

Minutes of meeting of General Committee held on Friday January 7. 1927.

Present Mrs Boothwood, Topp, Martin, Martin Coy Rennie, Wigg, Thomson, ^{Lush} D. - Kenyon & Rattmann
Apologies were received from Mrs Buarley & Dillon

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

Correspondence The secretary read letters from Mr Wainwood & Mr Dillon thanking the Committee for letters of sympathy.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for December & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £519.1.7 was recommended.

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

Balance Sheet The Treasurer produced the balance sheet duly audited by the auditors & explained it in detail.

It was decided on the motion of Mr Rennie & D. Rattmann to send the Balance Sheet on for printing for submission to the annual meeting.

Report It was decided that the draft of the Annual Report to be prepared by the Secretary be submitted to the President, Mr Topp & Mr Rennie for approval.

Secretary The President read a letter from the Secretary accompanied by reports from Dr Forsyth & Dr Deubar Hooper making application for leave of absence from after the annual meeting until the end of May.

The Treasurer said that the application had already been before the Finance Committee who recommended that the leave asked for be granted

on full pay & that a holiday gratuity of £50 be granted.

He moved the adoption of the Report Mr Martin seconded the motion which was carried Mr Rennie moved that Mr Deledge act as Secretary during Mr Wainwood's absence & that Mr Wainwood leave his clerk to conduct the office & keep the books. That the Bank be notified that the Treasurer or President may endorse ^{all} cheques during the secretary's absence and that cheques be countersigned by Mr De Phage as acting secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr Martin & carried.

Salaries

The Treasurer said that in view of the absence of the secretary the Finance Committee had gone into the question of Salaries. It was not usual to deal with this matter until March when the new Finance Committee had been appointed but in view of the secretary's proposed absence & the fact that the secretary was affected it was suggested that the recommendation should be a recommendation to the incoming Committee in order that the Treasurer might act on it as far as the secretary was concerned.

at the suggestion of Mr Lush it was decided to deal with the recommendation regarding the Secretary & to defer consideration of the other recommendations till March.

The Treasurer then moved that the recommendation that the Secretary's Salary be increased to £450 per annum from Jan 1. The motion was seconded by Dr Rattmann & carried.

Annual Meeting
Library

on the motion of Mrs Lush & Rennie the date of the annual meeting was fixed for Monday Jan 24. The report of the Library Committee was adopted.

Confirmed C. St. Wright
4th Feb 1927. President

General

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in the Art Gallery on Monday, January 24, 1927.

Present

Messrs. Bothroyd (Chair), Martin, Coy, Rennie, Thomson, Wigg (Members of Committee), Evans (Life member), & 40 other members.

Apologies
Minutes

Apologies were received from Messrs Dillon, Masters & Topp. The minutes of Annual meeting of Jan. 27, 1926, were read and confirmed.

Notice

The notice convening the meeting was read to the meeting.

Report &
Balance Sheet

Major Williams moved that the report & balance sheet be taken as read. Mr. Wyland seconded the motion. They were -

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,

FOR THE YEAR 1926.

To be submitted to the Members at the General Meeting, Monday, January 24, 1927, at 8 p.m.

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submits its report of the transactions of the year 1926, which is the eighty-seventh since the foundation of the Institution.

THE COMMITTEE.

There have been 12 meetings of the General Committee.

The President, and Trustee Mr. T. W. BOTHROYD attended 12
The Vice-President, Mr. G. H. WIGG 10
Trustee and Treasurer, Mr. CHARLES RENNIE 10
Trustee, Mr. GEORGE LUSH 8

COMMITTEE:

Mr. Martin attended 11
Mr. Cooke 0
Dr. Kennison 11
Mr. Masters 10
Mr. Topp 8
Mr. Hall 8
Mr. Thomson attended 10
Mr. Dillon 6
Mr. Brearley 0
Dr. Altmann 3
Mr. Coy 10

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Rennie (chairman), Callaway, Wigg, Thomson, Hall, Brearley, Masters and the President; the Library Committee—Messrs. Topp (chairman), Martin, Callaway, Masters, Coy, Lush, Drs.

Altmann, Kennison and the President; the House Committee—Messrs. Martin, Cooke, Dillon, Coy, Thomson, Dr. Altmann and the President, held the usual meetings, and thus attended regularly to the various departments of the Institution. Mr. J. H. D. Brearley was on leave of absence for most of the year owing to his being in England.

Your Committee regrets to report that owing to ill-health, Mr. E. H. Cooke resigned his position as a member of Committee on October 1st. In accepting the resignation, with regret, your Committee adopted a resolution, expressing its appreciation of Mr. Cooke's services as Committeeman for eighteen years and President.

