

Minutes of Meeting of the General Committee held on January 11 1935

Present

The President Messrs Wagg Putzeka Regg Hester Callaway Cameron Briggs Gates Hunt Black Roberts, J. Law D'Kernison & Gray Bolton

apologies

apologies received from Mr Dillon Dillidgey & Robinson

minutes

The minutes of meeting of December were read & confirmed

accounts

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for December & had found them correct. The auditors had also audited the balance sheet and had signed it. accounts amounting to £ as shown on pages of the cash book were recommended for payment:

The Treasurer in moving the adoption of the report explained the figures in the balance sheet with comparisons with the previous year. He moved the adoption of the balance sheet for submission to the General meeting. The motion was seconded by Gray Bolton & carried

Library

The report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Messrs Gates & Roberts.

Victoria

a letter from the Victoria A.C. was referred to the House Committee.

Annual Report

The drafting of the annual report was left to the President & Secretary and was decided upon only 200.

annual meeting

The date of the annual meeting was fixed on Jan 30

Confirmed  
A. Hurr 8/1/35

Annual

Minutes of meeting of the members of  
The Melbourne Athenaeum held on  
Wednesday January 30. 1935

Present

The President (Mr H Burn) messrs Gates  
Black & Gut Pitzelka Biggs the Rev  
D. A. Cameron members of Committee  
and 20 other members

Notes  
Minutes

The Secretary read the notice of the meeting  
The minutes of the annual meeting  
of January 24. 1934 were read &  
confirmed.

Apologies

apologies were received from The Treasurer  
Mr Dillon & Robinson & Callaway

Annual Report

The President in moving the adoption of the  
annual report & balance sheet which  
were taken as read said that he regretted the  
absence of the Treasurer Mr G. H. Wigg who was  
out of town. The Finance Committee so much  
appreciated Mr Wigg's services that it had  
passed a special vote of thanks to him. The  
Committee had had to curtail expenses wherever  
possible but had not materially reduced the  
amount spent on books & magazines which  
they regarded as sacred. They had been able to  
keep up the supply of books reading matter  
generally but at a reduced cost. The growth  
of country members was instructive, but enabled  
readers in all parts of the State to obtain in brief  
books & magazines which were all over Victoria  
The year had ended with a credit balance of £644.9.11  
an increase of £212.9.0 on the previous year. There  
had been a falling off in subscribers but towards  
the end of the year there had been a recovery & the Committee  
had been able to restore half of the cut in salaries  
of the staff who would deserve the consideration for their  
loyal service & cooperation. The prospects of the  
Institution were bright for the new year. It was

THE TREASURER IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE MELBOURNE ATHENÆUM.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1934

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Audited and found correct,

MELBOURNE, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1935.

Miss Ruby Henderson }  
J. N. Cowry }  
AUDITORS.

THE MELBOURNE ATHLETIC CLUB

Jan. 23, 1935.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

The following nominations have been received:-

Office	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
<u>PRESIDENT</u>	A. BURR	Geo. H. Wigg	Cuthbert Rigg
<u>VICE-PRESIDENT</u>	G. P. RIGG	Geo. H. Wigg	Amos Burr
<u>TREASURER</u>	G. H. WIGG	Cuthbert Rigg	W. A. Callaway
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	D. A. CAMERON	Cuthbert Rigg	William Bolton
	E. E. DILLON	William Bolton	Cuthbert Rigg
	W. F. GATES	Cuthbert Rigg	William Bolton
	H. A. HUNT	Cuthbert Rigg	William Bolton
	A. LAW	William Bolton	Cuthbert Rigg
	JAMES LILLIE	Geo. H. Wigg	Amos Burr
	J. A. PIETZCKER	Cuthbert Rigg	William Bolton

As these nominations do not exceed the number of vacancies, the candidates will be declared elected by the chairman at the annual meeting.

  
R. W. E. WILTON

Secretary.


