



THE
Melbourne Athenæum.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1924.

President :

CHAS. RENNIE, Esq.

Vice-President :

M. J. McNALLY, Esq.

Hon. Treasurer :

CUTHBERT RIGG, Esq.

Trustees :

MESSRS. GEORGE LUSH, W. A. CALLAWAY,
CHARLES RENNIE.

Committee :

MR. E. H. COOKE.	MR. J. O. THOMSON
DR. J. A. KENNISON.	„ T. W. BOTHROYD.
MR. D. MARTIN.	„ G. B. HALL.
„ E. E. DILLON.	MR. J. H. D. BREARLEY.
„ A. J. MASTERS.	DR. C. A. ALTMANN.
„ C. A. TOPP.	MR. G. H. WIGG.

Librarian :

M. DE PLEDGE.

Secretary :

R. W. E. WILMOT.

MELBOURNE :
STILLWELL & STEPHENS PTY. LTD., PRINTERS, 373 LONSDALE STREET.



The Melbourne Athenæum.



188 COLLINS ST., MELBOURNE.

January 12, 1925.

NOTICE is hereby given that—

The ANNUAL MEETING of the Institution will be held in the Art Gallery, on **Wednesday, January 28, at Eight p.m**

Your attendance is requested.

BUSINESS.—Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
General.

R. W. E. WILMOT, *Secretary.*

[Copy of Annual Report and Balance Sheet is attached.]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
OF THE
MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,
FOR THE YEAR 1924.

*To be submitted to the Members at the General Meeting,
Wednesday, January 28, 1925, at 8 p.m.*

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submit their report of the transactions of the year 1924, which is the eighty-fifth since the foundation of the Institution.

THE COMMITTEE.

There have been 13 meetings of the General Committee.

<i>The President, Mr. CHARLES RENNIE</i>	attended	11
<i>The Vice-President, Mr. M. J. McNALLY</i>	"	2
<i>Trustee and Treasurer, Mr. CUTHBERT RIGG</i>	"	11
<i>Trustee, Mr. GEO. LUSH</i>	"	10
<i>Trustee, Mr. W. A. CALLAWAY</i>	"	9

COMMITTEE :

Mr. Martin	attended	9	Mr. Thomson	attended	12
Mr. Cooke	"	8	Mr. Dillon	"	9
Dr. Kennison	"	10	Mr. Bothroyd	"	12
Mr. Masters	"	13	Mr. Brearley	"	Absent
Mr. Topp	"	8	Dr. Altmann	"	8
Mr. Hall	"	9	Mr. Wigg	"	9

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Rennie (chairman), Callaway, Rigg, Wigg, Thomson, Hall and Brearley; the Library Committee—Messrs. Topp (chairman), Lush,

Martin, Callaway, Bothroyd, Masters, Altmann and the President; the House Committee—Messrs. Martin, Cooke, McNally, Thomson, Drs. Kennison, 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. Martin, Cooke, Thomson, Hall, Drs. Kennison and Altmann.

Your Committee regrets to record the death, on March 18, of Dr. Alfred W. Rinder, who had been one of its valued members for several years, and was President of The Institution in 1921.

The vacancy caused by Dr. Rinder's death was filled by the appointment of Mr. G. H. Wigg, formerly a member of the Committee, who had returned from England.

FINANCIAL.

The gross receipts for the year amounted to £6,266/17/4—an increase of £390/7/11 over the previous year. The gross expenditure was £5,482/2/8—a net decrease of £630/1/11. With the £25/1/1 brought forward from 1923 and the excess of receipts over expenditure amounting to £784/14/8, there was left a credit balance of £809/15/9. Included in the expenditure were the amounts, £348/18/11 for improvements and alterations, and £89/14/6 for furniture. Your Committee was able to pay £500 off the mortgage of £12,500 to the Australian Mutual Provident Society. The most gratifying increase in the receipts is that of subscriptions from members, £286/9/6. On the expenditure side, your Committee has been able to expend £1,136/9/5 on books, magazines and newspapers, and thus keep the library fully stocked, in order to cater for the increase in members.

During the year the mortgage of £12,500 to the Australian Mutual Provident Society fell due, and your Committee was able to renew it for five years at a reduced rate

of interest, viz., 6½ per cent. The mortgage, as stated above, has since been reduced by £500.

THE LIBRARY.

The Library and Reading Room still continue to be most attractive, and the large increase in membership is the best proof of their popularity. The Committee has again received 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 keeping the Library and Reading Room open on Mondays and until 10 o'clock each evening has proved most successful, the extended hours being a great boon to very many subscribers.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:—

- Victorian Year Book, presented by A. M. Laughton, 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.
- Actuary Guide from P. Taylor, Esq.
- New South Wales Church Magazine by New South Wales Church Press
- 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.

THE TALBOT LEASE.

