

Minutes of the annual Meeting held on Wednesday, January 31, 1923 in the library at 8 p.m.

Miss J. O. Thomson (President) in the chair, Rennie Martin, Hall, Rigg members of Committee and 40 other members

apologies were received from Miss Topp, Callaway, Masters, Brearley, McNally & Rinder & Miss Bradburn

The Secretary read the notice concerning the meeting. The minutes of meeting of Jan 25 1922 were read & confirmed

The annual report & balance sheet which had been circulated were taken as read on the motion of Miss Marks & Meddell. The annual Report & Balance Sheet were

Present

apologies

Notice

minutes

Report

Balance sheet

FINANCIAL

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submit their report of the transactions of the year 1922, which is the eighty-third since the foundation of the Institution.

THE COMMITTEE.

There have been 12 meetings of the General Committee.

The President, Mr. J. O. THOMSON	attended	11
The Vice-President, Mr. M. J. McNALLY ..	"	3
The Treasurer, Mr. CHARLES RENNIE§ ..	"	7
Trustee, Mr. GEO. LUSH	"	10
Trustee, Mr. W. A. CALLAWAY	"	8
Trustee, Mr. HENRY MEESKS*	"	NIL

COMMITTEE :

Mr. Martin	attended	10	Mr. Bothroyd	attended	11
Mr. Cooke	"	10	Mr. Cuthbert Rigg	"	7
Dr. Kennison	"	10	Dr. Rinder	"	7
Mr. Masters	"	11	Mr. Brearley	"	4
Mr. Topp	"	8	Dr. McArthur†	"	1
Mr. G. B. Hall	"	7	Mr. Wigg‡	"	1
Mr. Dillon	"	7			

* Mr. Meeks died on August 7.
 † Dr. McArthur resigned on July 5.
 ‡ Mr. G. H. Wigg resigned on March 3.
 § Mr. Rennie was appointed a Trustee on Sept. 1.

Your Committee records with deep regret the death of the senior Trustee, Mr. Henry Meeks, who had been associated with the Institution for 57 years. Mr. Meeks first joined the Institution in 1864. He was for many years one of the Auditors, was an active member of the Committee since 1866, filled the Presidential chair, and was finally appointed a Trustee in 1891. Mr. Meeks' experience and advice was invaluable to the Institution.

Mr. Charles Rennie was unanimously appointed to the vacant Trusteeship caused by the death of Mr. Meeks.

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Rennie (chairman), Callaway, Rigg, Masters, Thomson, Dr. Rinder, and the President; the Library Committee—Messrs. Topp (chairman), Lush, Martin, Callaway, Bothroyd, Dr. Rinder, and the President; the House Committee—Messrs. Martin, Cooke, McNally, Hall, Drs. Kennison, Rinder, and the President, held the usual meetings, and thus attended regularly to the various departments of the Institution.

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the following members of the Committee, who are eligible for re-election, retire from office, viz., Messrs. Martin, Cooke, Hall, and Rigg.

The gross receipts for the year amount to £5,524 19s. 6d., an increase of £582 16s. 1d. over 1921, and the gross expenditure to £5,220 4s. 2d., an increase of £745 11s. 9d. over 1921, but this amount included two special items, £267 2s. 6d. for improvements, and £138 10s. 10d., the amount recovered from the Insurance Companies, and paid away in connection with the fire in the milliner's shop in January last. The net increase in expenditure thus being £339 18s. 5d. The revenue from subscriptions, £1,707 6s. 6d., is an increase of £233 12s. 9d. over the previous year, and is the largest ever received from this source in the history of the Institution. The previous record was £1,591 19s., in 1888. The return from other sources has also been satisfactory.

On the expenditure side it will be noticed that the amount spent on books, magazines, and newspapers is £223 11s. 5d. in excess of last year, or £423 4s. 3d. in excess of 1920. With a gratifying increase in membership, has come a corresponding necessity of adequately catering for the greater call both for magazines and books.

On the whole, the receipts are £304 15s. 4d. in excess of the expenditure. The credit balance of £205 17s. 1d. at December 31, 1921, has been increased to £510 12s. 5d.

Your Committee has pleasure in reporting that the negotiations for a lease of the main hall, to which reference was made in the last report, have been elaborated and completed. The lease entered into twelve months ago was for twenty years, and provided that the Lessee (Mr. Frank Talbot) should expend at least £4,000 in permanent improvements and decorations, which would ultimately become the property of the Institution. Subsequently, Mr. Talbot found that under his original scheme it would be impossible to do all that was required. He, therefore, made a fresh proposal which involved much greater expense. Fresh plans were submitted, and after several conferences these were approved. In addition to materially enhancing the value of the property of the Institution, the amended scheme will provide increased facilities for members, and will make the reorganised Athenæum one of the most up-to-date and complete places of amusement in Australasia. Your Committee has no hesitation in congratulating members on having entered into a most satisfactory arrangement. In consideration of the large increase in the amount Mr. Talbot will have to expend—the cost of the amended scheme being estimated at between £15,000 and £20,000—as against the preliminary estimate already mentioned,

your Committee has extended the term of the lease from twenty to twenty-five years.

An important result of the amended scheme will be that the Library will be open until ten o'clock each evening, and it is believed that the extra facilities thus provided will induce a considerable increase in the membership. The alterations provide for increased accommodation in the smoking-room, which since the advent of the Melbourne Chess Club has become one of the most popular branches of the Institution.

In order that your Committee might have ample power to enter into the amended lease with Mr. Talbot, it was found necessary to alter the rules. A Special General Meeting of members was held on September 4, when the rules were altered and added to.

Your Committee has pleasure in reporting that the cordial relations which have existed for so many years with our neighbours, the Victoria Coffee Palace, still continue. A conference was held on August 15 between representatives of the Coffee Palace and a sub-committee of this Institution (Messrs. Thomson, Lush, Rennie, Callaway, and Cooke), at which various matters of interest and importance to both parties were discussed, and a new agreement was entered into.

THE LIBRARY

During the year the arrangement of the Library was altered so as to remove the desk to the southern end of the room. The result has been most satisfactory. The large increase in the members' roll is an undeniable tribute to the popularity of the Library, and your Committee congratulates members on having such a competent Library staff.

The Assistant Librarian (Miss Alice Cooper) was granted two months leave of absence last winter on account of ill-health. Miss Ethel Cerini was appointed temporarily as Assistant. Your Committee is glad to say that Miss Cooper was able to resume in November, fully restored to health.

An innovation which has proved most successful, is the establishment of a Loan Gallery of Works of Art in the Reading Room. Artists who have held exhibitions in the Art Gallery were invited to lend pictures for exhibition in the Reading Room, and they cordially accepted. Paintings by Arthur Streeton, George Coates, Dora Meeson, Dora Wilson, Meynell Withers, H. B. Harrison, Leslie Wilkie, W. D. Knox, John Rowell, R. McCann, C. Asquith Baker, M. J. McNally, R. W. Sturgess, M. O'Connell, T. Latimer, and the late Walter Withers, an etching by Jessie Traill, and a black and white sketch by Charles Nuttall, have been hung, and several others have been promised.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1922.

To Balance	£205 17 1	By Interest on Mortgage and Overdraft ..	£984 5 6
Subscriptions	£1707 6 6	Salaries and Wages	1222 19 3
Rent of Large Hall	1359 10 0	Books, Magazines, and Newspapers ..	1077 5 9
Small Hall	490 9 6	Gas and Electric Light	206 12 9
Front Shops	1229 10 0	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries ..	566 0 5
Rooms	980 15 0	Rates	375 7 6
Sales	208 17 8	Insurance	136 0 8
	5,376 8 8	Binding	28 4 9
Fire Insurance Recovered	198 10 10	Postage, Stationery and Petty Cash ..	55 0 0
Interest Account for F. Talbot	10 0 0	Printing and Advertising	145 13 0
		Auditors	6 6 0
		Architects' Fees	10 15 3
		Fire Renovations	138 10 10
		Improvements	267 2 6
			5220 4 2
		Balance	510 12 5
	£5,780 16 7		£5,780 16 7

Audited and found correct,
 JOHN BISHOP, F.C.P.A., }
 L. N. RAINEY, A.I.C.A., } AUDITORS.