Dr. Altmann met with a serious accident on March 3, 1926, and was unable to resume his seat on the Committee until September 3, when he was welcomed by the President, and congratulated on his recovery.

FINANCIAL.

The statement of accounts submitted herewith must be very satisfactory to members. It will be seen that the gross receipts for the year amounted to £6901/13/1, an increase of £228/17/7 over the previous year. The gross expenditure was £6315/15/2—a reduction of £147/14/1. There was thus left a profit on the year's working of £585/17/11. With the £539/2/- brought forward, and £17/8/- received from the Victoria Palace Limited for the sale of a small strip of land, there remained a balance of £1142/7/11. Your Committee was thus able to pay £1000 off the mortgage, thereby reducing it to £11,000.

The most gratifying feature of the statement is the continued increase in members' subscriptions (£291/2/10). On the expenditure side, your Committee has been able to allocate £1554/3/1 for books, magazines

and newspapers—an increase of £150/0/4 over the figures for 1925

As an indication of the steady progress of the Institution, the following table, showing the receipts from subscriptions and the gross receipts for the last ten years will be interesting, thus:—

	Subscriptions.	Total Receipts.
1917	£600 0 6	£2832 1 9
1918	702 4 3	2773 10 2
1919	854 18 6	3361 5 1
1920	1172 9 3	4453 11 1
1921	1473 13 9	4942 3 5
1922	1707 6 6	5376 8 8
1923	1882 17 5	5876 9 5
1924	2169 6 11	6266 17 4
1925	2399 4 3	6692 15 6
1926	2690 7 1	6901 13 1

Your Committee is pleased to report that it has renewed the leases of the shops for a term of three years at a satisfactory increase of rent.

THE NEW TOWN HALL.

The re-building of the Melbourne Town Hall necessitated an agreement with the City Council authorities. It was found that the titles to the land needed adjustment, and this was done. The plans for the new Town Hall disclosed the fact that several windows on the western side of the property of the Institution would be prejudicially affected, and that if your Trustees were to insist on their full rights being preserved, it would seriously interfere with the Town Hall reconstruction. After several conferences between the City Architect and the Architects to the Institution (Messrs. Sydney Smith, Ogg and Serpell) an agreement was arrived at, and the matter was settled in accordance with the following resolution:—

"That this Committee, in order not to interfere with the re-building of the Melbourne Town Hall, agrees to waive its existing rights as to lighting preserved to it under Payne's Act. It feels, however, that the City Council should tile the whole of the area opposite the windows affected, and that, as it will be necessary to light the rooms concerned, the Council should pay to the Trustees the sum of £500 for the purchase of the rights so waived, and should bear all costs."

This offer was accepted, and an agreement was entered into between the City Council and your Trustees. The documents have been signed, and all that remains is the receipt of the sum of £500 and the completion of the work, which will not materially interfere with the windows affected.

THE LIBRARY.

The Library and Reading Room still continue to be most attractive, and the steady increase in membership is not only gratifying, but a distinct proof of their popularity. On several occasions members have expressed their satisfaction with the excellent provision made for them, and of the competence and courtesy of the Library Staff.

Your Committee is pleased to report that the attendance of members in the evening and on public holidays has increased. The extended hours have been a boon to very many subscribers. Another feature of the working of the Library is the increase in the number of country subscribers, many of whom live a long distance from the city.

Your Committee has pleasure in acknowledging the gift of a painting, "Ruin at Peronne," by Mr. Arthur Streeton, the well-known artist. In recognition of this handsome gift, your Committee elected Mr. Streeton as an honorary member. The picture, which is hung in the Reading Room, has been much appreciated, not only because of its artistic worth, but for its historical value.

The Loan Exhibition of Pictures in the Reading Room has been increased by pictures lent by Messrs. R. G. McCann and Harry McClelland.

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.
- New South Wales Church Magazine by New South Wales Church Press
- Literary Guide from P. Taylor, Esq.
- 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 popularity of the Art Gallery, which has been recently re-decorated, has been maintained. Exhibitions succeeded one another from February 1st to December 24th without a break. The exhibitors were Messrs. E. Buckmaster, R. G. McCann, Blamire Young, Whitney, John Rowell, H. McClelland, J. Farmer, Leason, W. Dyson, H. Reynolds, Latimer, Sennett, A. E. Newbury, H. L. Fern, Misses Taylor, Pye, Cusack, Cumbræ Stewart, Claire Scott, Beckett, Dent, the Women's Art Club, Twenty Melbourne Painters, the Australian Art Association, and the Royal Art Society of New South Wales.

Your Committee is pleased to report that there is not a vacant date for the gallery for this year, and that many bookings for 1928 have been made already.