ANNUAL REPORT

The following nominations have been received:-

Proposer	Candidate	Office
Geo. H. Wigg	A. BURR	PRESIDENT
Geo. H. Wigg	C. P. RIGG	VICE-PRESIDENT
Cuthbert Rigg	C. H. WIGG	TREASURER
William Bolton	D. A. CAMERON	COMMITTEE
William Bolton	H. E. DILLON	
Cuthbert Rigg	W. T. GATES	
William Bolton	H. A. HUNT	
William Bolton	A. LAW	
Cuthbert Rigg	JAMES LILLIE	
Amos Burr	J. A. PIERCKNER	

As these nominations do not exceed the number of vacancies, the candidates will be declared elected by the chairman at the annual meeting.

*[Signature]*  
Secretary



THE  
**Melbourne Athenæum.**

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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.

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MELBOURNE, 11th January, 1935.

Audited and found correct,

WILSON, BISHOP AND HENDERSON, } AUDITORS.  
L. N. RAINEY, }

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (AUSTRALIA).

## APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

### ASSETS.

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 0 0
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 11

### LIABILITIES.

Loans under Mortgage, due July 1939, at 4 1/4 per cent. .. .. .	£10,750 0 0
Balance (subject to Lease as per contra) .. .. .	74,897 3 11

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  
Kyneton 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 News  
Studio

#### 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 News  
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.		
<b>British.</b>	National Review New Criterion Quarterly Nineteenth Century Pearson's Quarterly Review Review of Reviews Round Table Strand Wide World Windsor	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
<b>American.</b>	Adventure American Mercury Atlantic Monthly Blue Book Complete Stories Cosmopolitan Current History Forum	<b>French.</b> Revue des Deux Mondes Revue de Paris
<b>Adelphi</b> 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		<b>Australasian.</b> 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

interesting to read in the report just issued by Mr R. Nunn from the Carnegie trust regarding the libraries of Australia. It was interesting to note that the Athenaeum spent more money on books magazines & binding than the Sydney & Bushman public libraries put together. According to Mr Nunn's report the Sydney library received a grant of £1000 a year for the purpose & the Bushman library only £203. The Athenaeum spent £1583-6-7 on books magazines & £114-8-7 on binding altogether nearly £1700 as compared with slightly over £1200 by Sydney & Bushman combined. In addition the Athenaeum spent £787-3-0 in rates & taxes. Thus the supply of reading matter was well maintained. A glance at the quarterly list of new books added to the library would reveal the fact that there was no lack of reading matter.

*Advisors*

The motion was seconded by Major Boston & carried. The President announced that the nominations had equalled the number & because of this he declared the following elected President Mr A. Burr Vice President Mr C. R. Pegg Treasurer Mr G. H. Wrag Committee Messrs Rev D. Cameron Mr E. E. Dillon, Mr F. Galis, Mr A. Hunt James Little J. A. Pietzker & Dr. A. Law.

*auditors*

Mr Kefford moved & Mr Cameron seconded that the retiring auditors Mr Nelson Brooks & Henderson & Mr L. N. Ramsay be re-elected auditors at the same fee. carried

*General Business*

Under the heading of General Business Mr H. V. Briggs said that while it was satisfactory that the credit balance had been increased it was not satisfactory that subscriptions showed a falling off of £329. It was explained that this was due to some extent to the retrenchment of suburban

It was not satisfied that everything possible was being done to make known the advantages of the institution and to secure more than 2000 subscribers from the suburban population of 100,000. The Athenaeum was much more than a library. It had practically all the advantages of a club. It was a wonderful institution & should be better patronized. It should be a virile institution. More attention should be paid to cultural activities & should be developed in broader lines. Only 23 members of the institution took enough interest in the drama to become members of the dramatic society & some of the lectures had not been well attended. The institution should be the library, art centre of Melbourne. There should be more competition for membership of the committee especially by younger men. An election might have a galvanizing effect.

Mr. R. O. Kefford supported Mr. Biggs & said the building should be made more attractive. The mortgage of £11000 was not worth considering. Improvements should be made sure if the mortgage had not increased. Mr. Cannon & Mr. Gates Mr. Long & Mr. Lewis also spoke.

Vote of thanks a vote of thanks to the office bearers & staff was carried by acclamation.

Confirmed  
 Murr  
 31 Jan 1936

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Feb 8. 1935.