MELBOURNE, 26th January, 1923.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:—

- Victorian Year Book, presented by A. M. Laughton, Esq., Government Statist.
- Peace and War, by the Peace Society.
- The Christian Science Monitor, from First Church of Christ Scientist, Melbourne.
- The Messenger, by Messrs. Arbuckle, Waddell, Pty. Ltd.
- The New Zealand Official Year Book, by the Government of New Zealand.
- The Theosophist, by the Theosophical Society.
- The Church of England Messenger, by the Diocese of Melbourne.
- The United Empire Proceedings of the Royal Colonial Institute Journal, from the Institute.
- The Commonwealth Gazette, by the Commonwealth Government.
- Two Copies of Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, supplied regularly by Stillwell and Stephens Pty. Ltd.

The proprietors of the principal metropolitan and provincial newspapers have also each contributed one copy of their journals.

ART GALLERY.

The popularity of the Art Gallery—now fully recognised as the art centre of Melbourne—has been maintained. During the year exhibitions were held by Messrs. C. Hampel, J. Jackson, R. W. Bugg, M. O'Connell, W. D. Knox, Chas. Wheeler, R. W. Sturgess, A. McClintock, Penleigh Boyd, John Rowell, Max Meldrum, E. Hooton, A. Sennitt, E. Latimer, Meynell Withers, Mrs. Sheard, Miss James, Miss Sweatman, Miss Bale, Miss Traill, Twenty Melbourne Painters, Women's Art Club, and the Commercial Artists' Association. For the current year there is not a vacant date, and there are several bookings already made for 1924.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Library on Wednesday, January 31, at 8 p.m. Members are reminded that they may make nominations to fill the vacancies in the Committee at the close of the Annual Meeting, which they are earnestly requested to attend.

J. O. THOMSON, President.
 R. W. E. WILMOT, Secretary.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Estimated value of the real property of the Institution as per Valuation for Mortgage, July, 1921	£43,100 0 0	Loan under Mortgage (Rate 7 per cent., due July 29, 1924)	£14,000 0 0
Value of Library	1,500 0 0	Deposit on Lease as per contra	500 0 0
" Furniture	750 0 0	F. Talbot—Interest	10 0 0
Guarantee Deposit A/c New Lease Large Hall	500 0 0	Balance	31,850 12 5
Bank Balance	510 12 5		
	£46,860 12 5		£46,860 12 5

CHAS. RENNIE, TREASURER.

The President in moving the adoption of the Report & balance sheet referred to the highly satisfactory state of the Institution. The agreement entered into with Mr. Paltot was of the greatest benefit & the Committee would be able to provide greater facilities for members.

Mr. David Martin in seconding the motion said that he had been a member for 65 years & at no time in his experience had the Institution been in such a sound position.

Mr. Rennie the Treasurer supported the motion and explained the various items in the balance sheet. He was pleased to be able to congratulate members on the healthy state of the finances. The motion was agreed to unanimously.

Miss John Bishop & K. N. Rainey were reappointed auditors on the motion of Miss Brendell & McKean their remuneration to be left to the General Committee.

Auditors

General Business

1. Mr. Brendell referred to the evil practice of writing in & otherwise mutilating books & also referred to the paucity of early Australian books. The President replied that the first point was seen before the Committee but it was impossible to discern the perpetrators. The question of Australian books had already had the attention of the Committee.

2. Mr. McKean suggested the introduction of business books & of interesting monthly lectures. His remarks were referred to the Committee.

3. Mr. Marks asked that a sign Melbourne Chess Club be placed at the front door. This also was referred to the Committee. Mr. Brendell moved & Mr. Harwood seconded a vote of thanks to the retiring office bearers & the Staff. The vote was carried by acclamation.

Vote of Thanks

The President replied. Mr. Martin moved a vote of thanks to the chairman & Mr. Rennie seconded it. The vote was carried by acclamation.

Elections

The following office bearers were elected: President Mr. J. O. Thomson re-elected; Vice President Mr. M. J. McNally; Treasurer Mr. Charles Rennie; Committee Miss Martin, Cook, Hall & Rigg (re-elected) and Dr. C. A. Altmann.

J. O. Thomson
Chairman
20 Jan 1924

Minutes of Meeting of the General Committee held on January 11.

Present

Mr. Thomson chair, Callaway, Bothroyd Martin, Masters, Rigg, Rennie, Reynolds, Dillon & Ruder, Altmann, Kenison.

Apologies

apologies were received from Mr. Topp, Mr. Locke & Mr. Brearley.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of Dec 7 were read & confirmed.

Report & Balance sheet

The drafting of the annual report was left to the President & secretary.

The Treasurer produced the draft balance sheet which showed that there had been a profit of £1014.8.8 on the year working out of this with the £510.12.5 brought forward from 1922 it had been possible to pay £1500 off the mortgage with a consequent reduction in interest of £2 a week & leave a bank credit of £25.1.1. It was decided to send the balance sheet on to the auditors for audit & submission to the annual meeting.

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for December & had found them correct. The following are recommended for payment.

- Salary Secular, ^{24/3/4} Librarian ^{28/4/8} Munro ^{13/1} assist ^{9/11} ^{15/10}
- Mages Haukeku ^{19/1} attendance ^{19/1} Sika ^{5/1} Holiday Relief ^{7/10}
- Electric light City Council ^{13/9/0}
- Gas Metropolitan Gas Co ^{2/3/6}
- Books Robertson & Muller ^{19/7/3}
- " Hutchinsons Pty ^{1/19/8} W. Allan ^{4/7/1} Morris ^{1/10/1}
- " Magazines Suptkin Marshall 48-10-2
- Newspapers Pitty ^{4/4/2}
- Sundry Newspapers 1.5.0
- Goods Zerruboom ^{7/1/6} Safeguard Co ^{1/19/11} Morris ^{3/6/1}
- Insurance Richardson Kerr ^{1/1/9}
- Repairs Newbegin ^{9/8/1} Devar ^{3/1/1}
- Petty Cash 10.0.0
- Magazines Gordon & Eton 113.13.4 Total ^{347.12.3}

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Rennie & Master

Talbot Head

The secretary reported that the work was proceeding well but that a delay had occurred on account of alterations to the steel work designed to carry the main staircase.

Library

The library committee reported that the new assistant taking charge in the evening was doing well & the new arrangements were working smoothly.

They recommended that Mr. A. B. Jones be allowed to join the library. The recommendation was accepted.

Confirmed
Rennie
Chairman

1st Feb 1924

Meeting of the General Committee on February 1, 1924
Present Miss Rennie (Chair) Thomson, Rigg, Masters, Deffen
Topp, Lush, Martin, Bothwell, D. Allan, Kinnison & Callaway
apology an apology was received from D. Rinden from W. Cook,
Minutes The minutes of meeting of January 11 were read & confirmed.
Finance The finance committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for January & had found them correct. They recommended payment of the following accounts.