THE STAFF.

Your Committee desires to express its appreciation of the zeal and care shown during the year in their several duties by the Secretary, the Librarian and the other members of the staff.

Your Committee regrets that, owing to ill-health, your Secretary has been forced to apply for extended leave of absence. This has been granted, and the Secretary will be absent until the end of May, his duties being attended to by the Librarian, who has been appointed Acting Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Art Gallery on Monday, January 24th, at 8 p.m. Members are reminded that, under the new rules, "Candidates for the vacant offices shall be nominated in writing, each nomination shall be signed by two members of the Institution and by the candidate, and shall be delivered to the Secretary seven clear days before the Annual Meeting."

T. W. BOTHROYD, President.
R. W. E. WILMOT, Secretary.

IT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.
Year ended 31st December, 1926.

Church of England Messenger (Melbourne)	2539	2	0
Graphic	901	13	1
Illustrated London News	15	1	
Inquirer	19	11	
Jewish Chronicle	8	0	
Ladies Field Fashions	7	11	
Lancet			
Ladies Sphere			
New Outlook			
Photo Review (Sydney)			
Presby'n Messenger (Melb.)			
Spectator (Melbourne)			
The Home (Sydney)			
New Statesman			
Banker-Advertiser			
Bendigo Advertiser			
East Carlton Tribune			
Geelong Advertiser			
Geelong Mercury			
Gippsland Times			
Korumburra Times			
Kyneton Guardian			
News of the Week (Geelong)			
Ovens and Murray Advertiser			
the Fairy Gazette			
Port Phillip Sun			
Russherglen Sun			
Stawell News			
Warrigata Chronicle			
By Interest on Mortgage	£775	3	8
Salaries and Wages	1777	15	0
Books, Magazines & Newspapers	1554	3	1
Gas and Electric Light	288	4	3
Repairs, Goods, and Sundries	268	10	11
Rates and Taxes	763	10	0
Insurance	£782	9	10
Less paid by Lessee	372	0	0
Binding	410	9	10
Printing, Postage, Stationery & Petty Cash	49	2	6
Railage & Postage to Country Subscribers	193	9	9
Advertising	88	3	6
Auditors	58	10	8
Improvements	31	10	0
Architects	65	2	0
Balance	42	0	0
	6315	15	2
	1124	19	11
	£7440	15	1
Reduction of Mortgage	£1000	0	0
Balance	142	7	11
	£1142	7	11

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

OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

LIABILITIES.	
Loan under Mortgage (Rate 6½ per cent., due July 1929)	£11,090 0 0
Balance (subject to Lease as per contra)	71,142 7 11
	82,232 7 11

CHARLES RENNIE, TREASURER.

Pres
Apologies
Minutes
Notice
Report
Balance sheet

General

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in the Art Gallery on Monday, January 24, 1927.
Messrs. Bothroyd (Chair), Martin, Coy, Rennie, Thomson, Wigg (Members of Committee), Evans (Life member), & 40 other members.
Apologies were received from Messrs. Dillon, Masters & Topp.
The minutes of Annual meeting of Jan. 27, 1926, were read and confirmed.
The notice convening the meeting was read to the meeting.
Major Williams moved that the report & balance sheet be taken as read. Mr. Wiggland seconded the motion. They were -

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,

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Trustee, Mr. GEORGE LUSH 8

COMMITTEE:

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Mr. Dillon 6
Mr. Brearley 0
Dr. Altmann 3
Mr. Coy 10

The Finance Committee—Messrs. Rennie (chairman), Callaway, Wigg, Thomson, Hall, Brearley, Masters and the President; the Library Committee—Messrs. Topp (chairman), Martin, Callaway, Masters, Coy, Lush, Drs.

Altmann, Kennison and the President; the House Committee—Messrs. Martin, Cooke, Dillon, Coy, Thomson, Dr. Altmann and the President, held the usual meetings, and thus attended regularly to the various departments of the Institution. Mr. J. H. D. Brearley was on leave of absence for most of the year owing to his being in England.

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The proprietors of the principal metropolitan newspapers have also each contributed

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Your Committee regrets that, owing to ill-health, your Secretary has been forced to apply for extended leave of absence. This has been granted, and the Secretary will be absent until the end of May, his duties being attended to by the Librarian, who has been appointed Acting Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING.

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T. W. BOTHROYD, President.
R. W. E. WILMOT, Secretary.

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.
For the Year ended 31st December, 1926.