- Present Messrs. Gales, Wigg, Repp, Messrs. G. & Biggs, Roberts, Black, Robinson, Zilka, Hunt & Gray, Bolton
- Apologies Numerous from Mr. Cannon, <sup>Pelzer</sup> Bellon & Han
- Minutes The minutes of meeting of Jan 11 were read & confirmed other minutes of the annual meeting were read.
- Finance The Treasurer reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts & had found them correct. Payment of accounts as shown on papers of the cashbook allowed, £7 was recommended by the Finance Committee.
- Victoria The Treasurer in moving the adoption of the report gave the comparative figures. The motion was seconded by Major Bolton & carried.
- Leagues The suggestion of the Finance Committee that a conference be held by the Victoria League was approved on the motion of Mr. G. & Messrs. The President, the Trustees & the Chairman of the House Committee were approached to represent the institution. It was decided to pay £4 each for the conference & that the sub-committee with the above mentioned should hold a preliminary meeting.
- Lectures It was decided that the syllabus of lectures as shown here-with be approved.
- Sub-Committees The sub-committees were reappointed as shown here-with.
- Dramatic Society It was decided to change the name of the Dramatic Society to Play Reading Society & that the art gallery be granted without charge. The matter of the platform was referred to the House Committee with power to act.
- Alterations It was decided to hold a special meeting at 4 p.m. on Feb 15 to go into the question of alterations.

Confirmed  
 Murr 8/3/35

Minutes of special meeting of the General Committee held on Feb 15. 1935

Present

Messrs Burr, Hunt, Kulzeck, Robinson, Dillon, Briggs, Robert Fielding, Regg, Masters, Callaway, Cannon, Major Bolton & O'Keenison

Apologies  
House Committee

Apologies were received from Dr. Law. The report of the house committee dealing with various matters was adopted on the motion of Major Bolton & Mr Briggs.

The Secretary asked that the committee should consider the broad principle of buying the building up to date. There were three courses open to go on as at present, to consider a scheme which had already been propounded or to prepare a comprehensive scheme so as to make the best use of the debt. It might involve an expenditure of £10,000.

After a long discussion Mr Robinson & Mr Briggs prepared a draft motion.

"That the committee affirm 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."

This was carried unanimously & the matter was referred for preliminary consideration to the joint committee appointed last year consisting of the Resident & Trustees & the Chairmen of the various committees.

500 volumes

The Chairman reported that the publishers of '500 volumes' had presented a copy of the book to the institution.

Confirmed  
A. Burr  
8/3/35

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on March 8 1935

Present

Messrs Burr, Regg, Gates, Hunt, Robert Cannon, Regg, Hunt, Major Bolton, O'Keenison

Apologies

apologies were received from Messrs Dillon, Robinson, Fielding, <sup>Black</sup> Masters, Callaway

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of Feb 8 & special meeting of Feb 15 were read & confirmed.

Finance

The Finance committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books & accounts for February & had found them correct.

The Treasurer in moving that £603-4s shown on pages 88 & 86 of the last book be paid & explained the accounts & gave a statement of retirements & new members this.

Discontinued Jan 25 Feb 33 total 58  
New members Jan 47 Feb 50 total 97  
Showing a net increase of 39.

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr Regg & Mr Gates.

Library

The Library committee report was adopted on the motion of Messrs Gates & Roberts.

House

The report of the Library committee was adopted on the motion of Major Bolton & Mr Regg.

Petition

The question of signing the petition regarding censorship or of having it in the library for signature was discussed at length & it was decided on the motion of Mr Regg & Mr Roberts that it was not advisable to take any action or to have the petition available for signature.

Brochure

The new brochure was presented & was approved.

Confirmed  
A. Burr  
5/4/35

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on April 5, 1935.

Present: Mr. Power, Rees, Neig, Callaway, Hunt, Cameron, Briggs, Robinson, Dillon, Pitzschke, Guit, Hildner, Galis, Black, & Keenison & MacArthur

apologies: apologies were received from O'Hara & M. Martin

minutes: The minutes of meeting of March 8 were read & approved

Finance: The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for March & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £ 56 0/- 14 6 as shown on pages 87 & 88 of the cash book was recommended.

re Palace: The secretary reported that the conference with the Victoria had been fixed for April 12.

lecture: The secretary reported that Professor Cowling's lecture had been well attended. The President had been in the chair. Mr Callaway was appointed chairman for the next lecture.

