firm of accountants, diminutive in size but a genius in finance and a highly efficient gymnast. From a series of queer happenings, Peter becomes a "cat burglar" and gathers around him a gang of crooks who with remarkable intelligence bring off a number of robberies, startling to the public and baffling to the police. From the start the story moves quickly to a grim moonlight duel on the shore where Peter is wounded and is saved from total extinction by Iris Belasco, the daughter of a one time bootlegger. What the queer happenings and after events were are best left to the reader who will find plenty of thrill and speculative interest in following them through.

Malta Fever. By Vice-Admiral C. V. Osborne. As may be anticipated from the title of both book

PLUMBING

C. & J. Colville Ltd.

303 CAMBRIDGE TERRACE

PHONE 32-283

C. BARRETT

LADIES' AND GENTS' HAIRDRESSER AND TOBACCONIST

709 GLOUCESTER STREET (Cnr. Woodham Rd.)

All Clippers and Brushes used in Saloon sterilised. Best brands of Tobacco and Cigarettes in stock.

LAWN MOWER SPECIALIST.

Lawn Mowers sharpened and set, called for and delivered. Scissors, Knives, Saws, all Garden Tools. Cycle Repairs and Accessories. Soldering, Brazing, and Welding, etc. Expert Work only and guaranteed.

C. H. BURROWS

284 WORCESTER STREET

MISS TRAILL

Dressmaker

213 Worcester Street

W. NEWELL

COAL AND FIREWOOD MERCHANT

We have the following Coals:—

Abermain, Pelawmain, Westport, Newcastle Kaitangata, Moody Creek, Burke Creek, Blackball.

331 GLOUCESTER STREET.

Phone 35-718.

and author, this novel has a naval setting, the scene being laid in Malta, with a naval officer as hero, the neice of the Commander-in-chief as heroine and a handsome spy as villain. The hero is wrongly charged with and is convicted of stealing valuable plans, but his lips are sealed by solicitude for a scapegrace young brother. The heroine, risking compromise of her reputation at the hands of the villain, obtains proof of his innocence, by which he is relieved and reinstated. The characters are alive and the interest is well maintained throughout to the natural and happy ending.

Blue Silver. By Victor Bridges. A first-class, full-length, and grippingly-exciting story by the popular author of "Greensea Island," "Peter in Peril" and other famous thrillers. It tells how Richard Arnot, disgraced and ruined through no fault of his own, sets out with grim determination to clear up the mystery, in which he has become involved. His two chief allies, Spider Gull, the young East End boxer, and Jill Shensstone, a most delicious and thoroughly up-to-date heroine, are worthy companion in this desperate and apparently hopeless enterprise. The scenes are laid partly in London and partly in the lonely creeks and marshes of the East Coast, and the whole story reads along with a swing and vigour which never falters from the first page to the last. It has all the lightness of touch and refreshing sense of humour which admirers of Victor Bridges' work have learned to expect.

Housemaster. By Ian Hay. In "Housemaster" Ian Hay goes back to one of his favourite themes, Age and Youth, as contrasted in a story of school life. The Housemaster in question is a middle-aged bachelor. You might call him old-fashioned, but the mind of a boy is an open book to him. He finds himself confronted with a new Headmaster, young, brilliant, and progressive, but "without the first beginning of an idea as to what goes on inside a boy's head." Conflict is inevitable—a conflict in which our Housemaster finds himself handicapped by unsolicited feminine assistance of a charming but embarrassing character.

No Fury. By Francis Beeding. Miss Valerie Beachamp was the sort of woman novelist all right-minded people fly from. She was leader of a small literary society called the Esoterics, and she tyrannised over them so much that they planned revenge, but when Miss Beachamp found out that they had succeeded in making a fool of her, tragedy came swiftly to her former friends. She was found murdered—and each of those friends felt that they were suspected of the crime. Haunted by fear of arrest and by their own consciences they were further terrorised by the murders of several of the members of their society. Not until the last page, however, does Mr Beeding give away the clue to these mysterious deaths, and so we have here a story backed with thrills, which we are sure will delight this author's large public.

YOU ALL KNOW

that the LINWOOD LIBRARY is one of the best in New Zealand. Well, without fear of contradiction, we claim to be the best butchers in Linwood.

Give us a trial order and you will be convinced that our prices for quality meats are unbeatable.

CLAUDE FOSTER

THE QUALITY BUTCHER

333 ARMAGH ST., LINWOOD
Phone 34-164

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH YOUR
GROCER? If not

J. E. FORBES

29 HARROW STREET

will be pleased to give you service and civility. We call and deliver promptly. Town prices. China, Hardware and Brushware stocked.

RING PHONE 35-232

MATHESON'S

High Class Boot and Shoe
Repair Service

CNR. BARBADOES AND ARMAGH STS. still maintains highest quality leather and materials. Lowest possible prices. Same day service. All repairs finished by up-to-date machinery combined with skilled workmanship by a competent tradesman, ensures for you a perfect fitting repair. Hand sewn work a speciality.

ANOTHER BOOK WORTH READING.

The Red Centre. By H. H. Finlayson. The author, Mr H. H. Finlayson, is the Honorary Curator of Mammals at the South Australian Museum and in this book deals with the country, its flora and fauna, the camel and its value in transport, a most interesting account of the Australian native and concluding with a chapter on the white man.

This volume is full of information, and so attractive in its presentation that one's interest never flags, whether it is dealing with either one or another of the main headings, but rather the vivid, graphic writing grips one increasingly, so that finally the book is laid down with regret.

Dr. Basedow in his "Knights of the Boomerang," gave us more of the blackfellow himself, but Mr Finlayson has made the picture complete, as we go with him for months from range to range, and we now have a splendid pen picture of the country, its flowers, its vegetation, and animals.

There is a large map by the help of which we can accompany the author on his long and arduous but most interesting journey. A most enjoyable book.

::

SOME RECENTLY PURCHASED FICTION

Beyond Sing the Woods Trygve Gulbransen
The Black Mamoo Adam Broom
The Brothers Sackville G. D. H. & M. Cole
The Case of the Stuttering Bishop .. Erl Stanley Gardner
Death in Ecstasy Ngaio Marsh
The Desert Flyer John Bolton
The Fighting Angel Pearl Buck
Flame in the Wind Margaret Pedler
The Fortunes of Captain Blood .. Rafael Sabatini
It is Easier for a Camel Eve Chaucer
Laughing Caballero Nels Leroy Jorgensen
McLean Takes Charge Geo. Goodchild
The Mussolini Murder Plot .. Bernard Newman
No Fury Francis Beeding
Raiders of the Southern Seas .. Trevor Wallace
Son of His Parents E. M. Channon

The Public Library is in a position of great importance, since for many people it is the only channel through which the aid and counsel of a real but silent friend can be obtained. The public library must, therefore, keep its standard high, and endeavour to be in a position to respond to the ever-increasing demand for the best and noblest literary works.—Hon. J. Hinchliffe, Minister of Education, B.C. (Libraries in Canada).