To Balance	£539 2 0	By Interest on Mortgage	£775 3 8
Subscriptions	22690 7 1	Salaries and Wages	1777 15 0
Rents	3807 9 0	Books, Magazines & Newspapers	1554 3 1
Sales & Sundries	315 13 6	Gas and Electric Light	238 4 3
Railage & Postage Refunds	88 3 6	Repairs, Goods, and Sundries	268 10 11
	6,901 13 1	Rates and Taxes	763 10 0
		Insurance	£782 9 10
		Less paid by Lessee	410 9 10
		Printing, Postage, Stationery & Petty Cash	49 2 6
		Railage & Postage to Country Subscribers	193 9 9
		Advertising	88 3 6
		Auditors	58 10 8
		Improvements	31 10 0
		Architects	65 2 0
		Balance	42 0 0
			6315 15 2
			1124 19 11
			£7,440 15 1
Balance brought down	£1124 19 11	Reduction of Mortgage	£1000 0 0
Sale of Land	17 8 0	Balance	142 7 11
	£1142 7 11		£1142 7 11

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

MELBOURNE, 7th January, 1927.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.
Estimated value of the real Property of the Institution as per City Valuation January 1925 (Subject to Lease to Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd., as to Theatre portion expiring July 16, 1962)	Loan under Mortgage (Rate 6½ per cent., due July 1929)
Value of Library	Balance (subject to Lease as per contra)
" Furniture	
Bank Balance	
£280,000 0 0	£11,090 0 0
1,500 0 0	71,142 7 11
500 0 0	
142 7 11	
£282,142 7 11	

CHARLES RENNIE, TREASURER.

The President, in moving the adoption of the report & balance sheet, said he had much pleasure in so doing, especially as this report showed another very successful year, & there seemed to be no reason why 1927 should not be still more successful. Two or three years ago one of the members had told him that he thought the peak of prosperity had been reached, but figures showed that the peak had not been reached, & he saw no reason why the Institution should not go on expanding for many years to come.

Mr. Rennie, in seconding the motion, said he would not inflict a long peroration on the members - long explanations & smooth words were only required when matters were not going satisfactorily; fortunately, it was just the opposite with the Melb. Athenaeum & he had much pleasure in directing attention to the satisfactory state of the balance sheet - especially to the fact of £1000 having been paid off the mortgage. Further, he had much pleasure in informing members that the sum of £500 would soon be received from the Town Hall authorities, being compensation for the partial obstruction of our ancient light rights.

The President announced that as the nominations were only sufficient for the vacancies he would declare the following elected -

President - Mr. G. K. Wigg
 Vice-President - W. Kennison
 Treasurer - Mr. Charles Rennie
 Committee - Messrs. Brearley, Topp, Thomson, Dillon, Hall, Altmann, Wainman, Masters, Coy, Bothroyd, W. Kennison

Elections

Auditors

On the motion of Messrs. Gales & Johnson the retiring auditors Messrs. J. Bishop & L. H. Rainey, were re-elected, it being decided at the request of Mr. Bishop that the firm's name of Wilson, Bishop & Henderson be substituted for his. Elected unopposed at the same remuneration. (Contd. on p. 204).

Secretary's illness.

~~Mr. D. Martin moved that it be placed on record the regret of the members of the Committee at the illness of our excellent & worthy Secretary, & to express the sincere hope that his trip to the United States would thoroughly restore him to health, & he felt certain that during his welcome stay in the land that contained so many big institutions his study of their methods would prove of great benefit to the Melb. Athenaeum on his return.~~

~~Seconded by Rev. G. H. Bishop & carried by acclamation. Mr. Stevens stated that he was one of the oldest members & was very pleased at the admirable way the Institution was conducted, but at the same time there were two points he would like to bring under the notice of the Committee. The first was that the alcove reserved for ladies should be more comfortable. At present it contained only one couch & a few wicker chairs. He would suggest that the Committee compare this with the appointments of the Melb. Book Club which was furnished with carpets, lounges, settees & really comfortable chairs. The second point he would suggest was the placing of some chairs in the library, in the open space between the entrance door of library & the door to the Reading Room, where~~

ladies ^{other} members could sit & talk, which they were not allowed to do in the Reading Room, instead of having to sit on the cold form on the draughty landing outside. The motion was seconded by Miss Tomkinson. Mr. McKeen said that it gave pleasure to belong to an Institution so well run as the Melb. Athenaeum, & he would like to congratulate the Committee especially upon the admirable selection of magazines & reviews in the Reading Room, these comparing very favourably with any other library that he knew. At the same time he thought that the supply of books on biography, travel & Bible study, should be increased, & he would like to see the membership increase year by year & he advocated more propaganda work, viz. weekly advertisements in the leading daily papers in the columns devoted to books & that a small illustrated circular or attractive pamphlet be prepared & circulated. He further thought it would be a good idea if the Secretary could be instructed to visit some of the leading libraries & institutions similar to this while on his trip to the ~~U.S.~~ ^{old world}, necessary that a longer holiday be granted & for him to bring back a detailed report. The President, in reply, thanked these members for expressing their views, & said that the various matters would receive close attention. With regard to the Secretary visiting & reporting on libraries, etc. he was only going to the U.S.A. on sick leave. A vote of thanks ^{to the retiring office-bearers & the staff} was moved by Mr. Wendell. Major Williams, in seconding the motion, said he would like to express his appreciation of

