



THE  
**Melbourne Athenæum.**

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1935.

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**President:**

A BURR, Esq.

**Vice-President:**

CUTHBERT RIGG, 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.	„ E. E. DILLON.

**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, 1935.*

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">To Balance .. .. .</td> <td style="width: 10%;">£644</td> <td style="width: 10%;">9</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>£2768</td> <td>15</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rents .. .. .</td> <td>3592</td> <td>12</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sales &amp; Sundries .. .. .</td> <td>308</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Railage &amp; Postage Refunds .. .. .</td> <td>136</td> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black;">6,746</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black;">3</td> <td style="border-top: 1px solid black;">3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="border-top: 3px double black;">£7,390</td> <td style="border-top: 3px double black;">13</td> <td style="border-top: 3px double black;">2</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	To Balance .. .. .	£644	9	11					Subscriptions .. .. .	£2768	15	0					Rents .. .. .	3592	12	0					Sales & Sundries .. .. .	308	9	10					Railage & Postage Refunds .. .. .	136	6	5									6,746	3	3						£7,390	13	2		<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">By Interest .. .. .</td> <td style="width: 10%;">£456</td> <td style="width: 10%;">17</td> <td style="width: 10%;">8</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Salaries .. .. .</td> <td>2062</td> <td>4</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Books, Magazines &amp; 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Audited and found correct,

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

MELBOURNE, 9th January, 1936.

## APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS.	LIABILITIES.																																																																																								
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GEO. H. WIGG, TREASURER.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
**MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM,**  
FOR THE YEAR 1935.

*To be submitted to the Members at the General Meeting,  
Friday, January 31, 1936, at 8 p.m.*

THE Committee of the Melbourne Athenæum submits its report of the transactions of the year 1935, which is the ninety-sixth since the foundation of the Institution.

The Committee.—There have been 13 meetings of the General Committee.

The President, Mr. A. BURR .. .. .	attended	13
Trustee and Vice-President, Mr. CUTHBERT RIGG ..	..	12
Trustee and Treasurer, Mr. G. H. WIGG .. .. .	..	9
Trustee, Mr. W. A. CALLAWAY .. .. .	..	8

COMMITTEE

Very Rev. D. A. Cameron attended	9	Rev. Dr. Law .. .. .	attended	6
Mr. Masters .. .. .	10	Mr. Fielding .. .. .	..	8
Dr. Kennison .. .. .	10	Mr. Black .. .. .	..	8
Mr. Biggs .. .. .	10	Mr. Hunt .. .. .	..	12
Mr. Lillie .. .. .	3	Mr. Robinson .. .. .	..	7
Mr. Pietzcker .. .. .	9	Mr. Roberts .. .. .	..	10
Major Bolton .. .. .	13	Mr. Grut .. .. .	..	11
Mr. Gates .. .. .	12	Mr. Dillon .. .. .	..	4

The Treasurer (Mr. Wigg) was absent on leave, on account of ill-health, from July 5 to September 6.

Mr. Lillie was absent on leave, owing to his being in England, from February 8 to November 8,

Mr. Dillon was absent on leave, owing to ill-health, from September 6 to December 4.

The Finance Committee, Messrs. Wigg (Chairman), Callaway, Masters, Lillie, Grut, Rigg, 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, Pietzcker, 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 General Committee, who are eligible for re-election, retire from office by effluxion of time:—Messrs. Masters, Biggs, Roberts, Fielding, Robinson, Grut, Dr. Kennison and Major Bolton.

Messrs. E. E. Dillon and P. J. Black, who also retire, do not seek re-election.

FINANCIAL.—The statement of accounts submitted herewith shows a loss on the year's workings of £462/13/4. This is mainly due to increased expenditure on books, magazines and newspapers amounting to £250/4/9, the consequent increase of £64/19/8 in exchange, and the also consequent increase in binding and treatment of books of £57/6/10. These three items account for £372/11/3. Members will thus realise that the increased expenditure has been increased in order to provide them with greater facilities and to give extra service.

Another large item of expenditure is £182/1/6, paid as architects' fees in connection with proposed alterations, to which reference is made in the next paragraph.

