



THE  
**Melbourne Athenæum.**

---

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1934.

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**President:**

A. BURR, Esq.

**Vice-President:**

E. E. DILLON, Esq.

**Hon. Treasurer:**

G. H. WIGG, Esq.

**Trustees:**

MESSRS. W. A. CALLAWAY, G. H. WIGG,  
CUTHBERT RIGG.

**Committee:**

VERY REV. D. A. CAMERON.	MR. W. F. GATES.
MR. A. J. MASTERS.	REV. DR. A. LAW.
DR. J. A. KENNISON	MR. P. J. BLACK.
MR. JAS. LILLIE.	„ G. A. FIELDING.
„ J. A. PIETZCKER.	„ H. A. HUNT.
„ L. V. BIGGS.	„ E. W. ROBINSON.
MAJOR W. BOLTON.	„ J. B. GRUT.
MR. G. H. ROBERTS.	

**Librarian:**

M. DE PLEDGE.

**Secretary:**

R. W. E. WILMOT.

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



# THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

*For the Year ended 31st December, 1934.*

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">To Balance .. .. .</td> <td style="width: 10%;">£432</td> <td style="width: 10%;">0</td> <td style="width: 10%;">11</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subscriptions .. .. .</td> <td>£2763</td> <td>9</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rents .. .. .</td> <td>3619</td> <td>8</td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sales &amp; Sundries .. .. .</td> <td>239</td> <td>8</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Railage &amp; Postage Refunds .. .. .</td> <td>145</td> <td>19</td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Masefield Dinner—</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>  Receipts .. .. .</td> <td>£101</td> <td>17</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>  Expenditure .. .. .</td> <td>97</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; 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Audited and found correct,

WILSON, BISHOP AND HENDERSON, }  
L. N. RAINEY, } AUDITORS.  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (AUSTRALIA).

MELBOURNE, 11th January, 1935.

## APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.																																																							
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">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 15, 1967) .. .. .</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£80,000</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Value of Lift and Improvements .. .. .</td> <td>3,002</td> <td>14</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>  " Library .. .. .</td> <td>1,500</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>  " Furniture .. .. .</td> <td>500</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bank Balance .. .. .</td> <td>644</td> <td>9</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">£85,647</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; border-top: 3px double black;">£85,647</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	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 15, 1967) .. .. .	£80,000				Value of Lift and Improvements .. .. .	3,002	14	0		" Library .. .. .	1,500	0	0		" Furniture .. .. .	500	0	0		Bank Balance .. .. .	644	9	11			£85,647			3		£85,647			3	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Loans under Mortgage, due July 1939, at 4¼ per cent. .. .. .</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£10,750</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance (subject to Lease as per contra) ...</td> <td>74,897</td> <td>3</td> <td>11</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; border-top: 1px solid black;">£85,647</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center; border-top: 3px double black;">£85,647</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> </tr> </table>	Loans under Mortgage, due July 1939, at 4¼ per cent. .. .. .	£10,750				Balance (subject to Lease as per contra) ...	74,897	3	11			£85,647			3		£85,647			3
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GEO. H. WIGG, TREASURER.

# REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

## MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,

### FOR THE YEAR 1934.

*To be submitted to the Members at the General Meeting,  
Wednesday, January 30, 1935, at 8 p.m.*

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submits its report of the transactions of the year 1934, which is the ninety-fifth since the foundation of the Institution.

The Committee.—There have been 12 meetings of the General Committee.

The President, Mr. A. Burr .. ..	attended	12
Vice-President, Mr. E. E. Dillon .. ..	"	7
Trustee and Treasurer, Mr. G. H. Wigg .. ..	"	12
Trustee, Mr. W. A. Callaway .. ..	"	8
„ Mr. Cuthbert Rigg .. ..	"	8

COMMITTEE

Very Rev. D. A. Cameron attended	6	Mr. Gates .. ..	attended	10
Mr. Masters .. ..	8	Rev. Dr. Law .. ..	"	7
Dr. Kennison .. ..	7	Mr. Fielding .. ..	"	5
Mr. Biggs .. ..	6	Mr. Black .. ..	"	11
Mr. Lillie .. ..	4	Mr. Hunt .. ..	"	12
Mr. Pietzcker .. ..	8	Mr. Robinson .. ..	"	5
Major Bolton .. ..	10	Mr. Roberts .. ..	"	11
		Mr. Grut .. ..	"	5

Mr. Biggs was absent on leave from February 9 to August 3. Mr. Lillie was granted leave of absence from May 4 to the end of the financial year.