- Salary Secular, ^{24/3/4} Librarian ^{28/4/8} Munro ^{13/1} assist ^{9/11} ^{15/10}
- Mages Haukeku ^{19/1} attendance ^{19/1} Sika ^{5/1} Holiday Relief ^{7/10} Sika Mages ^{2/1/6}
- Electric light City Council 7.15.9
- Books Robertson & Muller 30.1.4
- " Hutchinson Pty ^{1/19/8} 5.11.10
- " E. G. Bonnell 4.10
- " Sundry accounts 9.5.0
- " Collins Bros 3
- " Sand & McDougall 3.7.6
- " Magazines Suptkin Marshall 12.13.3
- Newspapers Pitty 4.10.9
- " Sundry accounts 1.14.3
- Bookbinding Sanderson 1200n 6.8.6
- Goods sundries 2.5.9
- Repairs Jughis Ross 15.1.6
- Auditors L. N. Ramsay ^{19/1/7} J. Bishop ^{19/1/7}
- Petty Cash 10.0.0
- Total ^{279.16.3}

CR Balance £119.10.9

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Rennie & Master

A. B. Jones

The application of A. B. Jones to join the library was approved

leave of absence

Mr. Rennie's application for leave of absence for 12 months was granted & Mr. Cook was granted back for two months on account of illness. The committee recorded its regret at Mr. Cook's illness

Subcommittees The following subcommittees were appointed

FINANCE	LIBRARY	HOUSE.
Mr. Rennie	Mr. Topp	Mr. Martin
" Callaway	" Lush	" Cooke
" Rigg	" Martin	" Mc.Nally
" Masters	" Callaway	" Hall
" Thomson	" Bothroyd Masters	" Thomson
Dr. Rinder	" Thomson	Dr. Kennison
" Brewster	Dr Rinder	" Rinder
" Hall	" Altmann	" Altmann.

Fleet The question of decorations illuminations for the Fleet was discussed & the matter was referred to the House Committee on the motion of Dr Lush & Masters with a limit of 4/10/24 of 100

Plans The plans for an amendment of the arrangement with Mr. Talbot were submitted. The idea was that Mr. Talbot should build a smoking room across the highway with smoking & committee rooms further west. The scheme was approved subject to satisfactory arrangements for a committee room. The sub-committee to settle details

Library The library committee report was adopted
Confirmed
Chris Lush
Chairman
29 Feb 1924

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday February 29 1924

Present Mrs Rennie, Nash, Callaway, Bothroyd, Lush, Rigg Thomson, Hall, Dr Altmann, & Kennison

an apology was received from Dr Rinder

The minutes of meeting of Feb 1 were read & confirmed

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for February & had found them

correct. The payment of the following accounts was recommended

Salaries secular, 24/3/4 Librarian 24/8 Murdoch 12/11. Lib. Ass't 17/1. Junior 6/10/1
 Miss Hall Kuper 17/1. attendants 17/1.
 Electric Light City Council 11.5.2
 Books Hodder & Stoughton 26/13/3 Hutchinson 27/9/9 Baudouin 4/9/1
 " & Messrs Sumpster Marshall 52.1.10
 Newspapers 4/3/11
 advertising advertisements 16/18/1. Aust. Adv. Co 1/15/1.
 Printing & Stationery Stillburn 37.19.5
 Goods sundries 2.16.6
 " Johnsons Pl. h. 19.8.6
 Repairs Duran 1.8.6. Children 17/10/1.
 Petty Cash £10 TOTAL £335.3.11. The credit balance was £342.0.9.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr Rigg & Callaway.

The Committee also reported that it had elected Mr Rennie chairman.

The Committee recommended increases in the salaries of the staff viz. Secular, £50 a year Librarian £35 a year Mrs Cooper 7/6 a week Junior assistant 5/ a week. The recommendations were adopted.

Mr Shah The secular reported that A.H. Shah an Indian had paid a subscription to the library in circumstances which he detailed. After some discussion Mr Lush moved & Dr Altmann seconded

"That under the provisions of rule 17 of the membership of A.H. Shah be refused and that the amount of £1.1.0 be refunded to him." Carried

The secular was instructed to inform the chess club that it must be a condition precedent for membership of the chess club that the candidate must first have been accepted as a member of The Melbourne Ath. Club. It was also decided that in future no one is to be enrolled except by the secular or the Librarian.

4 April 1924

Confirmed
Chris Lush
Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on April 4 1924

Present

Messrs Revere (Chair) Hall, Thomson, Cooke, Regg, Dillon Topp, Lush, Masters Bothard, & Dattaman

apology
D Rinder

an apology was received from Mr Callaway. The chairman said he regretted to report the death of Dr A. W. Rinder & President he moved that the following minute be recorded.

"The General Committee of the Melbourne Athenaeum records with deep regret the death of its ex-President Dr. A. W. Rinder, and expresses its deep sympathy with his relatives"

seconded by Mr Martin & carried

The chairman also welcomed Mr Cooke after his long absence

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of Feb 29 were read & confirmed

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the accounts for March & had found them correct. They recommended

payment of the following accounts

Salary Sec'dary 33/6/8
Messes Hall Kuper 13/1
Electric light 17/11/2

Rates & Taxes £135.8.4

Books Robertson 30/1/5
The Times 4/8/7
Magazines Gordon & Son 7/11/6
Newspaper sundries 2/16/1
Advertising Auctioneers 12/15/10
Repairs Kemp 186/14/1

Books Robertson 30/1/5
Sundries 6/13/1
Hurst & Blackett 9/14/2
Newspaper 12/19/2
Sundries 2/16/1
Goods Sundries 3/6/2

Books Robertson 30/1/5
Sundries 6/13/1
Hurst & Blackett 9/14/2
Sampson & Strickland 4/16/6
Newspaper 12/19/2
Sundries 2/16/1
Building Sundries 1/7/6

Magazines Gordon & Son 7/11/6
Newspaper 12/19/2
Sundries 2/16/1
Building Sundries 1/7/6
Advertising Auctioneers 12/15/10
Goods Sundries 3/6/2

Advertising Auctioneers 12/15/10
Goods Sundries 3/6/2
H. Shah 1/1
Repairs Newbiggin 3/16
Interest A.M.P. 2/16.15

H. Shah 1/1
Repairs Newbiggin 3/16
Interest A.M.P. 2/16.15
Petty Cash w/p. Decorations 12/15/10
Repairs Kemp 186/14/1

2/16.15
Petty Cash w/p. Decorations 12/15/10
Repairs Kemp 186/14/1
Total £807.2.7

216.15
Petty Cash w/p. Decorations 12/15/10
Repairs Kemp 186/14/1
Total £807.2.7

Repairs Kemp 186/14/1
Total £807.2.7
The bank balance was £526.8.5

bank balance was £526.8.5
The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs Regg & Martin.

Regg & Martin.

The chairman read a statement showing the

Comparison of receipts & expenditure for 1923 & 1924 this

	1923		1924	
	March	3 mos.	March	3 mos.
Subscriptions				
Subscriptions	£176:16:0	£484:10:3	£218:7:9	£571:15:0
Receipts	£490:16:3	£1316:15:1	£557:7:1	£1501:15:7
Expenditure	£358:4:1	£897:3:8	£372:19:5	£1000:8:3
New Subs.	32	90	48	163

It was decided to approach the A.M.P. Society with regard to a renewal of the mortgage. The President & the Treasurer to see Mr Bridges the Treasurer on the motion of Mr Martin & Mr G. H. Wigg was elected to the committee vice Dr Rinder.

Mr Wigg

Confirmed

Charles A. Goff

2.5.24

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday May 2 1924

Present Messrs Topp (Chair) Martin, Mastin, Bothros, Cooke, Regg, Dillon, Dr Kenyon, & Altmann
apologies were received from the President & Mr Thomson

Minutes of meetings of April 4 were read & confirmed
The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for April & had found them correct. They recommended payment of the following

accounts

Salary Secular ^{33/6} Hebrewan ^{3/10} Mr Cooper ^{18/6} Messrs ^{12/10} Junior ^{9/6}

Mrs Hauckup ^{18/5} Edmund ^{7/10} H. E. A. ^{1/4}

Rates & Taxes & Land Tax 31.12.1

Books Robinsons ^{13/10} Sandries ^{4/6}

" Bonney 7.7.5 Cochus ^{3/8/1}

" Magazines Juppkin & Mackall 44/9/4

Newspapers Sandries ^{1/8}

Printing & Stationery Stillard & Stephens ^{7/10}

Books Sandries ^{1/9/6}

Sandries ^{2/5}

Decorations Anthony & Co ^{9/3}

Rolls Cash £10 Goods & Siles ^{1/3} Mr. T. 273.166

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr Mastin & Regg

Mortgage The Treasurer reported that he & the President had interviewed Mr Bridges & Mr P. Society who had offered to renew the mortgage for 3 or 5 years at 6 1/2 %. The Finance Committee recommended the acceptance for 5 years.

