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the subscription rate for children will now be two shillings for a half-year instead of one shilling per quarter.

The subscription rate for Old-age Pensioners will be increased from half-a-crown to three shillings and sixpence per year.

These alterations will take effect as from September 1st of this year.

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR

It is regrettable that some unscrupulous persons are giving the Library Committee some anxious moments and adding to their many problems.

For some time past some of the illustrated papers, periodicals, and magazines in the public free reading room have been illegally taken from the tables and reading desks in that room.

As it is very difficult for the librarians on duty to keep close oversight on this room, it is therefore quite easy for any one possessing a dwarfed mental and moral standard to secrete a paper or periodical about his person and walk out with it.

As the Committee have been unable to definitely charge any individual with the theft, it has been decided to take the public into their confidence and ask for their co-operation in an endeavour to bring the culprits to book. It has also been decided to close the free public reading room at 8.45 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. until further notice.

The Chair invites the public who use that room to assist the Committee in their endeavour to stop this most annoying and wicked practice.

COMMITTEE MEETING

At the monthly Committee meeting, held on Tuesday, July 21st, the chair was occupied by Mr A. Brettell, president. The treasurer presented his monthly statement. Accounts for £68/8/3 were passed for payment. New subscribers for June were as under:—Adults 49, Old-age pensioner 1, juveniles 25. Resignations were—Adults 41, juveniles 13. The total number of subscribers on July 31st was 1828. Books issued during the month totalled 9525, and those placed on the shelves were fiction 68, juvenile 41, a total of 109.

A vote of thanks to Mr J. M. Anderson for a generous donation of a parcel of books was carried.

It was decided that the rate of subscription for juveniles be made 2/- for a half-year instead of 1/- per quarter, and that the Old-age pensioners' subscription be increased from 2/6 to 3/6 per annum.

In view of the mutilation of periodicals in the public reading room, it was resolved to close that section at 8.45 each evening instead of 9 o'clock.

Mr M. Rolls and Mr M. Rolls, Jun., were appointed delegates to the St. Albans Library annual

meeting, and Mr A. E. Salvesson was authorised to represent Linwood at the Spreydon Library annual meeting.

NON-FICTION BOOKS RECENTLY PURCHASED

The Shape of Things to Come, by H. G. Wells. This is the book on which the film "Things to Come" was based. The reviewers all agree that the book is worthy of the highest praise, and I should like to quote largely from them, but space allows only brief extracts.

Harold Dickson says: "One has the impression that in this volume Wells has gathered together all his knowledge, all his fierce indignation, all his passionate sympathy, and all his talent."

Professor H. J. Laskie says: "Indeed it may be said with emphasis that this is the most important book he has written since the War."

My Autobiography, by Benito Mussolini. Recently we placed on our shelves "My Struggle," by Adolf Hitler. Now we are following with Mussolini's autobiography. Born in lowly surroundings, he developed into an ardent socialist, later as a soldier he served in the Great War. From then onward his dominating personality carried him forward to power. He is now in full limelight, and the world is wondering what is to be the outcome of his amazing activities. Is it for weal? Is it for woe? Time alone can answer, but this book helps us to learn something of this dynamic person.

A Million Miles in Sail, by John Herries McCulloch. This is a book that is sheer delight to a lover of salt water, and the tales that are told about it.

"Do you want to go aloft, me lad?" queried the mate.

"Yes, sir," was the eager reply.

Squinting upward, the mate said "All right, go up aloft and overhaul the gear on the royal and stop it."

For us to go aloft with the boy, and, having reached the royal yard, to "overhaul the gear and stop it" is a thrilling episode the first time, especially if one has had a similar experience.

"A Night off the Cape" has a quality that gets under one's skin, and the terse, vivid writing makes it real. The final chapter is splendid: first an amusing time with a U.S.A. warship, and last a tribute to the men who went down to the seas in ships, with a letter from Count von Luckner. A most interesting and at times thrilling million miles at sea.

Three Lands on Three Wheels, by Jan and Cora Gordon. The authors of this most interesting book need no introduction to our readers of the non-fiction department in our library.

France, England and Ireland are traversed by means of a motor bike and a box side car, the wandering wardrobe as a friend christened it.

Many and various were the adventures they encountered, and in this book we have them related to us, in their own humorous, whimsical style, that makes their books so attractive.

A book we can recommend, sure of the reader's approval.

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