The Finance Committee, Messrs. Wigg (Chairman), Callaway, Masters, Lillie, Grut, Rigg, Pietzcker, Major Bolton and the President; the Library Committee.

Messrs. Gates (Chairman), Callaway, Biggs, Roberts, Wigg, Black, Hunt, Fielding, Dr. Law, Dr. Kennison and the President; the House Committee, Major Bolton (Chairman), Messrs. Masters, Wigg, Dillon, Lillie, Robinson, Dr. Kennison, the Very Rev. D. A. Cameron and the President, held the usual meetings and thus attended regularly to the various departments of The Institution.

RETIRING MEMBERS.—The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and the following members of the Committee, who are eligible for re-election, retire from office, viz., Messrs. Gates, Hunt, Pietzcker, Lillie, Rev. Dr. Law and the Very Rev. D. A. Cameron.

CENTENARY DINNER.—A dinner was held at the Hotel Windsor on October 17 to celebrate the visit of the Poet Laureate (Mr. John Masefield) to Melbourne and to commemorate the 95th anniversary of The Institution. There was a very representative gathering. Your President was in the chair, and there were also present:—The Poet Laureate and Mrs. Masefield, the Hon. the Premier and Lady Argyle, the Archbishop of Melbourne and Mrs. Head, Mr. Justice Dixon, Mr. Justice Lowe and Mrs. Lowe, the Director of Education (Mr. J. McRae) and Mrs. McRae, the Headmaster of Melbourne Grammar School (Mr. R. P. Franklin), the Headmaster of Scotch College (Mr. C. M. Gilray) and Mrs. Gilray, the Rector of Xavier College (Rev. Father O'Brien), the Headmaster of Camberwell Grammar School (Mr. H. L. Tonkin) and Mrs. Tonkin, the Under-Secretary (Mr. L. L. Chapman), the Public Librarian (Mr. E. R. Pitt), the Director of State Finances (Mr. H. A. Pitt), the former Director of Education (Mr. Frank Tate), the Chairman of the Charities Board (Mr. Atlee Hunt), the President of the Gordon Memorial Committee (Mr. C. R. Long), the Director of the Centenary Art Exhibition (Mr. R. H. Croll), the Managing Director of "The Herald" (Mr.

Theodore Fink), and the President of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects (Mr. C. E. Serpell). Altogether 108 sat down to dinner. The Poet Laureate made an outstanding reply to the toast of his health, which was proposed by the President, supported by Mr. L. V. Biggs. The toast of The Institution, proposed by the Director of Education, was responded to by the Senior Trustee (Mr. W. A. Callaway), and the toast of the Chairman was proposed by Mr. Theodore Fink.

FINANCIAL.—The statement of accounts submitted herewith must, in the circumstances, be regarded as satisfactory, though once more there has been a falling off in subscriptions. The gross receipts were £6772/11/4, a reduction of £513/15/1 on the previous year. The expenditure amounted to £6560/2/4, a reduction of £310/9/9, as compared with 1933. This result was mainly due to the careful watch kept on all items. The credit balance has been increased from £432/0/11 to £644/9/11.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.—During the year your Committee had under consideration a long and comprehensive report on The Institution by the Secretary. Some of the recommendations made therein have been adopted, others have been deferred for further consideration. The incoming Committee will go further into these, which it is hoped will considerably benefit The Institution.

At the beginning of the year your Committee decided to reduce the salaries and wages of the staff by ten per cent. At the end of the year, however, it was possible to restore a portion of this amount by granting each member of the staff, by way of a Christmas box, equivalent to 5 per cent. on the reduced salary. In making this partial restoration, your Committee thanked the staff for its loyal service and cordial co-operation.

