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magazines, have their place in this modern age, and the library is more than a resting place for books—it is the real educational centre of the community. In evaluating the relationship between the community and its library at least two things must be taken into consideration. The first is the inclination to read on the part of the residents themselves because the mere establishment of facilities is not indicative of a need. The second is, of course, the library itself for its success depends upon the facilities available and the use to which they are put.

Not until comparatively recently did the library conceive of its duties as extending beyond its doors rather than solely to those who voluntarily entered. I, for one, place greater emphasis upon service to the individual with less stress on weight of numbers or highly favourable statistical balances in determining the usefulness of the library. The latter will be an outgrowth of the former. Other public institutions have found individualised service too costly to be practical, so we suffer from standardisation, but it can do much to keep grown people growing, to liberate their minds and to enrich their lives, for much as children learning to read, our public walk with indifference in our world of books. How they fare depends upon how soon and in what measure indifference gives way to inclination and selection.

(To be continued.)

*Librarian Public Library, Kansas City, Kansas.

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR

As I write these words Christmas 1937 is still in the future, though very near. The different ways of spending those next two or three weeks reflect I think the kind of people we are. Just as thought governs action so in action we find our real selves. Then what are our proposed actions through this particular period? The major idea seems to be "get away for a holiday." Quite a good idea, whether for old or young. The elderly idea of a holiday is the same as the young but tempered down to the crux of the matter by long experience of "holiday." Holiday comes from Holy Day, and at this season we have both. It is renewed strength, physical and mental, that is the desired end, and by a change of environment, occupation, and people we hope to attain this end. Also, that the "strength" we gain

must be at our disposal for some time after seems to me to be a necessary conclusion. A few chosen books, a quiet spot with preferably the sound of lapping wavelets near, a spirit of content and good will. These are some of the means whereby we gain insight to the things of the mind that enrich and energise us for what we may meet in the year to come, and so we reach the conclusion that it is wise to have a holiday if it is possible. It is wise to lay up stores of physical and mental strength, and it is wise to plan how these gifts may be used in the next days. The chair hopes that these holiday times may be days of brightness, laughter, contentment, and happiness, and that our library is on the eve of one of its most successful years.

NON-FICTION BOOKS RECENTLY PLACED ON SHELVES

- Trip-Tyque, by Charles Graves (Europe).
- Moscow, by Lion Feuchtwanger (Europe).
- Mediterranean Medley, by Capt. Lionel Dawson (Biography).
- The Discoverers of the Fiji Islands, by G. C. Henderson (South Pacific).
- Wide Horizons, by R. H. Croll (Australia).
- The Story of the Coronation, by Sir John Hamerton (Great Britain).
- Martin Luther, by Brian Lunn (Biography).
- Vagrant in Summer, by Nina Murdoch (Europe).
- The Next World War, by Lieut.-Commander Tota Ishimaru (History).
- One Arm Sutton, by F. A. Sutton (Biog.).
- My Mis-Spent Youth, by Henry Fitch (Biog.).
- The Face of the Earth, by J. H. Curle (History).
- Through Wildest Papua, by J. G. Hides (Asia).
- Stanley Baldwin, by Arthur Bryant (Biog.).
- Forbidden Journey, by Ella K. Maillart (Asia).
- Spies of the Sahara, by ExLegionnaire 1384 (Africa).
- Gringo, Watch Out!, by Hans Koster (America).
- North to the Rime-Ringed Sun, by Isobel W. Hutchinson (America).
- Hell's Broth Militia, by W. J. Buckridge (Asia).
- Ships, Coolies, and Rice, by L. G. W. White (History).
- The Diary of a Slave, by Rustam Khan-Urf (Biography).
- Under the Flag, and Somali-Coast Stories, by L. P. Walsh (Biog.).
- The M.C.C. 1787-1937, by "The Times" (Sports and Games).
- Maiden Voyage, by Margaret Gilruth (History).
- Sorrows and Joys of a New Zealand Naturalist, by H. Guthrie-Smith (New Zealand).
- Highwaymen, by Chas. J. Finger (Biog.).

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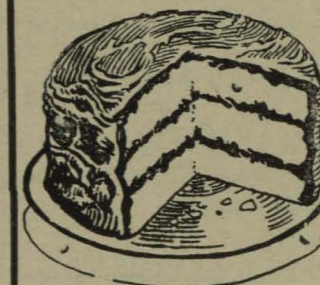
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