During the year your Committee has taken into serious consideration the necessity of improving the property of The Institution. On February 15 the following resolution was adopted:—

“That the Committee affirms the principle of structural expansion and alterations, with a view to the improvement of The Institution, at a capital cost not to exceed £10,000.”

Messrs. Sydney Smith, Ogg and Serpell, and Messrs. Hughes and Orme, architects in conjunction, prepared elaborate plans, which showed that the extra accommodation desired could not be obtained for £10,000, but they submitted plans, at an estimated cost of £15,000, which would bring The Institution up to date and would give considerable extra accommodation.

Your Committee examined these plans most thoroughly and went into the financial aspect. After mature consideration, it was felt that, allowing for extra furnishing, architects' fees, etc., it was probable that the total expenditure would exceed £18,000, and that the scheme was not financially attractive. Your Committee reluctantly decided to take no further action.

Subsequently a scheme to provide a new Chess Room and a Smoking Room was propounded, and plans were accepted. A tender was received for £2,183, but, in view of the falling off in revenue, it was decided to postpone further action for six months.

Your Committee is alive to the necessity of keeping The Institution up to date, but the members of the Finance Committee have taken particular pains to study the financial position, and do not feel justified in expending large sums of money at the present juncture unless they can see the possibility of an adequate return. Consequently the General Committee approved of the

postponement of consideration for six months, in the hope that further discussion may lead to the discovery of a more attractive and satisfactory plan.

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.
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
1935 . . .	2708 15 0	1833 11 4	6746 3 3

THE LIBRARY.—The Library and Reading Room still continue to be most attractive, and, though there is a slight falling off in membership, the serious drift of the previous three years has been materially checked. Notwithstanding the opposition provided by suburban libraries, it is evident that the Library and Reading Room appeal to a very large section of the community, and your Committee urges on members the desirability of making known to their friends the advantages which membership confers.

Although fiction is the most popular branch of the Library, your Committee has taken special care, during the year, to maintain the standard of books on history, travel, biography and general literature. The list of magazines will show the wide range of reading provided, and additions to this branch are being made systematically and regularly.

One very valuable branch of The Institution is the Reference Library, in which may be found the latest dictionaries and encyclopædias, "Whittaker's Almanac" and "Who's Who," books of quotations and similar publications.

A particularly attractive feature of The Institution is that the Library and Reading Room are open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, except Sundays, and that they are open on all holidays except Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day. This extra service is highly appreciated. The Athenæum is the only library in Melbourne which is open on Saturdays and holidays.

The Melbourne Chess Club and Play Reading Society are valuable adjuncts. They are exclusively for members of The Institution.

The following donations of works have been kindly made:—

- The Australian Stamp Monthly, by A. A. Rosenblum, Esq.
- Headway, by Miss Colville.
- 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.
- The Australian Board of Missions Review, by A.B.M. Society.
- 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.
- Die Brücke, by J. A. Pietzker, Esq.
- Die Schwerz, by J. A. Pietzker, Esq.
- Christian Science Sentinel, by First Church of Christ Scientist, Melbourne.

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

**BROCHURE.**—Early in the year a brochure, prepared by the Secretary, was issued and was very well received. It contained much valuable information and had a wide circulation. A few copies are still available.

**ART GALLERY.**—The Art Gallery still maintains its popularity, and during the year there was a continuance of exhibitions. There is not a vacant date for 1936. The Gallery has just been thoroughly renovated and improved. In arranging the details, your Committee had the benefit of the advice of several leading artists, to whom The Institution is indebted for some valuable suggestions.

Exhibitions were held by Miss Asquith Baker, Miss Jo. Sweatman, Mr. John Eldershaw, The Executors of the late Mr. Bernard Hall, Mr. Arthur Streeton, Mr. A. E. Newbury, Miss J. Wilkinson Whyte, Mr. Norman McGeorge, Mr. Alfred Coleman, Mr. A. D. Colquhoun, Miss Bale, Mr. Miles Evergood, The Seven Water Colorists, The Melbourne Society of Women Painters, "Group 12," The Contemporary Art Group, The New Melbourne Art Club and The Twenty Melbourne Painters.