PROGRESS OF THE INSTITUTION.—The following table shows the progress of The Institution during the last ten years:—

	Subscriptions.	Purchase of Books, etc.	Gross Receipts.
1925 . . .	2399 4 3	1404 2 9	6692 15 6
1926 . . .	2690 7 1	1554 3 1	6901 13 1
1927 . . .	2761 11 6	1583 6 8	7305 17 0
1928 . . .	2792 17 0	1719 1 5	7372 18 9
1929 . . .	2937 18 0	1847 9 4	7517 4 8
1930 . . .	2994 15 6	1889 14 2	7620 6 4
1931 . . .	3082 2 0	1849 9 1	7677 16 0
1932 . . .	3163 7 9	1815 14 3	7122 10 4
1933 . . .	3092 8 6	1676 10 7	7073 17 5
1934 . . .	2763 9 3	1583 6 7	6560 2 4

THE LIBRARY.—The Library and Reading Room still continue to be most attractive, and though there has been a decrease in membership, their popularity is in no way diminished. The number of country subscribers is steadily increasing, with the result that the Library is becoming most widely known. The attendance at the Reading Room, and the number of books and magazines which are exchanged, are a standing evidence of the manner in which the Library is appreciated by members.

The falling off in membership has caused your Committee much anxiety. A careful study of the position has shown that much of the decrease in membership is due to the establishment in almost every suburb of circulating libraries; but your Committee is confident that by effecting certain alterations and improvements the drift will be checked. Your Committee has in view a scheme whereby the Librarian will be brought into closer touch with members, and it believes that his advice and assistance to them will be productive of good results. It is felt that the advantages The Institution affords are not sufficiently known and recognised, and your Committee urges every member to make it his or her business to enlist new subscriptions. Membership of The Institution carries with it so many benefits that cannot be provided elsewhere that your Committee is confident that, with proper publicity,

there will be a steady flow of new members. Your Committee intends to materially increase the supply of books and magazines, and trusts by this means to provide even greater facilities than in the past. Suggestions from members will be given due consideration.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:—

- The Australian Stamp Monthly, by A. A. Rosenblum, Esq.
- The Australian Banker, by A. E. Park, Esq.
- The Photo Review, by Kodak Pty. Ltd.
- Headway, by Miss Colville.
- 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 Commonwealth, by the Rev. Dr. Chas. Strong.
- Glimpses of the East—N.Y.K. Official Guide 1933, by Dalgety and Co. Ltd.
- The Travel Bulletin—N.Y.K. Line, by Dalgety and Co. Ltd.
- The Australian Board of Missions Review, by A.B.M. Society.
- The White Star Magazine, by Dalgety and Co. Ltd.
- The Landmark, by Mrs. R. W. E. Wilmot.
- The Church of England Messenger, by the Diocese of Melbourne.
- The Theosophist, by the Theosophical Society.
- The Rationalist, by the Rationalist Society.
- Bradshaw's Guide to Victoria, by Stillwell and Stephens Pty. Ltd.
- New Zealand Parliamentary Papers, by the Government of New Zealand.
- The Rosicrucian Digest, by the Rosicrucian Order.
- The Justice of the Peace, by Major W. Bolton.
- The Argus and The Australasian Football Guide, by the Proprietor.
- The Argus and The Australasian Cricket Guide, by the Proprietors.
- Women Bluebeards, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Romance of the Derby Stakes, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Romance of the British Voluntary Hospital Movement, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Recollections of an Octogenarian, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Worshipful Masters, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Princes of False Finance, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Rope, Knife and Chair, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Underworld of Paris, by Miss E. J. Charlwood.
- Three Economic Papers, by H. B. Dale, Esq.
- The Monetary Problem, by I. M. Sutherland, Esq.

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 still maintains, and during the year there was a continuous succession of exhibitions. There is not a vacant date for 1935.

