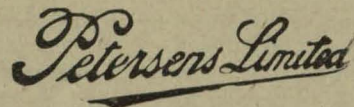


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23 is another of the many notable services rendered by this paper in advocating a reorientation of ideas on library affairs in Christchurch, culminating in Civic Control. The reply the Editor makes to Mr E. H. Andrews, who said: "That libraries provide recreation for which as with all other forms of recreation, it is reasonable that a small subscription should be paid" is brief but unanswerable. Mr Andrews must have forgotten the parks and gardens, which are not reserved for subscribers only or even for ratepayers only."

Christchurch has grown up with the present haphazard method of libraries, and now finds it hard to adopt, or even admit, methods proved throughout the world, but with the growth of opinion along progressive lines, it is only a matter of time when Christchurch must fall into step with other centres and establish civic control of all its libraries.

**NON-FICTION RECENTLY PLACED ON THE SHELVES**

**Death in the Air**, by "A Flying Corps Pilot." "The combined text and photographs give us a very vivid first-hand sensation of actual air fighting. . . . The moral grandeur gives beauty to a situation which otherwise would be brutal, inhuman and revolting." A very real, very thrilling, and intensely human story.

**Marsden of Maoriland**, by A. H. Reed. A most interesting story of endeavour, courage, and achievement under difficulties that can hardly be really and fully conceived by those of the present day. A missionary's work is always fraught with danger, but just as he goes forward in faith and confidence, so are the rough places made smooth and the crooked places become straight. The letters of Marsden are a great asset to the history of New Zealand, throwing a clear light on those days over a century ago, and revealing the power and beauty of Marsden in his work.

**Britain and the Dictators**, by Prof. R. W. Seton-Watson. There are few writers better qualified than Professor R. W. Seton-Watson to give us an exposition of present-day affairs and international policies. This book deals with events since the peace treaty. His close connection with many of the most prominent men in Europe enables a wide view of the tremendous issues and the conflicting elements at work, and history is here presented in forceful yet fascinating manner by a writer able to gather the threads together. It is said that "Britain and the Dictators" is more than a work, it is a new element in a momentous situation.

**Spies I Knew**, by Marthe McKenna. Another of this author's interesting books, and one which will appeal to all those interested in espionage, with its thrilling adventures and its grim and dramatic events.

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**The Old Time Maori**, by Makereti, Maggie Papakura. The authoress is well known to many in New Zealand, as the well-known guide of Whakarewarewa, and in this book she gives us the history of the people in its strength and beauty, which will prove in time to come of utmost importance to future historians. Makereti was a chieftainess of the Arawa tribe, and was intensely proud of her people. The book is a pleasure to read by anyone interested in Maori life and manners.

**Royal Road to Romance**, by Richard Halliburton. One of the most enjoyable books written by this author. There is a fine spirit of youthful eagerness for adventure and expressed in vivid words. A glorious story of a search for romance.

This is our second copy of this book.

**Secret Service**, by Sir George Aston. This is another copy of this well-read book, and we feel sure it will be as popular as the first copy we placed on the shelves.

Sir G. Aston was for over forty years acquainted with Secret Service, and held some of the highest appointments in the branch.

According to the "New Yorker," a translation of Dale Carnegie's famous work "How to Win Friends and Influence Them," has sold more than 15,000 copies in Tokyo, Japan.

We have this book on our shelves in the Non-Fiction Section, and subscribers can, with both pleasure and profit, read this excellent book.

**AN IMP OF MISCHIEF.**

Our printer's devil is truly an imp of mischief, with a wry strain of humour. Who else could have conceived the idea of turning plain, common sense into sheer nonsense, and of converting a plain simple fact into a miracle? This is how the grinning rascal did it, he just lost a dot, a point, and this was the result in last month's "Gazette," under "A Busy Day" ". . . We found that we had issued 431 books—an average of 48 books per minute during the usual period" . . . that is the miracle, but, we recovered the dot, or point, he lost, and put it back again in its place so that we got this: ". . . we found that we had issued 431 books—an average of 4.8 books per minute during the usual period.

So there you are you imp, sense shines again, and your miracle is shattered. Now let's have no more of your tricks, or you will go through the printer's press and become just printer's pie, or a decimal fraction.

**Gun Cotton at Blind Man's Hood**, by R. Grayson. Gun Cotton takes a brief holiday in one of the quietest and most secluded spots on the Sussex coast, where he comes in contact with the successors of the old smugglers who plied their trade along those shores, but now the contraband being run is human contraband. A clever plot to infest England with a most virulent and dangerous political disease—a kindly old Professor blackmailed into becoming an enemy to his beloved country—a beautiful girl ruthlessly murdered in a lonely cottage, and bullets flying in the night are some of the constituents of one of the most startling of all Gun Cotton's adventures.