The recommendation was adopted on the motion of Messrs Regg & Martin.

Lib Committee The Library Committee recommended that a book of poems by Curran & Co. & Ellen Beebe be presented to the Public Library through Mr Percival Smith who had brought the matter under the notice of the Committee. The recommendation was adopted on the motion of

Radiators Dr Altmann & Mr Martin the secretary reported that it would be necessary to provide radiators for the Reading & smoking rooms & asked that the House Committee be authorized to do so if necessary. This was agreed to on the motion of Messrs Topp & Dillon.

6 June 1924
Confirmed
Plumbeville
7 President

Minutes of General Committee meeting June 6. 1924
Present Messrs Kenyon, Martin, Cooke Thomson, Regg, Bothros & Dr Kenyon, McNally, Callaway, Mastin, Lush, Hall & Dr Kenyon.

Apology an apology was received from Mr Topp.

Inspection The Committee inspected the work of reconstruction being shown over by Mr Sedley Smith & Mr Tabbot. A special gangway had been prepared by the contractor & the Committee expressed satisfaction at what they had seen.

Mr Wigg Mr Wigg took his seat on the Committee & was welcomed by the President.

Minutes The minutes of meeting of the meeting of May 2 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for May & had found them correct. The credit balance was £455.8.5 at May 31 & the secretary estimated there would be a credit balance of £505 at June 30. The Committee did not recommend any reduction of the mortgage at this stage as it would have to face expenditure for furnishing in the near future when the smoking room & board room were finished.

The Finance Committee recommended the payment of the following accounts viz

Salary Secretary ^{33/18} Librarian ^{21/5} Runkeeper ^{14/10/1} amir ^{10/1/1} June ^{7/1/1}
 Miss Haukeper ^{15/1} Attendance ^{20/1}
 Electric light etc. Council ^{32/13/11}
 Books Robinson & Tucker ^{24/1/11} Sundries ^{7/1/12}
 " Collins ^{28/1} Waldlock ^{5/1/12} Hunt & Blackett ^{3/1/17}
 " Hutchinson ^{17/10/11} Hodder & Staughton ^{7/1/4}
 " & Magazines - Sumpter & Marshall 22.19.6.
 Newspapers F. J. Kelly ^{8/1/15} Sundries ^{1/1/19}
 Advertising Brunswick ^{3/1/1}
 Bowdler & Anderson Room ^{1/1/19}
 Goods Sundries ^{218/10} artwork ^{1/7/16}
 17 actual stone ^{4/1/13} Hanson ^{4/1/16}
 Repairs Newbiggin ^{21/192} Duran ^{1/1/19}
 Sundries Evans ^{1/1/16}
 Pelt's task ^{10/1}
 Jubilee A. P. Society ^{21/1/15}
 Rates M. P. Board of Works ^{28/1/16} Total £590.3.1
 The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs
 Regg & Had.

Mortgage

The agreement for the renewal of the mortgage was produced & the Finance Committee recommended it being signed.
 Moved by Mr Regg
 Seconded by Mr Cook

"That the Trustees be authorized to sign the agreement for the renewal of the mortgage to the A. M. P. Society at 6 1/2 % for 5 years"
 Carried

Chess Club

The request of the chess club for a rebate of the charge of 10/6 a night as made by the secretary for the use of the upper hall for the displays by Mr Kortzen was not agreed to on the motion of Mr Callaway & Rush.

4 July 1924
 Confirmed
 Chairman

Special meeting of the General Committee held on Tuesday July 24 1924

Present

Miss Reunie, Callaway, Hall, Martin Thomson, Regg & Bothword.

Apologies
Foundation
Stone

apologies were received from Miss Regg & Martin
 The secretary reported that the contractor desired to have the Foundation Stone moved & used as soon as possible. The suggested position was in the lobby area when the main hall door was open. He suggested July 1. 52 years after the original setting as the most suitable date. He had conferred with Miss Sydney Smith & Regg & they had produced a sketch of a tablet in Buchanan orable to surround the Foundation stone with an inscription on the lines of that shown on the sheet attached hereto. After some discussion paragraph one was agreed to but paragraphs 2 & 3 were not approved.

4 July 1924
 Confirmed
 Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday July 4 1924

Present

Miss Reunie Topp, Martin, Martin, Bothword, Regg Thomson, Dillon, Regg, Cook, Miss Callaway.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of June 6 & of special meeting of June 24 were read & confirmed.

Finance

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for June & had found them correct. The Treasurer explained the position of accounts showing that for the first six months of 1924 as compared with 1923 subscriptions had increased from 950.12.8 to 1133.4.5 & sales from 84.8.4 to 140.12.3. The total receipts were 3153.6.1 as compared with

£2808.17.7. The total expenditure for six months for 1924 was £2671.19.8. as against £2854.19.8 for 1923. The Bank Credit balance at 30.6.24 was £506.12.3.

Payment of the following accounts was recommended
Salary Secular, ^{33/8} Hebrew ^{21/5} numbers ^{14/10} amount ^{10/1} of amount ^{7/10}.
Wages Haulkuper ^{17/1} attendant ^{17/1}.

- Books Robinson & Muller 22.3.10
 - " Wallau £12.18.0
 - " Transit ^{1/1} N. de Page ^{1/10} E. W. Cole ^{14/3} Arundel Jackson ^{14/1}
 - " E. G. Brown £3.16.0
 - " Magazines Sumpkin Marshall £27.5.9
 - Newspapers Melly 4.4.1
 - " Arundel 7.9.6
 - Bookbinding Sanderson & Coon 7.11.3
 - Printing Stationery Sturrock & Skiffers 11.10.0
 - Repairs A Kempson 10.3.6
 - " Newbigin 1.18.9
 - Goods Mutual Store ^{1/1} Morris ^{10/1} Zeebrom ^{2/1} Safesound ^{1/1}
 - Rover No £5.16.0
 - Petty cash 10
 - Rates City Council £125
 - Salary increase to Charimanist 2
- Total £380.3.9.

The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs Thomson & Callaway.

The recommendation that the salary of the night library assistant be increased by 10% a week as from 1st July was approved.

Foundation Stone

The President formally reported having raised the foundation stone on July 1. and the proposed inscription on the memorial stone was discussed. Eventually it was decided to have the following wording

" The Institution was founded on 12th November 1839 by Capt Rowdale, first President.
The first building was erected in 1843
James Simpson Esq President

The Hall was reconstructed in 1924 as a theatre when the stone was laid by Charles Revere Esq President on 12th July 1924."

Library

The report of the Library Committee was adopted.

8th Aug 1924
Confirmed
Charles Revere
Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on August 8 1924

Present Messrs Revere Topp, Martin, Masters, Prothrope, Wigg Thomson, Hall, Rege & Skennison & Callaway

apologies
minutes
Finance
apologies were received from Mr Callaway & Topp.
The minutes of meeting of July 4 were confirmed
The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for July & had found them correct. The payment of the following accounts was recommended

- Salary Secular, ^{33/8} Hebrew ^{21/5} numbers ^{14/10} amount ^{10/1} of amount ^{7/10} 9/1/6
 - Wages Haulkuper ^{17/1} attendant ^{17/1} 8/1/10
 - Electric Light City Council 57.14.1
 - Insurance Richardson Kerr 120.5.5
 - Books Robinson & Muller 24.18.4
 - " Sundries 2.0.8
 - " Brown 4.4.5
 - " Hulethousen 8.14.0
 - " Magazines Sumpkin Marshall 30.12.2
 - Magazines Sundries 1.11.6
 - Newspapers Arundel Melly ^{4/10} Sundries 2.11.4
 - Printing Stationery Sturrock & Co 14.15.0
 - Goods Hanson ^{8/1} Sundries ^{3/13} + ^{1/1} £10.0.0
 - Petty cash
- Total £447.19.7

The motion was carried on the motion of Mr Masters & Mr Skennison.

