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# Linwood Library Gazette

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

Vol. 2, No. 6.



MARCH, 1937.

## LINWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

### 28th ANNUAL REPORT.

In presenting the 28th Annual Report, your Committee has pleasure in recording another successful year although the membership shows a decrease of thirty. At the close of the year, January 31st, the register showed a total of 1709 subscribers, the adult section being 52 less and the juvenile section 22 more than at the corresponding period of last year.

During the year 695 new members were enrolled and 725 resigned, the remaining totals being—Adults 1436, Old-age Pensioners 69, Juveniles 204. The highest point during the year was reached in June, when the number of subscribers was 1828. As is usual at this period of the year, membership is at its lowest, but with the shortening of the days it is confidently anticipated that membership will again increase.

The Library's finances are in a healthy state, a credit balance being shown after increased expenditure on reading matter. The total income received from subscriptions was £503/11/- and that from extra books £346/9/7. This latter item remains a most important one, representing 27,718 books taken by subscribers as extras at the nominal charge of threepence per volume.

The sum of £100 was received from the Christchurch City Council, your Committee being grateful for this assistance, but in view of the increased interest being taken by the civic authorities, it is hoped that the former subsidy of £150 may again be available.

During the year 2,098 books were placed on the shelves, 1582 of these being Fiction, 198 Non-Fiction and 318 Juvenile. The number of books discarded was 2691, 48 volumes were rebound, 1440 were reinforced before being put into circulation and more than 2000 were repaired on the premises. The total number of books on the shelves and in circulation is approximately 16,300. The need for extra space is being more keenly felt each year and it is hoped that the

day is not far distant when Linwood will possess a library building in keeping with its membership and reputation.

The number of books issued during the year was 112,681. This shows an average of 302 for each day the library has been open. When it is realised that the hours of business are extremely limited, the resultant congestion in the confined space is an additional argument for the urgent need of increased accommodation.

It was deemed wise by your Committee to increase the rate of subscriptions for Old-age Pensioners to 3/6 per year, this sum being that charged to other adult members for six months. The Juvenile subscriptions have been made payable half-yearly instead of quarterly as formerly. This has meant a considerable saving in the cost of stationery, and has not affected the membership, indeed, as mentioned previously, this section has increased by 22 subscribers. A small desk-table and seat have been provided for the juvenile readers, a feature that has been much appreciated.

Donations of books have been made by Mr J. Shackleton, Mr J. Anderson and an anonymous member. These gifts are very welcome and set an example that might well be emulated by other members.

The Library was represented on the Committee of the Christchurch Exhibition in connection with "New Zealand Authors' Week," a function that was very successful and received much favourable comment.

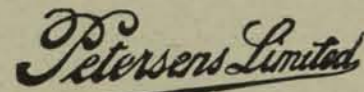
The "Linwood Library Gazette" is now in its second year and thanks are due to the Right Hon. M. J. Savage, Prime Minister, Mrs Mona Tracy, Mr John Barr, of Auckland Public Library, Mr E. J. Bell, of Canterbury Public Library, Mr C. W. Collins, of Canterbury University Library, Dr. G. M. Lester, Dr. Guthrie and Councillor G. Manning for their literary contributions to the journal. Your Committee also expresses its thanks to those advertisers who have made possible the publication of the "Gazette."

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Two new periodicals have been purchased, viz., "The Girls' Own Paper," and "Tomorrow, The Independent Fortnightly."

The various sub-committees have attended zealously to their several duties, this sub-division of work contributing to the successful management of the Library. These committees are Executive, Magazines, Shelving, Book-Culling, Juvenile, Non-Fiction, Publicity and Gazette.

The book-buyers—Mr E. G. Thomas (Fiction), Mr A. Brettell (Non-Fiction), and Mr L. W. Ballan (Juvenile), have again given proof of their sound judgment in the purchasing of books for their respective departments. The Fiction buyer has found it necessary to obtain assistance from a small sub-committee and the help thus obtained has proved of great value.

Once again thanks are due to the Lady Librarians for their valuable assistance during the afternoon sessions; these are Mesdames Hopkins and Binns and the Misses Spence, Good, D. W. Bridgman and M. K. Bridgman. Miss Burfitt, Assistant Librarian and Caretaker, has given faithful and valuable service during the year.

We regret having to record the deaths of Mr D. Richardson and Mr A. Marshall, two foundation members of the Library, whose long and useful work on the Committee contributed largely to the success attained during the past quarter of a century.

In conclusion, your Committee desires to thank all subscribers for their loyal support and trusts that the same measure of co-operation will be given to the incoming committee during the next year.

(Signed) A. BRETTELL,  
President.

**LINWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending, and Balance Sheet as on 31st January, 1937.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward			46	18	4	
<b>RECEIPTS from—</b>						
Subscriptions	503	11	0			
Extra Books	346	9	7			
Sales		12	6			
Fines		10	9			
Council Subsidy	100	0	0			
Hire of Room		8	9			
Sundry Discounts		11	0			
				960	3	10
				£1007	2	2
<b>PAYMENTS for—</b>						
Books	504	18	0			
Magazines		69	7	10		
Reinforcing		37	16	10		
Binding		29	6	9		
Newspapers		16	9	11		

Caretaking	135	0	0
Lighting and Fuel	58	2	10
Insurances	7	5	8
Repairs	2	12	0
Rent		10	0
Libraries Assn.	3	18	6
Expenses of Annual Meeting	6	12	7
Fittings	6	11	4
Stationery, etc.	24	15	5
Stone's Directory	1	1	11
Bank Charge		10	0
Petty Expenses	8	12	6
Secretary	50	0	0
Treasurer	35	0	0
Custodian	5	0	0
			1003 12 1

Balance carried forward	3	10	1
<b>POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT</b>			
	£	s.	d.
Balance from 31st January, 1936	184	11	10
Interest Added	5	10	5
Balance 31st January, 1937	£190	2	3

<b>ASSETS</b>			
	£	s.	d.
Post Office Savings Bank	190	2	3
Cash in Bank of N.Z.	3	10	1
Cash on Counter	1	10	0
			195 2 4
Furniture and Fittings			175 0 0
Books on shelves and in circulation, 16,300 say	1300	0	0
	£1670	2	4

<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
NIL.			

**SOME RECENTLY PURCHASED FICTION**

- And More Also Elizabeth Carfrae
- Black Land, White Land H. C. Bailey
- Brothers Sackville G. D. H. and M. Cole
- Bullets for Buckeroos Colt Macdonald
- The Cat Climbs C. A. Tarrant
- Challenge Sapper
- Check to Your King Robin Hyde
- Death in Ecstasy Ngaio Marsh
- Death in the Hopfield John Rhode
- The Desert Flyer John Bolton
- Family Pride Marjorie M. Price
- The Fight Along Big Creek C. W. Sanders
- Fighting Angel Pearl Buck
- Flame in the Wind Margaret Pedler
- Fortunes of Captain Blood Rafael Sabatini
- Helen Spencer Patrick Macgill
- The Hidden Hand Sydney Horler
- Laughing Caballero N. L. Jorgensen
- McLean Takes Charge George Goodchild
- The Mussolini Murder Plot B. Newman
- The Outlaw of Antler F. C. Robertson
- White Velvet Sax Rohmer
- Black Gold Jackson Cole
- The Black Spot John Ross
- By Road Adrian Bell
- If Twelve To-day Ernest C. Tanton
- "G" Man Chas. Francis Coe
- Hot Lead Tex Curran
- Lady In Distress Mary Richmond
- Unlucky Dip John Glyder
- Sullivans Bay Roy Bridges

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## Linwood Library Gazette

The Official Organ of the  
Linwood Public Library

Vol. 2. March, 1937. No. 6

### 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 conditions

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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**FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR.**

Wellington greeted the delegates to the New Zealand Library Association Conference with a genial smile, and sunshine, while those of us from the South had been fortunate in having a very quiet trip from Lyttelton. The social gathering at Hotel St. George was a pleasant function, at which it was good to meet old friends again, to make new ones, and discuss with them some of the problems that beset librarians. Wednesday morning, the 17th, found over 60 delegates assembled together in the Parliament Buildings, and, after registration, a photo was taken of the delegates.

Councillor W. J. Gaudin, President of the Library Association, then gave his address, touching on salient library features, local and general. The Hon. P. Fraser also spoke and was eloquent in his advocacy of the National Library Scheme, the delegates listening with close attention to his remarks. The question of regional committees was briefly discussed and later, the Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin Societies of Librarians were recognised as branches of the New Zealand Library Association.

Mr E. J. Bell (Canterbury Public Library) gave an instructive address on "Modern Issue Systems," and demonstrated the development from the early methods up to the present. Mr E. B. Ellerm (Leys' Institute) gave an exhaustive review on "Children's Books and Libraries in Retrospect." This was most interesting and covered a wide range. We hope to make use of portions of this excellent paper in our "Gazette" in the near future. A talk by Prof. Shelley that evening on "Broadcasting Libraries, and Adult Education," was much enjoyed by all present.

The symposium on "Library Ideals—How They Are Being Realised" was taken part in, by Mr T. D. Hall, Clerk of the House of Representatives, who chose as his theme, "The National Scheme in General"; by Dr. G. H. Scholefield, O.B.E., who spoke on "The Place of the General Assembly Library in the National Scheme"; by Mr J. Barr, Auckland, who dealt with "The Rural Library in the National Scheme," and Mr A. Dunningham, Librarian Dunedin, whose paper was entitled "The City Library in the National Scheme."

During the afternoon the delegates were the guests of the General Assembly and the Alexander Turnbull Libraries, in a tour in the tramway bus. This was very enjoyable, visits being made to General Assembly, Turnbull, Newtown, Lyall Bay, and Mirimar Libraries; afternoon tea being sandwiched in between at the Kelburn Tea Kiosk.