**THE VICTORIA PALACE LTD.**—For very many years an agreement has existed between The Institution and the Victoria Palace Ltd. for privileges enjoyed by the company over the lane running from the rear of your buildings to Little Collins Street, of which your Trustees hold the fee simple. This agreement expired recently and, after several conferences, a new agreement has been entered into, which is highly satisfactory to both parties.

**LECTURES.**—The series of winter lectures again attracted considerable attention, though it is to be regretted that more members do not avail themselves of the oppor-

tunities afforded by this means. The lectures were delivered by Professor G. H. Cowling: "Shakespeare's Idea of Humour." Mr. James McRae (Director of Education): "Charles Dickens and His Works." The Rev. William Bottomley: "Robert Louis Stevenson." Mr. W. A. Tainsh: "The World and the Open Road in Literature." Mr. R. W. E. Wilmot: "Melbourne's Oldest Institution, The Melbourne Athenæum."

Your Committee will, at an early date, announce its syllabus of lectures for this year.

**MELBOURNE CHESS CLUB.**—The membership of the Chess Club, which is confined to members of The Institution, has declined somewhat during the year. This is due to various causes, and it is hoped that in the near future an improvement will be shown. The Melbourne Chess Club is the centre of chess in Victoria, and it is hoped that all chess lovers and players will support The Institution.

**PLAY READING SOCIETY.**—Your Committee is pleased to know that, though The Play Reading Society has not shown any increase in membership, it has carried on its activities steadily and has done good work. Its Committee recently issued a circular to members, setting forth the benefits of the Society, and it is hoped that members will show their appreciation of the efforts of those enthusiasts who have done so much valuable work by according the Society more liberal patronage. In order to facilitate the work of the Society, your Committee has enlarged the platform in the Art Gallery, with satisfactory results.

## Magazines & Periodicals Available in the Reading Room.

PAPERS.		South Australia.	Sunday Companion	
<b>BRITISH AND FOREIGN.</b> 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		The Advertiser The Observer The Chronicle	Sunday At Home Tablet Tatler Time and Tide Truth (London) Vogue Woman's Journal	
		<b>Queensland.</b> Courier-Mail (Brisbane) Queenslander	<b>American.</b> Delineator Ladies' Home Journal Literary Digest Rosicrucian Digest Saturday Evening Post Scientific American Theosophist	
		<b>Western Australia.</b> The West Australian Western Mail		
		<b>Tasmania.</b> Mercury (Hobart) Examiner (Launceston)		
		<b>New Zealand.</b> Weekly News (Auckland)		
		<b>PERIODICALS.</b> <b>British.</b> 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 Athenæum Nature New Statesman Notes and Queries Public Opinion Queen Saturday Review Science Progress Sketch Spectator Sphere Sporting and Dramatic News Studio	<b>French.</b> Je Sais Tout L'illustration	
		<b>AUSTRALASIAN.</b> <b>Victoria—Melbourne.</b> Age Argus Herald Australasian Graphic Leader Presbyterian Messenger Spectator Star Sun News Pictorial Table Talk Weekly Times		<b>Australasian.</b> 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 Presbyterian Messenger Spectator (Melbourne) The Bookseller and Stationer's Journal The Commonweal White Star Magazine Woman's World
		<b>Victoria—Provincial.</b> Ararat Advertiser Ballarat Courier Bendigo Advertiser Geelong Advertiser Ovens and Murray Advertiser Rutherglen Sun Stawell News Wangaratta Chronicle Warrnambool Standard		
		<b>New South Wales.</b> Bulletin Referee Smith's Weekly Sydney Mail Sydney Morning Herald Sun Sunday Sun and Guardian Telegraph Pictorial		

## Magazines for Circulation in the Library.

### PERIODICALS.

**British.**

Adelphi  
 Argosy  
 Blackwood's  
 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  
 Etude  
 Forum

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

**French.**

Revue des Deux Mondes  
 Revue de Paris

**Australasian.**

Life  
 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

The Library and Reading Room are open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, except Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day.