Vote of Thanks

~~the work of the Librarian & the courtesy & attention of the staff. He had been a member of many libraries in Victoria & several in Melbourne but he was certainly getting better books & more consideration now than he had ever experienced before. The meeting then closed.~~

Secretary's illness

Mr. W. Martin moved that the meeting place on record the regret of the members of the Committee at the illness of the Secretary & the sincere hope that his trip to the United States would thoroughly restore him to health. The motion was seconded by the Rev. G. H. Bishop & carried by acclamation.

Ladies' corner

D. Stevens stated that he was one of the oldest members & was very pleased at the admirable way in which the Institution was conducted, but he would like to suggest that the alcove reserved for ladies in the reading room should be made more comfortable.

Books & Advertising

Mr. McKeen said he would like to congratulate the Committee upon the admirable selection of magazines & reviews in the reading room. At the same time he thought that the supply of books on biography, travel & Bible study should be increased. Also he advocated more advertising in an attractive form.

Vote of thanks

* A vote of thanks to the retiring office-bearers & the staff was moved by Mr. Wendell. Mr. Williams, in seconding the motion, expressed his appreciation of the work of the Librarian & the courtesy & attention of the staff. The meeting then closed.

* The President, in reply, thanked these members for expressing their views & said that the various matters would receive attention.
 C. J. Wright Chairman
 23 Jan'y 1928

- Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, Feb. 4, 1927.
- Present** Messrs. Wigg, Dillon, Hall, Masters, Bothroyd, Lush, Rennie, Topp & boy
- Apologies** Apologies were received from Mr. J.O. Thomson and D. Kennison.
- Minutes** The minutes of meeting of January 7 were read & confirmed.
- Finance** The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for January & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £468.1.11, as shown on page 66 of the cash book, was recommended. The report was adopted on the motion of Messrs. Masters & Bothroyd.
- Annual Meeting** It was decided that the minutes of the annual meeting be revised and submitted for the consideration of the past president and the President.
- Committees** The following committees were appointed:-
- Finance** Messrs. Rennie, Callaway, Thomson, Hall, Brearley, Wigg, Masters & the President.
- House** Messrs. Martin, Thomson, Dillon, boy, D. Kennison, D. Allmann & the President.
- Library** Messrs. Rennie, Callaway, Topp, Bothroyd, Masters, Martin, Lush, boy, D. Allmann & Kennison, & the President.
- Duke of York's Visit** It was decided to order flags for decoration during the Duke's visit - 30 6ft. flags & 200 ft. of whiffs. Messrs. F. Talbot & Co. Ltd. agreed to do the lighting decorations as on the occasion of the visit of the fleet.
- Endorsement of Cheques** Mr. Rennie reported that it was rather inconvenient both for himself and for the staff to have numerous small cheques taken to him for endorsement and he suggested that Mr. De Pledge be given authority to endorse cheques up to five pounds (£5). This was agreed to.

Confirmed
Charles A. Topp

Feb 5. 27

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, March 4, 1927.

Present Messrs. Bothroyd, Coy, Jopp, Rennie, Dillon & Thomson.

Apologies were received from Mr Wigg & D. Kenison. The minutes of meeting of Feb. 4 were read and confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books and accounts for February and had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £505-14-4, as shown on page 68 of the Cash book, was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Coy. Mr Rennie was re-elected as Chairman of the Finance Committee for the year.

Salaries The Finance Committee reported that they had revised the Salary list & had made the following recommendations:-

- Secretary to be increased to £450 per annum
- Librarian " " " £450 " "
- Miss Cooper " " " £4/10/- per week
- B. Toman " " " £3/10/- " "
- J. N. Thomson " " " £3/10/- " "

The recommendations were adopted on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Thomson. The Acting Secretary reported the death of Mr D. Martin.

On the motion of Messrs. Coy & Bothroyd the following resolution was passed - "The Committee desires to express its profound regret at the death of its old & valued member, Mr D. Martin, who served for many years as a member of Committee and was president & vice-president, and its deep sympathy with Mr Martin and the family in their bereavement."