Exhibitions were held by Messrs. A. D. Colquhoun, John Rowell, Francis R. Thompson, Alfred Coleman, Arthur Streeton, William Rowell, Norman McGeorge, A. E. Newbury, Percy Leason, Colin Colahan, John Hennessy, Oscar Binder, Battarbee and Gardner, Mrs. E. Phillips Fox, Mrs. Dora Meeson Coates, The Misses Gates and Holgate, Miss Clarice Beckett and others. The Twenty Melbourne Painters, The Melbourne Society of Women Painters, The New Melbourne Art Club, The Contemporary Art Group, The Victorian Salon of Photography, The Professional Photographers Association.

Your Committee granted the use of the Art Gallery to the Misses Teague, who organised an exhibition in aid of the Hermannsburg Mission Water Supply, by which nearly £2000 was raised.

LECTURES.—The series of winter lectures again attracted considerable attention. The lectures were delivered by Rev. William Bottomley: "Thomas Hardy's 'Tess of The D'Urbervilles.'" Mr. Alfred E. McMicken: "Trend of Modern Reading." Mr. L. V. Biggs: "England After Thirty Years." Mr. R. W. E. Wilmot: "Melbourne's Oldest Institution, The Melbourne Athenaeum."

The manuscript of Mr. Wilmot's lecture has been preserved, with a view to publication.

Your Committee has under consideration a proposal to hold the lectures earlier this year so as to avoid the cold winter evenings.

SECRETARY'S PORTRAIT.—Mrs. Dora Meeson Coates during the year presented to The Institution a portrait, in water colour, of the Secretary (Mr. R. W. E. Wilmot), by her husband, the late George Coates. The portrait, which is hung in the reading

room, was officially unveiled by your President on September 7. Your Committee conferred an honorary membership on Mrs. Coates.

**MELBOURNE CHESS CLUB.**—This Club, which is confined to members of The Institution, continues to progress. Its membership is gradually increasing. It is regarded as the controlling body of chess in Victoria, conducting the Victorian championships, Interstate matches and regular tournaments. It has recently carried out the Australian Chess Congress, at which the periodical tourney for the Australian Chess Championship was held, the competitors being nominated representatives of Victoria and other States. The Congress was a marked success, due to the highly competent organisation of the Club and its officials.

**DRAMATIC SOCIETY.**—Your Committee is glad to report that the Dramatic Society initiated in 1932 is still carrying on its good work. The enthusiasm of the leaders of the Society should be encouraged by a greater patronage by members of The Institution. It is hoped that in the coming year, with greater facilities and the support of members generally, the reading of plays from the most capable playwrights of the age may be continued. It is proposed to increase the supply of plays in the Library, so that members may improve their knowledge of these works.

During the year the following plays were read:—*Outward Bound*, *A Bill of Divorcement*, *The Hour of Prospero*, *The Golden Doom*, *The Informer*, *Olympia*, *Mellonay Holtspur*. In addition, there were small readings of plays by James Bridie, J. A. Ferguson, Sean O'Casey and Eugene O'Neill.

A most interesting item on the syllabus was a lecture by Mr. Frank Clewlow, director of drama for the Australian Broadcasting Commission, on "The Position of Drama in Australia." Lectures were also given on the works of Luigi Pirandello, Lord Dunsany and John Masefield. Discussion which follows every reading is, by design, turned over to the subject of development of an Australian dramatic sense.

## Magazines and Periodicals Available in the Reading Room.

### PAPERS.

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Belfast Weekly News  
British Weekly  
Christian Science Monitor  
Christian Herald  
Christian World  
Church Guardian  
Church Times  
Financial News  
Glasgow Herald (Weekly)  
Headway  
Irish Weekly  
Liverpool Weekly Post  
Manchester Guardian  
Methodist Recorder  
New York Times  
Reynold's  
Time and Tide  
Times (London)  
Times Literary Supplement  
Times' Weekly  
Travel Bulletin  
Weekly Scotsman  
White Star Magazine

#### AUSTRALASIAN.

##### Victoria—Melbourne.

Age  
Argus  
Herald  
Australasian  
Graphic  
Leader  
Presbyterian Messenger  
Spectator  
Star  
Sun Pictorial  
Table Talk  
Weekly Times

##### Victoria—Provincial.

Ararat Advertiser  
Ballarat Courier  
Bendigo Advertiser  
Geelong Advertiser  
Korumburra Times  
Kvneton Guardian  
Ovens and Murray Advertiser  
Rutherglen Sun  
Stawell News  
Wangaratta Chronicle  
Warrnambool Standard  
Wimmera Star