Foundation Stone

on the motion of Mr Masters & Mr Wigg it was decided to

Proceed with the section of the marble tablet to surround the Foundation Stone

Electrical

The Secular, reported that the Board of Health had insisted on a new switch board being erected & the Central Electric Co had offered to erect same in a special position for £54.9. The cost of connecting this board with the main would be 5/6. at present the wires came in any way it would be necessary to do the work on a Sunday in order not to interfere with the business of the Institution. The cost could not be given until it was seen what there was to do. The offer of the Central Electric Co was accepted on the motion of Mr W. Masles & Prop.

Doors

The Secular, reported that Mr Talbot would be erecting new doors in the main entrance & the Contractor had suggested that the present doors should be moved so as to separate the theatre entrance from the lobby leading to the Atheneum library stairs. This would make the premises of the Institution very private. It was decided to authorize the work subject to the approval of the architect & the Health authorities

Miss Cerini

Mr Masles said that Miss Cerini who had for six years provided relief in the library during periods of holiday illness was about to be married. He moved that a reading present to the value of £10.10.0 be purchased for her in recognition of her services to the Institution & seconded by D. Tallmann & carried. The report of the library Committee was adopted

Library

5th Sept 1924

Confirmed
Ph. Chamberlain
Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Sept 5. 1924

Present

Miss Rennie (Chair) Martin, Masles, Callaway, Boothrod, Lush, Rigg, Hall, Cooke, Miss Thomson Dillon & Kennison & Tallmann

Apologies

apologies were received from Miss Topp & Mr Nally.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of August 8 were read & confirmed.

Finance

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for August & had found them correct. The payment of the following accounts was recommended.

Secular, 33/6/8 Librarian 3/5. Rent Cooper 14/0. Amis 7/1. Jones 7/10. Hall Kuper 17/1. attendant 17/1. Exha wages 7/6.

Insurance Richardson Kerr £9.4

Books Robinson & Muller 7/4/7. Hoader & Stoughton 14/3/9

Hunter Blackett 9/4/5. Hutchinson 15/4/10 Sundries 7/19/10

Ely Proving 5/8. Curthors 4/6/10.

Books & Magazines Sampson Low 35/7/10

Magazines Sundries 3/12/1.

Newspapers Pitt, 4/10/2 Sundries 3/13/3

Bonding Sanderson 1700n 6/19/6.

Advertising Armstrongs 4/4/1.

alterations central electric Co £54.9.0

Repairs Norwich 8/5/7.

Goods Hanson 7/0/0 Suggested to 17.

Petty cash 10/1.

Julius Hosp. Society £203.2.6 Total £633.10.8

Bank Balance £719.8.8

The comparative statement was

	1923.	1924
Receipts for month	540.16.8	568.4.8
Expenditure "	571. 11. 11	458.9.7
Subscriptions "	763. 19. 6	186. 12. 0
" " 8 months	1285. 7. 0	1506. 13. 0
Bank Balance	553. 1. 1.	719. 8. 8.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr Rigg & Mr Callaway.

Talbot Lease

- The secretary reported
- a That the transferring of the electric light system on to the new sewer board was completed & had been passed by the inspector of the Board of Health
 - b The erection of the doors to shut off the dustation from the theatre pations had been approved by Mr Sydney Smith
 - c The lavatories were nearly completed
 - d The smoking room & chess room would be ready for occupation in a few days.

The report was adopted.

The secretary reported that a letter seeking an extension of the lease had been received from Mr Talbot. Mr Talbot asked for 10 years extra. The special committee Messrs Rennie Lush Callaway Thomson Cooke & Regg had gone fully into the matter & recommended that an extension of the lease be granted for 5 years in consideration of Mr Talbot erecting the verandah he proposed redecorating & renovating the front of the building & the entrance hall & adjusting the stairs up to the top of the stairs at the entrance to the 3rd gallery. After some discussion & an amendment that the lease be extended by 10 years had been defeated by 11 votes to 3. The recommendation was adopted on the motion of Mr Callaway & Lush.

Board Room

It was decided on the motion of Mr Callaway & D Altman that the Board room be properly furnished & that the matter be referred to the House Committee with power to act.

Library

The Report of the Library Committee was approved

3 Oct/24

Confirmed
 Chairman
 Treasurer

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday Oct 3. 1924

Present

Messrs Rennie Topp, Brothwood Lush Messrs Callaway, Regg Wigg Cooke Thomson Hall & Rennie

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of Sept 5 were read & confirmed.

Finance

The finance committee reported that the auditors had audited the accounts & books for Sept & had found them correct. They recommended payment of the following accounts

Salary Secretary	3 1/8	Librarian	3/5	Mr Cooper	15/100	19/100	19/100	
Messrs Hall & Cooper	4/5	Attendants	17/100	Edna J.				
Electric light		City Corporation						42.8.5
Books		Rennison & Tuckers						18.10
"		Ed. Bonney						6.6
"		Collins	1/5	Sanderson				4.14.2
"		Margolis		Smith & Marshall				10.4.6
Messrs & Newspapers		Sanderson						1.16.6
Bureau		Sanderson		Room				7.8.6
"		Cowartsons						3.10.0
alterations		Central Electric Co						45.3.3
Goods		Mr. Hanson						4.19.0
Petty Cash		Secretary						10.0.0
								Total £293.12.0

The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs Regg & Thomson.

Talbot Lease

The secretary reported that the work was proceeding satisfactorily that the new smoking room was now in use & the lavatories were almost completed.

Board Room

The President reported that he & Mr Cooke had decided on a carpet & that the room would be papered. It was decided to purchase a new electric light fixture as by sample produced. Several chairs were submitted for inspection & the matter was referred back to the sub-committee to bring some other chairs for approval at the next meeting.

Library

The report of the library committee was adopted & confirmed

3 Oct/24
 Chairman
 Treasurer

Minutes of meeting of General Committee held on Friday November 7 1924

Present Mrs Rennie (chair), Callaway, Kush, Mastis, McNally, Thomson, Wagg, Dillon, Hall & Dr Krumson

apologies Mrs Cook, Topp, Bothword & Dr Krumson

Minutes The minutes of meeting of Oct 3 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance committee reported that the auditors had audited the accounts & had found them correct. The payment of the following accounts was recommended

Salary secretary	33/48	Hebraean	3/17	Mem looper	14/10	
Wages Haukupu	19/1	assistant	19/1			
Books Robinson & Muller	24					2.5
" Curthors						3.11.7
" Hall	2/13	Sundries				5.2.6
Books & magazines		Sumpkin & Kishner				38.12.3
Margaret Gordon & Co						2.0-10
Newspapers		Sundries				2.5.9
"		Mitts				4.9.3
Advertising & newspapers		Arundel & Co				6.9.6
Building		Sanderson & Co				3.13.3
Printing & Stationery		Stewart & Stephens				8.0.0
Repairs		Sundries				4.7.3
Goods		J. W. Hanson				3.13.0
"		Sundries				6.7.7
Petty Cash						10.0.0
		Total				£249.8.1.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mrs Callaway & Mastis

Steps It was decided to have the steps from the first landing to the library, handway faced with white tiles at a cost of £13

Re Tact The secretary reported that the theatre was nearing completion and that in order to deal with matters of detail which might at any time be required a special sub-committee would be necessary. It was

decided to appoint the President Mrs Kush Callaway, McNally, & Thomson to meet Mr. Tubbot with power to act

Chairs The sub-committee reported that they had seen some chairs & recommended one of two from Johnston. It was decided to take the larger one and to order 13.