A letter to this effect was sent to Mr Martin. The report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Messrs. Masters & Rennie.

Library Advertising On the motion of Messrs. Masters & Bothroyd it was

resolved to stop ^{all} advertising. Confirmed 1st April 1927. C. N. Wigg, Chairman.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, April 1, 1927.

Present Messrs. Wigg, Coy, Jopp, D. Kenison, Masters, Callaway, & Rennie.

Apologies Apologies were received from Messrs. Thomson, Bothroyd, Dillon & D. Altmann.

Minutes The minutes of meeting of March 4 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books & accounts for March and had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £652-15-11 as shown on page 70 of the Cash book was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Masters.

Welcome The President welcomed Mr Callaway on his return from abroad.

Safe It was decided to appoint a sub-committee, consisting of the President, Treasurer & the Chairman of the Library Committee, to deal with this matter & report on it.

Metropolitan Orchestra A letter was received from the Metropolitan Orchestra asking that a temporary reduction be made in the rent charged for the use of hall for their rehearsals. To be referred to the Finance Committee.

House Committee The report of the House Committee was adopted.

Library The report of the Library Committee was adopted.

M. Moffitt & Co. A letter was received from Marian Moffitt & Co. Ltd., re Decorations for the Duke's Visit, stating that they considered £2/2/- would be ample for them to pay, taking into consideration the space they occupy.

Confirmed 6th May 1927. C. N. Wigg, President.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, May 6, 1927.

Present Messrs. Wigg, Callaway, Masters, Topp, Rennie, Dillon, Lusk, & Dr. Kennison, & Mr. Thomson.

Apology minutes An apology was received from Dr. Allmann. The minutes of meeting of April 1 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books & accounts for April & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £565-18-4 as shown on page 72 of the cash book was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Dillon.

Death of Mr. Bothroyd The Acting Secretary reported that, under instructions from the President, a letter of condolence had been sent to Mrs. Bothroyd.

Death of Mr. Boy The President said he regrets to report also the death of Mr. Boy. It was decided that a letter of condolence, embodying the following resolution, be sent to his family, -

"The Committee of the Melbourne Athenaeum deeply regrets the death of Mr. K. P. Boy and desires to place on record its appreciation of his services to the Institution as a member of the Committee."

Secretary It was unanimously decided to confirm the action of the President in granting two months' extension of leave to the Secretary on account of continued ill-health.

Safe Mr. Syaney Smith advised that a safe could be built into the wall of the Library. The matter was left in the hands of the sub-committee to obtain a further report re the repairing of the existing safe.

Ladies' Corner It was decided to refer this matter again to the House Committee for further consideration. Moved by Mr. Lusk, seconded by Mr. Masters.

John Hall Wall Mr. Syaney Smith reported that although the quality of the tiles used for this wall was very poor this did not detract from the reflected light. It was therefore resolved that no action be taken.

Newspapers The Treasurer asked that a list of all local papers subscribed to be compiled.

Library The report of the Library Committee was adopted.
Confirmed
3 June 1927 - C. S. Wigg, President

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, June 3, 1927.

Present Messrs. Wigg, Masters, Rennie, Lusk, Topp, Hall, Dillon & Thomson, Dr. Kennison & Allmann.

Apology minutes An apology was received from Mr. Callaway. The minutes of meeting of May 6 were read & confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books & accounts for May & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £396-8-9 as shown on page 75 of the cash book was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Masters.

Secretary It was unanimously decided to confirm the action of the President in granting the Secretary a further extension of one month's leave owing to continued ill health. On the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Masters it was decided that the Secretary's salary be paid by cheque into his account at the Royal Bank & that a duplicate receipt be obtained from the bank.

Safe On the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Masters it was decided to purchase a new safe, the matter of selection to be left to the President & Treasurer. Ladies' Corner Left in the hands of the House Committee, with power to act.

Victoria Palace The President reported that he had been approached by the manager of the Victoria Palace regarding sharing the cost of repairing Sleigh Lane. He had inspected the lane and decided that, as the Melbourne Athenaeum had previously paid half the cost of repairing, and the present state of the lane was due to the building operations of the Victoria Palace, the full cost should be borne by them. This was confirmed by the Committee.

Newspapers A list of ^{local} newspapers subscribed to was submitted by the Acting Secretary. It was decided that a letter should be sent to each of the proprietors stating that the Athenaeum would pay postage if they would supply the paper gratis.

Bad Ventilation Mr. J. O. Thomson stated that frequently, on entering the building, he noticed the presence of bad air in the entrance hall. After discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the House Committee and the architect, Mr. Sydney Smith. Confirmed C. St. Wigg 1. July 1927. President

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, July 1, 1927. Present Messrs. Wigg, Topp, Dillon, Lusk, Thomson & D. Kennison.