Mr E. E. Wiltshire later suggested that as it was possible "New Zealand Authors' Week" would not be continued, in its place the Conference consider the proposal to have a New Zealand Library Week to be organised by local Committees, the whole to be under the auspices of the N.Z. Library Association.

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The Report and Balance Sheet, election of officers and other business took some considerable time, so that it was at a very late hour that Mr G. T. Alley, Librarian of the Association for Country Education, was called upon to read his paper on "Country Libraries and Their Problems." Though he omitted much, and condensed other portions, it was a very late hour when he concluded. The paper was one of intense interest and it was most regrettable that it was placed as concluding item on the agenda.

During the sessions several committees were formed, and remits were there aplenty. The mutilation of magazines by the censor was discussed and the attention of the Government will be drawn to this quite unnecessary action of Customs officials.

Altogether it was a busy time and the agenda disclosed the fact of there having been much spade work done during this last year or so. As the Conference decided that the next one should take place in twelve months at Nelson, it seems a fair inference to assume that possibly still greater progress will be shown at that gathering.

We have received the first number of "Book News," the journal of the New Plymouth Public Library. It contains eight pages within a tasty coloured cover, giving it a distinctive appearance. The reading matter occupies a fair space, the paper is good and the type clear, while the lay-out gives prominence to the articles and news. The accession lists will be welcome to subscribers. We sincerely congratulate those responsible for its production and trust it will have a long and successful life.

**BOOKS WORTH READING.**

**Which Way To Peace**, by Bertrand Russell. A book worth reading, and, then again. Though an ardent pacifist, he recognises that the present condition of world affairs cannot be swept aside with a scornful denunciation of war. Today too closely resembles 1914, and his attitude he defines thus: "My belief in absolute pacifism is limited to the present time and depends upon the destructiveness of air warfare." He holds that no war is worth while and sums it up with the question, Can we imagine any great modern war which would do more good than harm? His reasoning is clear and logical, for if all men saw as he does then there would have been no cause for the book. This book should be helpful to many, perhaps most of all to those who are pacifist, but are troubled by the existing state of things.

**It Happened In Palestine**, by Leslie D. Weatherhead. Mr Weatherhead has here given us yet another of his fine books. Dealing with many of the events and happenings in the life of our Lord, he has entered into the spirit of both the time and place thus giving us a picture and interpretation that draws us with him. The association of Jesus and humour will to many be new, but the author's reverent attitude makes it none the less acceptable. "It Happened In Palestine" is another link in an earnest, thoughtful chain of books.

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After Everest, by T. Howard Somervell. Extracts from an eulogistic critique by The Times Literary Supplement, Dec. 5th, 1936. He renounced excellent professional prospects in England to become a medical missionary and the greater part of this book has for its subject his experiences at a hospital at Neyyoor in the extreme south of India. The intimacy of his relations with innumerable patients, enables him to write of the Indian people with knowledge not only of the physical conditions in which they lived but also of the beliefs which dictated their attitude to their diseases. In regard to both he reveals himself not as preaching any formal Christian doctrine but as practising Christianity. As a practising Christian he insists in all sincerity on the need for treating Indian patients not as "cases" but as "brothers."... His tribute to Mallory and Irvine takes the form of a refusal to treat the mystery of their disappearance as a subject for technical speculation; he holds that a price has to be paid to keep alive the spirit of adventure and accepts their deaths, as he would have accepted his own, as part of that price.

Book Collecting in New Zealand. The collector of American books takes in the incunabula period, to which no American-printed book belongs, by classifying as "Americana" anything relating to the Continent. The New Zealander, whose country first knew printing only in 1830, has to cast a yet wider net if his catch is not to be drastically limited. Mr Johannes Andersen in the "Lure of New Zealand Book Collecting" classifies as of New Zealand interest the works of Samuel Butler, whose first work "A First Year in Canterbury Settlement" was the outcome of a visit from 1860-64; of Mark Twain who toured Australasia in an attempt to restore his fortunes by lecturing in the 1890's; and of several other authors of somewhat tenuous claims. With these and true New Zealanders and particularly with works of New Zealand ornithology, Mr Andersen has the material for an informative, if rather discursive book which, if its appeal cannot hope to be great in this country, yet throws interesting light on the activities of bibliophiles in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Times Literary Supplement, 12/12/36.

The "Modern" Touch? Extracts from Sales of Napoleonic Documents, Times Literary Supplement, Dec. 19, 1936. Among many other items there was a dossier of 420 orders, mostly printed, of the army of Egypt during the commands of Bonaparte, Kleber and Menou, which were sold for £37. Some of these—reproofs for demanding unauthorised pay and allowances followed by the approved scales, instructions and advice regarding winter clothing—have in their form an almost comical resemblance to our Army or Corps Routine Orders of the Great War; perhaps if we could find Hannibal's orders we should see a similar resemblance.