S. Duff
Confirmed
Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday December 5 1924

Present Mrs Rennie, Kush, Callaway, Topp, Bothword, Wagg, Regg, Thomson, Cook, Mastis, Dillon, Hall & Dr Krumson

Minutes The minutes of meeting of Dec 7 were read & confirmed

Accounts The Finance committee reported that the auditors had examined the books & accounts & had found them correct. The payment of the following accounts was recommended.
Salaries secretary 33/48 Hebraean 3/17 Mem looper 14/10. Wm 14/1. June 7/10
Wages Haukupu 19/1. assistant 19/1. F. G. 3/1. Mem looper 3/16 an 3/1. June 11/16
Ruler 14th Street Board of Works 7/1.
Insurance Richardson 18/3/1
Telephone R. H. & W. 14/15 Books Robinson & Muller 16/14 Hodder 4/17/4
& Slaughter 36/14. Hutchinson 1/1. Mc Rae 9/16 Hutchinsons 8/3/10 W. G. & Co 1/1
Books Sundries 3/10/8 Sumpkin & Kishner 5/2/12
Newspapers Mitts 9/1/8 Sundries 4/3/6 advertising 4/10. Durmum & Mason 20/6/1. Repairs Sundries 1/13/6 and sheet 20/1/13. Repairs Foundation Stone Kumpson 57/11/6. activation met G. S. 1/18/1.
Goods Sundries 2/8/1 Hebraean 2/1. Patent 203/2/6 Petty cash 17/1. Total £293-15-7

The report was adopted on the motion of Mrs Regg & Thomson.

The recommendation of the Finance committee that £500 be paid off the mortgage was approved.

Mr Cooke

The chairman welcomed Mr Cooke after his illness expressed the pleasure of the Committee at his being well enough to represent

Theatre

The Secretary reported that the theatre was nearly finished & would be opened on Dec 22 Mr Talbot had decided that the whole of the proceeds of the opening night should go to the Melbourne Hospital

The Secretary reported that the Council had approved of the application for a verandah & had sanctioned the removal of two trees outside the building.

The Committee then adjourned & inspected the theatre

Confirmed
Charles A Topp

9.1.25

Minutes of the annual meeting of the members of the Melbourne Athenæum held on Wednesday January 30 1924

Present

The President Mr J. O. Thomson (in the chair) Messrs Lush & Rennie (Trustees) Martin, Bothroyd, Rigg Dillon (members of committee) and 45 members.

apologies

apologies are received from Messrs Topp, McNally Callaway, Martin & Dr Rinder

Minutes

The Secretary read the notice of the meeting which had in accordance with the rules been posted in the library & reading room for 14 days. The minutes of meeting ^{31.1.23} were read & confirmed

Report & Balance Sheet

The annual report & balance sheet which had been distributed were taken as read on the motion of Mr Bothroyd & Gales. The report & balance sheet were

THE COMMITTEE OF THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM submit their report of the transactions of the year 1923, which is the eighty-fourth since the foundation of the Institution.

THE COMMITTEE.

There have been 13 meetings of the General Committee.

The President, Mr. J. O. THOMSON	attended	11
The Vice-President, Mr. M. J. McNALLY	"	9
Trustee and Treasurer, Mr. CHARLES RENNIE	"	10
Trustee, Mr. GEO. LUSH	"	10
Trustee, Mr. W. A. CALLAWAY	"	12

COMMITTEE:

Mr. Martin	attended	12	Mr. Dillon	attended	5
Mr. Cooke	"	7	Mr. Bothroyd	"	8
Dr. Kennison	"	11	Mr. Rigg	"	7
Mr. Masters	"	11	Dr. Rinder	"	9
Mr. Topp	"	8	Mr. Brearley	"	2
Mr. Hall	"	8	Dr. Altmann	"	9

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Rennie (chairman), Callaway, Rigg, Masters, Dr. Rinder, and the President; the Library Committee—Messrs. Topp (chairman), Lush, Martin, Callaway, Bothroyd, Drs. Rinder, Altmann, and the President; the House Committee—Messrs. Martin, Cooke, McNally, Hall, Drs. Kennison, Rinder, Altmann, and the President, held the usual meetings, and thus attended regularly to the various departments of the Institution.

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the following members of the Committee, who are eligible for re-election, retire from office, viz., Messrs. Dillon, Masters, Topp, Bothroyd, Brearley, and Dr. Rinder.

Your Committee is pleased to report that the cordial relations, which have so long existed between the Directors of the Victoria Coffee Palace Limited and the Institution, have been still further cemented. A conference held during the year, in which matters of mutual interest were discussed and arranged, was satisfactory to both sides.

During last winter the Secretary (Mr. R. W. E. Wilmot) was laid up owing to an attack of influenza. He was able to return for a few weeks, but could not shake off the effects of the attack. Your Committee, in July, granted him six weeks' leave of absence to enable him to take a trip to the Solomon Islands. Your Committee is glad to say he was able to resume duty in September quite restored to health. During his absence, the Librarian (Mr. De Pledge) was appointed acting secretary, and carried out the duties to the entire satisfaction of the Committee.

FINANCIAL.

The gross receipts for the year amounted to £6386/9/5, but this includes the sum of £510, the amount of the first deposit and interest in connection with the building lease to Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd., to which reference is made later. What may be termed the regular receipts amounted to £5876/9/5—an increase of £500/0/9 over 1922. The gross expenditure was £5372/0/9 (including £520 in connection with the Talbot lease), or, for regular expenditure, £4852/0/9—a net decrease of £368/3/5 from 1922. The result was that, with the £510/12/5 brought forward from 1922, and the excess of receipts over expenditure amounting to £1014/8/8, left a credit of £1525 1/1 on the year's working. Your Committee was able to pay £1500 off the mortgage of £14,000 to the Australian Mutual Provident Society. This highly satisfactory position is due to several causes, viz.—Increases in subscriptions from members of £175/10/11, in rent of the Large Hall under the Talbot Lease of £263/12/-, and in the rent of the front shops of £62/16/4, and decreases in various items of expenditure.

On the expenditure side, it will be noticed that the amount spent on books, magazines and newspapers is £59/3/8 in excess of last year, or £482/7/11 more than in 1920.

THE LIBRARY.

During the year the steady increase in membership has continued, and your Committee has received many expressions of satisfaction from members on the competency and courtesy of the Library Staff, and on the excellent provision made for members.

The innovation of a Loan Gallery of Works of Art, introduced last year, has continued to give satisfaction, and your Committee has to acknowledge extra pictures lent by Mrs. Anderson and Messrs. Charles Wheeler and W. Rowell.

During the excavations for the new building, Mr. Merrick Boyd, the well-known art potter, discovered that the clay is eminently suited for pottery. He has taken away some of this clay for the purpose of making some vases for presentation to the Institution. These unique works of art will be much appreciated.

A most important result of the alterations has been the opening of the Library until 10 o'clock each evening, and already the extra facilities thus provided have been much appreciated by members. In order to make this alteration effective, your Committee has appointed another library assistant, Mr. E. Ward, a returned soldier.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:-

- Victorian Year Book, presented by A. M. Loughton, Esq., Government Statist.
- The Christian Science Monitor, from First Church of Christ Scientist, Melbourne.
- The Presbyterian Messenger, by Messrs. Arbuckle, Waddell Pty. Ltd.
- The New Zealand Official Year Book, by the Government of New Zealand.
- The Church of England Messenger, by the Diocese of Melbourne.
- The Commonwealth Gazette, by the Commonwealth Government.
- Two Copies of Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, supplied regularly by Stillwell and Stephens Pty. Ltd.
- Historical Record of the Felton Bequest, by Dr. Charles Bage.
- Victorian Government Gazette, by the Government of Victoria.
- New Zealand Parliamentary Papers, by the Government of New Zealand.