Apologies Apologies were received from D. Altmann, Messrs. Masters, & Rennie & Ballaway.

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

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books and accounts for June and had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £590-1-6 as shown on page 78 of the cash book was recommended. The

Smoking Room

Mortgage

report was received on the motion of Messrs. Thomson & Dillon. The acting secretary reported that several members had approached him regarding an easier method of opening the window at the end of the smoking room. Referred to the House Committee, with power to act.

Mr. Thomson reported that the Finance Committee recommended that £500 be paid off the mortgage, notice to be given to the manager of the Aust. Mutual Provident Society, in due course. Approved. Confirmed 5th Aug 1927 C. St. Wigg. President

Present Apologies

Minutes

Finance

Secretary

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, August 5, 1927.

Present Messrs. Wigg, Dillon, Hall, Masters & Rennie. Apologies were received from Messrs. Ballaway, Thomson, Topp & D. Kennison & D. Altmann.

The minutes of meeting of July 1 were read and confirmed.

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books and accounts for July and had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £997.15.9 as shown on page 87 of the cash book was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie and Hall.

The recommendation of the Finance Committee that the Secretary be granted extension of leave to 14th October was unanimously adopted.

Moved by Mr. Hall, seconded by Mr. Dillon. Confirmed 2nd Sept 1927 J. A. Kennison Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, September 2, 1927.

Present Dr. Kennison, Messrs. Callaway, Topp, Rennie, Lusk, Dillon & Masters.

Apologies Apologies were received from Messrs. Wigg, Thomson, Hall & Dr. Allmann.

Minutes The minutes of meeting of August 5 were read and confirmed.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books and accounts for August and had found them correct.

The payment of accounts amounting to £994-8-7 as shown on page 83 of the cash book was recommended. The report was received on the motion of Messrs. Rennie & Callaway.

Land Tax A letter having been received from the Deputy Federal Commissioner of Taxation re Land Tax Assessment, it was decided that the Commissioner be advised that the matter would be dealt with on the return of the Secretary. Moved by Mr. Rennie, seconded by Mr. Dillon.

Secretary A letter received by the President on August 8 was read in which the Secretary states that he was leaving England by the Orlova on August 20 and would be back in Melbourne at the end of September.

Correspondence Letters ~~were read~~ from Mr. Parkin and Mr. Grubb were read and received.

Confirmed 3rd Oct 1927
C. S. Wigg, Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, Oct 7, 1927

Present The President Mr. Lusk Rennie Callaway Topp
Masters Dillon Dr. Kennison & Altman

Apologies an apology was received from Mr. Thomson.

Secretary The President welcomed the Secretary back to duty and expressed the satisfaction of the Committee at his restoration to health. The Secretary responded and in doing so told of his visit to the Athenaeum library at Boston.

He handed to the President a copy of the Jubilee of the Boston Athenaeum presented to the Melbourne Athenaeum by the Trustees of the Boston Athenaeum. The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the gift.

Minutes The minutes of meeting of Sept 2 were read & confirmed.

accounts The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for September & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £ 678-5-4 as shown on page 85 of the cash book was recommended. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Rennie & Callaway.

The Treasurer read the financial statement for the month. The Finance Committee recommended that Mr. De Pledge be granted a gratuity of £21 in consideration of his work involved by the absence of the Secretary.

The President said the Finance Committee would like to see a grant of £10.10.0 a nice one. The two recommendations were adopted on the motion of the President & Treasurer.

Land Tax The Finance Committee reported that in 1911 the Land Tax Commissioner had decided that the Institution was exempt. It was decided that the Secretary should enquire the Deputy Commissioner & that the settlement of the question be left to the President & Secretary.

Library The Report of the Library & House Committee were adopted.

Front of Building

The secretary reported that the front of the building could be satisfactorily cleaned by washing that F. Talbot & Co were prepared to pay half the cost. an offer to do the work by C. F. Lawson for the sum of £7.10.0 was accepted

Holidays

The secretary recommended that the following holiday arrangements be made.

W De Pledge Oct 10-17
 " Thomson " 17-31
 Mrs Cooper " 31-Nov 7
 B. Toman Nov 21-Dec 5

The secretary was instructed to make the necessary arrangements.

Confirmed 4th Nov 1927.

E. Wigg Chairman

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday NOV 4. 1927

Mrs Wigg, Topp, Callaway, Lush Rennie Hall Dillon, ^{Trades} & D. Kenison

Present

apologies
minutes

apologies were received from Mrs Thomson & Altman
 The minutes of meeting of Oct 7 were read & confirmed

Finance

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for October & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £325.5.3 as shown on pages 87 & 88 was of the cash book was recommended.