##### New South Wales.

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

#### South Australia.

The Advertiser and Register  
The Observer  
The Chronicle

#### Queensland.

Brisbane Courier Mail  
Queenslander

#### Western Australia.

The West Australian  
Western Mail

#### Tasmania.

Hobart Mercury  
Illustrated Tasmanian Mail  
Launceston Examiner  
Weekly Courier

#### New Zealand.

Auckland Weekly News

### PERIODICALS.

#### British.

Architect  
British Australasian  
British Museum Quarterly  
Blue Peter  
Bystander  
Country Life  
Dublin Review  
Economist  
Engineer  
English Mechanic  
Field  
Illustrated London News  
Inquirer  
Jewish Chronicle  
John o'London's Weekly  
Lancet  
Landmark  
London Punch  
Mercantile Guardian  
Mining Journal  
Nation and Athenaeum  
Nature  
New Statesman  
Notes and Queries  
Oceania  
Public Opinion  
Queen  
Saturday Review  
Science Progress  
Sketch  
Spectator  
Sphere  
Sporting and Dramatic  
Studio

Sunday Companion  
Sunday At Home  
Tablet  
Tatler  
Time and Tide  
Truth (London)  
Vogue  
Woman's Journal

#### American.

Delineator  
Ladies' Home Journal  
Literary Digest  
Rosicrucian Digest  
Saturday Evening Post  
Scientific American  
Theosophist

#### French.

Je Sais Tout  
L'Illustration

#### Australasian.

A.B.M. Review  
Adam and Eve  
Australasian Insurance and Banking Record (Melb.)  
Australasian Manufacturer (Sydney)  
Australasian Traveller  
Australian Banker  
Australian Brewing and Wine Journal (Melb.)  
Australian Christian World (Sydney)  
Australian Museum  
Australian Stamp Monthly  
Building Construction  
Church of England Messenger (Melb.)  
Government Gazette of Victoria  
Home Beautiful  
Industrial Australian and Mining Standard (Melb.)  
Jobson's Investment Digest  
Justice of the Peace  
Leather Journal  
Pacific Island Monthly  
Photo Review (Sydney)  
Presbyterian Messenger  
Spectator (Melbourne)  
The Bookseller and Stationer's Journal  
The Commonwealth  
The Home (Sydney)  
Travel Bulletin  
White Star Magazine  
Woman's World

## Magazines for Circulation in the Library.

### PERIODICALS.

#### British.

Adelphi  
Argosy  
Blackwood's  
Bookman  
Chambers' Journal  
Contemporary Review  
Cornhill  
Discovery  
English Review  
Fortnightly Review  
Gramophone  
Grand  
Hibbert Journal  
Mercury  
Modern Wireless  
Musical Times  
Nash's

National Review  
New Criterion Quarterly  
Nineteenth Century  
Pearson's  
Quarterly Review  
Review of Reviews  
Round Table  
Strand  
Wide World  
Windsor

#### American.

Adventure  
American Mercury  
Atlantic Monthly  
Blue Book  
Complete Stories  
Cosmopolitan  
Current History  
Forum

Good Housekeeping  
Harper's  
Judge  
Life  
National Geographical  
North American Review  
Photo-Play  
Physical Culture  
Popular Mechanics  
Popular Science  
Radio News  
Red Book  
Review of Reviews  
Scribner's

#### French.

Revue des Deux Mondes  
Revue de Paris

#### Australasian.

Life  
Stead's (Melbourne)  
Oceania  
To-day

## MEMBERSHIP.

Members have the right to the use of the Lending and Reference Library, the Reading and Smoking Rooms, and to borrow a book and a magazine as often as necessary.

The Subscription Rates are:—

	Quarterly	Half-yearly	Yearly
1 Volume and Magazine ..	0 7 6	0 12 6	1 1 0
2 Volumes and Magazine	0 12 6	1 0 0	1 11 6
3 Volumes and Magazine	0 16 0	1 7 6	2 2 0