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**NON-FICTION BOOKS RECENTLY
PURCHASED**

Recollections and Reflections of An Old New Zealander, by E. Maxwell. Mr Maxwell has given us a book that in days to come will be of great value to the future historian. While Wellington and Taranaki occupy a prominent place in the book, there are details given of events and persons in various parts of the North Island. The narrative is full of interesting memories told by one who now possesses a rich perspective, a shrewd mentality and a happy gift of expression. This makes the book rich in matter and most pleasant reading.

Spun Yarn, by Commander H. B. Boothby, R.N. Full of anecdote and mostly humorous. As apprentice in sailing ships, where food is, or was, plain, hard and not too plentiful, he tells us how he and others planned and schemed to add some tasty item to their larder. Sea life in those days developed the "art" of acquiring things, and the fun these seafaring men got out of their pranks made a capital sauce.

Later as officer in the China and India steamers, he tells us quite frankly that one was quite unlucky if one did not become engaged at least once during a voyage.

A bright, chatty and most interesting book.

Youth Uncharted, by Stephen Lawford. A fascinating story of a very adventurous life.

Written as though told to his son, the author at the outset of his career determined to earn enough to give him a university training.

His many attempts to achieve his object led to unusual, and nearly always amazing adventures in various parts of the world. Though he did not succeed in attaining the desired goal, he gained wide knowledge and experience of the world and its affairs.

Service in the diplomatic world finally claimed his talents.

A most enjoyable book and well worth reading. The "Evening Standard" chose this book as The Book of The Month.

OBITUARY.

It is with deep sorrow that we have to record the death of our friend and counsellor—Mr D. Richardson.

His interest in the Library has remained constant since 1909 when his zeal on behalf of his fellow citizens resulted in the foundation of the Library. His was the guiding hand that set the institution upon its course, a course that has been followed by succeeding committees with marked success. This alone is a tribute to his keen foresight and vision.

Mr Richardson occupied the presidential chair for a lengthy period, afterwards filling the position of Vice-President for many years. A few years ago he relinquished this office but retained his trusteeship and his deep interest until the last.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family, whose loss is shared by the Committee. His kindly spirit and wise counsel will be long remembered by all with whom he came into contact.