Your Committee is pleased to report that the work of transforming the main hall into an intimate theatre, undertaken by Frank Talbot Proprietary Ltd., was completed toward the end of the year, and the theatre was officially opened on Tuesday, December 23. Mr. Talbot arranged with the Melbourne Repertory Theatre Company for a special performance of Sir James Barrie's comedy, "Dear Brutus," and he and his partner, Mr. E. J. Carroll, generously gave the whole of the proceeds to the Melbourne Hospital, through the Lord Mayor's Metropolitan Hospitals' Fund. Among those present as guests of the management were their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Forster and suite; his Excellency the Governor and Lady Helena Rous and suite; the Prime Minister and Mrs. Bruce, and your Trustees: Messrs. George Lush, W. A. Callaway and Charles Rennie. The theatre has been the subject of general admiration, not only because of its artistic beauty, but on account of its acoustic properties and the completion of its detail. Your Committee takes this opportunity of expressing congratulations to Mr. Talbot on having finished the work of rebuilding; to Mr. Henry White, the architect, on the excellence of his design and the manner in which it has been carried out; to Mr. Sydney Smith, the architect of The Institution, on the enthusiasm he displayed in furthering Mr. White's ideas, while at the same time studying the interests of the Athenæum; and to Messrs. Alex. Kemp and Sons on the thoroughness with which the work was completed.

The foundation stone of the main hall, laid on July 1, 1872, by the late Mr. Henry Biers, then President, had to be removed during the alterations. In order to mark the occasion, it was reset in the wall where the main hall door was formerly. Your President (Mr. Charles Rennie) relaid the stone on July 1, 1924, just 52 years after its original setting. It is worthy of note that, when the com-

pleted 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. In order to perpetuate the occasion, the documents and coins placed in the cavity of the stone were replaced, together with documents and daily papers of July 1, 1924. The original documents were secured in a glass jar specially blown for the occasion by Messrs. L. L. Mount and Co. and they now rest in the cavity in a jar presented by the Australian Glass Manufacturers Limited, the successors to that firm. In order that the stone should have a worthy setting, it has been surrounded by a tablet of Gippsland granite, suitably inscribed.

An alteration which has met with the entire approval of members is the erection of a smoking-room in the light well over the stairs leading to the Library. It is commodious, well lighted and ventilated, and is so arranged that one portion of it is reserved for smokers and the other for chess players. The room is well patronised.

In connection with the alterations, the Committee was able to provide a Board Room worthy of the Institution, and this has been comfortably furnished.

The improvements effected include increased lavatory accommodation, which has been much appreciated.

A notable feature of the alterations will be the establishment of a special portion of the Reading Room set apart for lady members, comfortably furnished, and stocked with magazines and papers of special interest to ladies.

FLEET DECORATIONS.

On the occasion of the visit of the squadron of the British Fleet in March, 1924, your Committee arranged for the building to be suitably decorated, and the result was most satisfactory.

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. Handasyde, Blamire Young, William Rowell, E. Hooton, Eldershaw, Jackson, A. E. Newbury, W. M. Whitney, John Rowell, Louis McCubbin, R. W. Sturgess, Latimer and Sennett, Mrs. Theo. Anderson, Misses Dent, Cumbræ Stewart, Hawdon and Beckett, The Australian Art Association, Twenty Melbourne Painters, and The Women's Art Club. Mr. Merrie 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 1926.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Art Gallery on Wednesday, January 28, 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.

CHAS RENNIE, *President.*

R. W. E. WILMOT, *Secretary.*

Magazines and Periodicals

AVAILABLE IN THE READING ROOM.

BRITISH & FOREIGN

Belfast Weekly News
Bystander
Christian Science Monitor
Christian World
Church Guardian
Church Times
Dublin Weekly Freeman
Financial News
Glasgow Herald (weekly)
Liverpool Weekly Post
Methodist Recorder
New York Herald
Pall Mall Gazette
Scotsman (weekly)
Times (London)
Times Literary Supplement
Westminster Gazette

AUSTRALASIAN

Victoria—Melbourne
Age
Argus
Herald
Australasian
Graphic
Leader
Punch
Southern Cross
Spectator
Sun
Sun Pictorial
Table Talk
Weekly Times

Victoria—Provincial

Ararat Advertiser
Ballarat Courier
Ballarat Star
Bendigo Advertiser
Castlemaine Mail
East Charlton Tribune
Geelong Advertiser
Gippsland Mercury
Korumburra Times
Kyneton Guardian
News of the Week (Geelong)
Ovens and Murray Advertiser
Port Fairy Gazette
Rutherglen Sun
Stawell News
Wangaratta Chronicle
Warnambool Standard
Wimmera Star

New South Wales

Daily Telegraph
Referee
Smith's Weekly
Sydney Bulletin
Sydney Mail
Sydney Morning Herald
Sydney Sun

South Australia

South Australian Register
The Observer

Queensland

Brisbane Courier
Queenslander

Western Australia

The West Australian
Western Mail
Albany Advertiser

Tasmania

Hobart Mercury
Illustrated Tasmanian Mail
Launceston Examiner

New Zealand

Auckland Weekly News
Otago Witness

PERIODICALS.