The Treasurer in moving the adoption of the report read the financial statement attached. The motion was seconded by W Dillon & adopted.

Land Tax

The secretary reported the interview he had had with Mr Adams Deputy Land Tax Commissioner for the Commonwealth & handed in a statement of the arguments used. The report & statement with

RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURE

Comparative Statement

RECEIPTS

November 1926	505	8	1
1927	512	2	-
11 mos. 1926	6547	14	7
1927 (incl. £500 from Town Hall)	7455	8	-

EXPENDITURE

November 1926	811	5	9
1927	325	5	3
11 mos. 1926	6442	7	6
1927 (incl. £500 pd. off Mortgage)	6701	3	4

SUNSCRIPTIONS

November 1926	164	19	3
1927	173	9	-
11 mos. 1926	2464	4	10
1927	2556	12	3

BANK BALANCE

November 1926	644	9	1
1927	896	12	7

**RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURE
Comparative Statement**

<u>RECEIPTS</u>				
	Oct. 1926	517	11	5
	" 1927	550	19	3
	10 months 1926	6042	6	6
	" " 1927 (incl. \$500 from City Col.)	6943	6	-
<u>SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>				
	Oct. 1926	185	10	3
	" 1927	187	2	3
	10 mos. 1926	2299	5	7
	" " 1927	2383	3	3
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
	Oct. 1926	656	8	8
	" 1927	678	5	4
	10 mos. 1926	5631	1	9
	" " 1927-			
	Reduction of			
	Mortgage	500	-	-
	General	5875	18	1
		<u>6375</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>BANK BALANCE</u>				
	Oct. 1926	950	6	9
	" 1927	709	15	10

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MEMORANDUM OF INTERVIEW WITH THE FEDERAL LAND TAX AUTHORITIES.

I met Mr. Adams, Federal Deputy Commissioner of Taxation, by appointment on Oct. 20 and showed him the original letter to the Department dated April 12, 1911, and the reply dated April 28, 1911. Although he had not the file (it has been mislaid) he knew of the decision.

Mr. Adams urged that it could not be claimed by The Athenaeum under Section 13, Sub-section G that the portion of the land leased to F. Talbot Pty. Ltd. was "occupied solely as a site for a society or club" and directed special attention to Section 11, Sub-section 3, viz.,

"Every part of a holding which is separately held by any occupier, tenant, lessee or owner shall be deemed to be a separate parcel."

I pointed out to Mr. Adams that the whole site was used for the purposes of the Mechanics' Institute, and that unless the theatre portion were leased The Institution could not carry on; that The Athenaeum was in exactly the same position as other Mechanics' Institutes, which are exempt, and that The Institution was not carried on for pecuniary profit.

I further pointed out that the hall which was transferred into a theatre was out of date and likely to be condemned by the health authorities, when, in order to reconstruct it, F. Talbot Pty. Ltd. had spent the money. In consideration of the spending of such money and to secure the recouping to them of that money a lease of the building had been granted; that, though F. Talbot Pty. Ltd. had the lease, The Institution had certain rights and could control the conduct of the theatre; that the theatre license from the Government was in the name of the Secretary of the Athenaeum.

is attached was approved + it was decided to await further developments. In connection with the suggestion as to lectures being given the secretary was instructed to discuss the matter with Mr. Basu-bridge in connection with the university extension movement. A letter was received from Mrs. Rice thanking the committee for the consideration & honorarium. Mr. Hoffitt's application to be allowed to report on the western wall for an advertisement sign was approved. The sign to be approved. The library report was adopted.

Confirmed. 2nd December 1927
C. Thripp. Chairman

Correspondence

Library

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday December 2 1927

Present

Mrs. Wigg, Lush Callaway, Reame, Hall, Dillon / J. Kenyon

apologies

apologies were received from Mrs. Topp, Mrs. Thomson.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of Nov 4 were read & confirmed

Finance

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for November & had found them correct. The payment of accounts as shown on page of the cash book was recommended amounting to £

The Finance Committee also recommended that £500 be paid off the mortgage. The recommendations were adopted on the motion of Mrs. Reame & Dillon.

Annual Meeting

It was decided to hold the annual meeting on Monday July 23

Library Committee

The Library Committee reported that Miss Cooper has tendered her resignation as from Dec 31 & that B. Toman be proposed to Mrs. Toman's aunt at a salary of £4.10 per week from Jan 1. It was decided to vote Mrs. Cooper a farewell honorarium of £10.10.0 & to admit Mr. Toman's aunt at £2.10.0 per week.

6th Jan 1928. C. Thripp. President