The proprietors of the principal metropolitan and provincial newspapers have also each contributed one copy of their journals.

Your Committee is pleased to be able to draw the attention of members to the new Smoking Room now established in the quarters formerly occupied by the Royal Victorian Liedertafel. As soon as possible, a Writing Room and members' lavatories will be established on the same floor.

Your Committee has pleasure in reporting that work in connection with the Building Lease to Mr. Frank Talbot is progressing satisfactorily, and it is hoped that early in May it will be possible to open what will then be the first intimate theatre in Australia.

In this direction, your Committee is pleased to record that the relations with Mr. Talbot have been most cordial, and that on every occasion he has met your Committee in most generous fashion. It was inevitable that the alterations to the building would cause a certain amount of discomfort and inconvenience, but these have been reduced to a minimum by the way in which Mr. Talbot, his architect (Mr. H. E. White) and contractors (Messrs. Alex. Kemp and Sons) have worked in with your Committee. One of the most pleasing features of the work has been the manner in which members have stood the discomfort.

In connection with the alteration to the building, a proposal is now before your Committee, whereby a Smoking Room will be erected in the light-well over the stairs leading to the Library and the Art Gallery. This room, which will be about 20ft. by 16ft., with an ante-room, will be well lighted and ventilated. Adjoining it will be a Board Room and a further room for meetings.

The foundation stone of the Main Hall, laid on July 1, 1872, by the late Mr. Henry Biers, then president, will have to be removed during the alterations. It is proposed to re-set it in the wall where the Main Hall door was formerly, and your Committee proposes to celebrate the resetting with an appropriate function. It is worthy of note that, when the completed building was officially opened on July 7, 1886, by His Excellency Sir Henry

Loch, the president was Mr. Charles Rennie and the vice-president Mr. George Lush, each of whom is now a trustee of the Institution. It may be further noted that these are the only survivors of the Committee of that time. As during 1924 the Main Hall, transformed into a theatre, will be opened, it has been thought that it would be most interesting if Mr. Rennie could be the president then, and he has accordingly been nominated for the position. Another interesting fact in connection with this is, that the contractors for the present work, Messrs. Alex. Kemp and Sons, were the contractors who erected the front portion of the building.

ART GALLERY.

The popularity of the Art Gallery—now fully recognised as the art centre of Melbourne—has been maintained. During the year exhibitions were held by Messrs. J. Farmer, W. M. Whitney, M. O'Connell, C. Hampel, W. Frater, Charles Bryant, A. E. Newbury, F. G. Reynolds, W. D. Knox, R. W. Sturgess, Chris. Murray, Max Meldrum, Miss Nora Gurdon, Miss Vida Leahy, Miss Beckett, Miss Bale, Mrs. Anderson, Women's Art Club, Twenty Melbourne Painters, and the Australian Art Association. Mr. Merrick Boyd also held an exhibition of pottery. For the current year there is not a vacant date, and there are several bookings already made for 1925.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Art Gallery on Wednesday, January 30, at 8 p.m. Members are reminded that they may make nominations to fill the vacancies in the Committee at the close of the Annual Meeting, which they are earnestly requested to attend.

J. O. THOMSON, President.
R. W. E. WILMOT, Secretary.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENEUM.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

To Balance	£510 12 5	By Interest on Mortgage	£962 10 0
Subscriptions	£1882 17 5	Salaries and Wages	1269 1 0
Talbot Lease Rent	1623 2 0	Books, Magazines, and Newspapers	1136 9 5
Rent Small Hall	410 12 6	Gas and Electric Light	242 14 2
Front Shops	1292 6 8	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries	320 18 9
Rooms	321 18 6	Rates	452 14 8
Sales & Sundries	174 11 10	Insurance	138 19 2
Ratlage & Postage Refunds	48 6 6	Binding	48 10 0
Sale of Furniture	122 14 0	Postage, Stationery and Petty Cash	71 13 6
Talbot Lease Deposit & Interest	5,876 9 5	Ratlage & Postage to Country Subscribers	48 6 6
	510 0 0	Printing and Advertising	152 14 0
		Auditors	10 10 0
	£6,897 1 10	Talbot Lease Refund Deposit & Interest (including £10 received in 1922)	4852 0 0
		Reduction of Mortgage	520 0 9
		Balance	1500 0 0
			25 1 1
			£6,897 1 10

Audited and found correct, JOHN BISHOP, F.C.P.A., Auditors.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Estimated value of the real Property of the Institution as per Valuation for Mortgage, July, 1921	£43,100 0 0	Loan under Mortgage (Rate 7 per cent., due July 29, 1924)	£14,000 0 0
Value of Library	1,500 0 0	Less Paid off in 1923	1,500 0 0
Furniture	500 0 0	Balance	£12,500 0 0
Bank Balance	25 1 1		32,625 1 1
	£45,125 1 1		£45,125 1 1

THE TALBOT LEASE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

Deposit in Joint Names of Trustees of the Melbourne Athenaeum & Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd. as against Building Operations.	15,000 0 0	1st Payment to Contractor	£712 13 8
	£15,000 0 0	Balance	14287 6 4
			£15,000 0 0

The President in moving the adoption of the Report & Balance sheet said they should be received by members with great satisfaction. The lease to Mr Talbot would be of incalculable value to the Institution. He was specially glad to know that Mr Rennie had been nominated for the position of President. Mr Rennie had been on the Committee since 1879. He was President in 1886 & Treasurer since 1889. He had seen the institution in the heyday of its prosperity, & through its troublous years. It was now at the height of its prosperity. Mr Talbot had successfully stood aside for Mr Rennie whom all would welcome to the chair. Mr Rennie in seconding the motion said he appreciated the remarks made & he would be proud to be President. Mr Bates in supporting the motion said members owed a debt of gratitude to the Committee & made special reference to the admirable work done by the Librarian (Mr de Pledge) & the Library staff.

Mr

Mr Talbot on behalf of the chess members referred to various matters which the President said would be considered by the Committee. The Report was adopted unanimously as was the Balance sheet.

Auditors

Mr John Proshop & Mr N. R. Ruddy were reappointed auditors at the same time on the motion of Mr H. E. White & Mr G. G. G. G.

General

Mr Bates requested a Physical Culture Journal was referred to the Librarian Committee. Mr Bates moved & Mr Gales seconded that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the officers & the staff. Carried. The President in reply thanked members for their appreciation. He wished personally to thank the secretary & the staff for their work.

The innovation of a Loan Gallery of Works of Art, introduced last year, has continued to give satisfaction, and your Committee has to acknowledge extra pictures lent by Mrs. Anderson and Messrs. Charles Wheeler and W. Rowell.

During the excavations for the new building, Mr. Merrick Boyd, the well-known art potter, discovered that the clay is eminently suited for pottery. He has taken away some of this clay for the purpose of making some vases for presentation to the Institution. These unique works of art will be much appreciated.

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Your Committee has pleasure in reporting that work in connection with the Building Lease to Mr. Frank Talbot is progressing satisfactorily, and it is hoped that early in May it will be possible to open what will then be the first intimate theatre in Australia.

In this direction, your Committee is pleased to record that the relations with Mr. Talbot have been most cordial, and that on every occasion he has met your Committee in most generous fashion. It was inevitable that the alterations to the building would cause a certain amount of discomfort and inconvenience, but these have been reduced to a minimum by the way in which Mr. Talbot, his architect (Mr. H. E. White) and contractors (Messrs. Alex. Kemp and Sons) have worked in with your Committee. One of the most pleasing features of the work has been the manner in which members have stood the discomfort.