British.

Bookman
British Australasian
Building News
Country Life
Cornhill Magazine
Economist
Engineer
English Mechanic
Field
Graphic
Illustrated London News
Inquirer
Jewish Chronicle
Ladies' Field Fashions
Lancet
London Punch
Mercantile Guardian
Mining Journal
Nation and Athenæum
Nature
New Church Magazine
New Statesman
Notes and Queries

Public Opinion
Queen
Saturday Review
Sketch
Spectator
Sphere
Sporting and Dramatic News
Studio
Sunday Companion
Sunday at Home
Tablet
Tatler
Truth (London)
Vogue

French.

Je Sais Tout
L'Illustration
Revue de deux Mondes
Revue de Paris

American.

Independent (incorp. Harpers' Weekly)
Ladies' Home Journal
Popular Mechanics
Popular Science
Saturday Evening Post

Australasian.

Australasian Insurance and Banking Record (Melb.)
Australasian Manufacture (Sydney)
Australasian Traveller
Australian Brewing and Wine Journal (Melb.)
Australian Christian World (Sydney)
Australian Farming (Melb.)
Church of England Messenger (Melbourne)
Commonwealth of Australia Gazette
Government Gazette of Victoria
Industrial Australian and Mining Standard (Melb.)
Ladies' Sphere
Messenger (Presbyterian, Melbourne)
New Outlook
Photo Review (Sydney)
Presbyterian (Melbourne)
Spectator (Melbourne)
The Home (Sydney)
Woman's World

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1924.

To	By
To Balance £25 1 1	By Interest on Mortgage .. £844 1 9
Subscriptions £2169 6 11	Salaries and Wages 1574 13 0
Rents 3799 8 2	Books, Magazines & Newspapers 1211 16 0
Sales & Sundries 228 6 1	Gas and Electric Light 184 5 0
Railage & Postage Refunds .. 69 16 2	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries .. 202 13 6
<u>6,266 17 4</u>	Rates 449 13 11
	Insurance 233 10 3
	Binding 46 7 6
	Postage, Stationery & Petty Cash 129 19 4
	Railage & Postage to Country Subscribers 69 16 2
	Printing and Advertising 47 6 0
	Auditors 31 10 0
	Decorations Fleet Week 17 16 10
	<u>5043 9 3</u>
	Balance 1248 9 2
<u>£6,291 18 5</u>	<u>£6,291 18 5</u>
Balance £1248 9 2	Reduction of Mortgage £500 0 0
	Improvements and Alterations 348 18 11
	Furniture 89 14 6
	Balance 309 15 9
<u>£1248 9 2</u>	<u>£1248 9 2</u>

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Audited and found correct,

MELBOURNE, 9th January, 1925.

JOHN BISHOP, F.C.P.A.,
L. N. RAINEY A.I.C.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 6½ per cent., due July 29, 1929) £12,500 0 0
Value of Library 1,500 0 0	Less Paid off in 1924 500 0 0
„ Furniture 500 0 0	<u>£12,000 0 0</u>
Bank Balance 309 15 9	Balance 33,409 15 9
<u>£45,409 15 9</u>	<u>£45,409 15 9</u>

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THE TALBOT LEASE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

Deposit in Joint Names of Trustees of the Melbourne Athenæum & Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd. as against Building Operations. .. £15,000 0 0	Payments to Contractor on Account of Building £15,000 0 0
<u>£15,000 0</u>	<u>£15,000 0 0</u>

CUTHBERT RIGG, TREASURER.

Magazines for Circulation in the Library.

PERIODICALS.

BRITISH

Blackwood's Magazine
 Cassell's Magazine
 Chambers' Journal
 Contemporary Review
 Discovery
 Dublin Review
 Edinburgh Review
 English Review
 Fortnightly Review
 Grand Magazine
 Hibbert Journal
 Hutchinson's
 London Magazine
 London Quarterly Review
 Musical Times

Nash's Magazine
 National Review
 New
 Nineteenth Century
 Pearson's Magazine
 Quarterly Review
 Round Table
 Royal Magazine
 Strand
 Wide World
 Windsor
 World's Work

AMERICAN

Adventure
 Atlantic Monthly
 Bookman
 Century

Cosmopolitan
 Everybody's
 Forum
 Harper's Magazine
 Munsey Magazine
 National Geographical Magazine
 Red Book
 Scribner's Monthly
 World's Work

FRENCH

Revue des Deux Mondes
 Revue de Paris

AUSTRALASIAN

Life
 Stead's (Melbourne)
 Triad (Sydney)