In connection with the alteration to the building, a proposal is now before your Committee, whereby a Smoking Room will be erected in the light-well over the stairs leading to the Library and the Art Gallery. This room, which will be about 20ft. by 16ft., with an ante-room, will be well lighted and ventilated. Adjoining it will be a Board Room and a further room for meetings.

The foundation stone of the Main Hall, laid on July 1, 1872, by the late Mr. Henry Biers, then president, will have to be removed during the alterations. It is proposed to re-set it in the wall where the Main Hall door was formerly, and your Committee proposes to celebrate the resetting with an appropriate function. It is worthy of note that, when the completed building was officially opened on July 7, 1886, by His Excellency Sir Henry

Loch, the president was Mr. Charles Rennie and the vice-president Mr. George Lush, each of whom is now a trustee of the Institution. It may be further noted that these are the only survivors of the Committee of that time. As during 1924 the Main Hall, transformed into a theatre, will be opened, it has been thought that it would be most interesting if Mr. Rennie could be the president then, and he has accordingly been nominated for the position. Another interesting fact in connection with this is, that the contractors for the present work, Messrs. Alex. Kemp and Sons, were the contractors who erected the front portion of the building.

ART GALLERY.

The popularity of the Art Gallery—now fully recognised as the art centre of Melbourne—has been maintained. During the year exhibitions were held by Messrs. J. Farmer, W. M. Whitney, M. O'Connell, C. Hampel, W. Frater, Charles Bryant, A. E. Newbury, F. G. Reynolds, W. D. Knox, R. W. Sturgess, Chris. Murray, Max Meldrum, Miss Nora Gurdon, Miss Vida Leahy, Miss Beckett, Miss Bale, Mrs. Anderson, Women's Art Club, Twenty Melbourne Painters, and the Australian Art Association. Mr. Merrick Boyd also held an exhibition of pottery. For the current year there is not a vacant date, and there are several bookings already made for 1925.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Art Gallery on Wednesday, January 30, at 8 p.m. Members are reminded that they may make nominations to fill the vacancies in the Committee at the close of the Annual Meeting, which they are earnestly requested to attend.

J. O. THOMSON, *President.*
R. W. E. WILMOT, *Secretary.*

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENEUM.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1923.

To Balance	£510 12 5	By Interest on Mortgage	£262 10 0
Subscriptions	£182 17 5	Salaries and Wages	126 1 0
Talbot Lease Rent	162 2 0	Books, Magazines, and Newspapers	116 9 5
Rent Small Hall	410 12 6	Gas and Electric Light	242 14 2
Front Shops	1292 6 8	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries	820 18 9
Rooms	321 18 6	Rates	452 14 3
Sales & Sundries	174 11 10	Insurance	198 19 2
Railage & Postage Refunds	48 6 6	Binding	45 10 0
Sale of Furniture	122 14 0	Postage, Stationery and Petty Cash	71 13 6
	5,876 9 5	Railage & Postage to Country Subscribers	48 6 6
Talbot Lease Deposit & Interest	510 0 0	Printing and Advertising	152 14 0
	£6,897 1 10	Auditors	10 10 0
		Talbot Lease Refund Deposit & Interest (including £10 received in 1922)	482 0 0
		Reduction of Mortgage	520 0 9
		Balance	1500 0 0
			25 1 1
			£6,897 1 10

Audited and found correct, JOHN BISHOP, F.C.P.A., Auditors.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
Estimated value of the real property of the Institution as per Valuation for Mortgage, July, 1921	£45,100 0 0	Loan under Mortgage (Rate 7 per cent., due July 29, 1924)	£14,000 0 0
Value of Library	1,500 0 0	Less Paid off in 1923	1,500 0 0
Furniture	500 0 0	Balance	£12,500 0 0
Bank Balance	25 1 1		32,025 1 1
	£45,125 1 1		£45,125 1 1

THE TALBOT LEASE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

Deposit in Joint Names of Trustees of the Melbourne Athenaeum & Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd. as against Building Operations.	£15,000 0 0	1st Payment to Contractor	£712 13 8
		Balance	14287 6 4
			£15,000 0 0

W-

Auditors

General

The President in moving the adoption of the Report & Balance sheet said this should be received by members with great satisfaction. The lease to Mr Talbot would be of inestimable value to the Institution. He was specially glad to know that Mr Rennie had been nominated for the position of President. Mr Rennie had been on the Committee since 1879. He was President in 1886 & Treasurer since 1889. He had seen the institution in the heyday of its prosperity & through its troublesome years. It was now at the height of its prosperity. Mr Talbot had generously stood aside for Mr Rennie whom all would welcome to the chair. Mr Rennie in seconding the motion said he appreciated the remarks made & he would be proud to be President. Mr Bates in supporting the motion said members owed a debt of gratitude to the Committee & made special reference to the admirable work done by the Librarian (Mr de Pledge) & the Library staff.

Mr Talbot on behalf of the chess members referred to various matters which the President said would be considered by the Committee. The Report was adopted unanimously as under the Balance sheet.

Mr John Bishop & Mr H. R. Rennie were re-appointed auditors at the same time on the motion of Mr Lush & Gates.

Mr Hedges requested a Physical Culture Journal was referred to the Librarian Committee. Mr Bates moved & Mr Gates seconded that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the officers & the staff. Carried.

The President in reply thanked members for their appreciation. He wished personally to thank the secretary & the staff for their work & the work

like particularly to refer to the Hackkeeper on whom had fallen most of the discounts of the situation. The Hackkeeper had shown that cheerful spirit which had made the Australian soldier

Mr Lush on behalf of the Trustees said he had been a member since boyhood. He was glad Mr Kenzie was to be President for no man in Melbourne could have done the work he did

Mr Martin on behalf of the Committee said he had been a member since 1858.

Chairman at the instigation of Mr Cunningham a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the chairman

28 Jan 1925

Confirmed
Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday January 12. 1925

Present The Hon. Mr. (Mr. ^{T. P. P.} ~~Reid~~) in the chair Mr Lush, ^{Mr. Martin} Callaway, ^{Dr.} Mackin, ^{Dr.} Altmann Mr. ~~F. P. P.~~ Bothword Thomson Cooke, Dillon, Regg, Wigg Dr. Kenison

Apologies were received from Mr. Callaway, Brearley, McNally & Kenzie.

Minutes The minutes of meeting of December 5 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported having met & received the auditor's report that they had audited the books & accounts for December & had found them correct. They recommended the payment of the usual monthly accounts as follows.

Salary Secretary	3 1/8	Hebraian	3 1/2	Mr Lush	14/10	Dr. Kenzie	12/10	7/6
Wages Hackkeeper	17/1	Altmann	10/1					
Books Roberts & Co	21	4	7					
" Macdougall	5	15	8					
" Myatt & Wells	4	5	0					
" Sundries	7	8	9					
" Magazines Sumpster Marshall	34	4	6					
Newspapers Armstrongs	10	12	4					
" Sundries	1	5	0					
Advertising Sundries	2	15	0					
Printing Sanderson & Co	3	5	3					
Printing & Stationery Stillwell & Stephens	18	17	6					
Repairs Sundries	4	8	6					
Furniture repairs Munton Pk	51							
Goods & Sundries	2	19	10					
Petty Cash	10	0	0					
Total								£ 301. 13. 7

The Bank Balance was £ 309-15-9.
 The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs Regg & Coates
 on the motion of Messrs Regg & Coates the Secretary was instructed to omit the details of accounts passed in reading the minutes in future.
 The draft balance sheet was submitted & approved but on the motion of Messrs Lush & Wigg it was decided not to show the details of Receipts received in the balance sheet but to group the various items under one head.
 The balance sheet was ordered to be audited.
 The report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Dr. Kenzie & Mr. Bothword.

Balance Sheet

Library

Mr Lush