Plans: The secretary reported that the plans for proposed alterations had been carefully considered. Blue prints were available & the plans had been highly approved. The Finance Committee had gone carefully into the proposals & had considered the estimated cost of £15,000 & probable increased rental of £200. On the other hand £15,000 would have to be borrowed which at 4 1/2% would cost £637 & the cost of running the lift would entail a further expenditure of £200 at least. In addition it was felt that the estimate would be below the actual cost & would probably be exceeded by £3000 or more if other furnishings etc were considered. The Finance Committee had reported that in its opinion

MELBOURNE ATHENAEUM

Proposed Additions - 1 Extra Story

Estimated Rentals (Exclusive of additional revenue from improvements to Athenaeum occupation)

Ground Floor: Kiosk & Show cases .....	£286. 0. 0
First Floor - 1 Room .....	156. 0. 0
Second Floor - Small Picture Gallery .....	156. 0. 0
	£598. 0. 0
Deduct: Estimated rental value of Shop which will be abolished .....	500. 0. 0
	£98. 0. 0

Estimated Cost .....£9,700.

Return - approximately 1%.

MELBOURNE ATHENAEUM

Proposed two story Additions.

Estimated Rentals (exclusive of revenue from increased facilities in Athenaeum occupation)

<u>Ground Floor:</u>	Kiosk & Showcases in new Lobby .....	£296. 0. 0
<u>First Floor:</u>	Whole area .....	700. 0. 0
<u>Third Floor:</u>	1 Room .....	156. 0. 0
<u>Fourth Floor:</u>	Small Picture Gallery .....	156. 0. 0
		<u>£1298. 0. 0</u>

Deduct: Estimated rental value of present shop which is converted into new Entrance ..... 500. 0. 0

Nett Additional rentals ..... £798. 0. 0

Estimated Cost of Two additional stories and other alterations

£15,000

£800 revenue - 5.3% on £15,000 and 15.09% on £5,300, the difference in the estimated cost of the one story and two story scheme.

The scheme as proposed was not financially possible.

A general discussion ensued and was finally decided on the motion of Mr Briggs & Mr Riggs "that further consideration be deferred until the next meeting."

Confirmed  
A. Burr 3 Apr May 1935

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Mar 3, 1935

Present Mr Burr, Mrs Callaway, Riggs, Gates, Fielding, Briggs, Hunt, Grant, Harker, Robinson, O'Hearn, & Tracy Bolton

apologies were received from ~~O'Hearn~~ + Mr Dillon. The minutes of meeting of April 5 were read & confirmed.

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for April & had found them correct & the payment of accounts amounting to £559.2.11 as shown on pages 89, 90, & 91 of the cash book was recommended. The Treasurer explained the accounts & seconded the adoption of the report. The motion was seconded by Mr Callaway & carried.

Mr Briggs spoke of the necessity for a publicity campaign & was supported by O'Hearn. It was decided on this motion to refer the whole matter to the Library Committee.

Mr Briggs moved & Mr Robinson seconded that display advertisements be inserted in the Argus for the year at a cost not to exceed £10. Carried. It was decided to ask Mr Fielding & Robinson of the Committee dealing with alterations. Mr Secretary said the Treasurer considered some plans & further action was delayed till word was received from them.

Library The Report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Gales & Mr Briggs

Lecture The Secular reported that Mr McRae's lecture of which Mr Callaway was chairman had been well attended. Mr Briggs was asked to preside at Mr Prothome's lecture

Victoria Palace The Secular reported that the conference with the Directors of the Victoria Palace had been held but no decision had been reached. The Victoria Lea subsequently written offering to pay £150 a year (without prejudice). The matter was discussed & on the motion of Mr Briggs & Mayor Bolton it was decided to ask for an increase in the rental to £300.  
\*referred

M. Burr 7/6/35

Minutes of Meeting of the General Committee held on June 7. 1935.

Present Mr Burr, Regg, Messrs Pictet, Gales, Roberts, Cameron, Dillon, Black, & Mr Mayor Bolton  
apologies were received from Mr Briggs, Callaway, Fielding, Briggs Hunt & Robinson

Minutes The minutes of meeting of May 3 were read & confirmed

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for May & had found them correct. The balance of accounts amounting to £526.18.6 as shown on pass 92.93 of the cash book was recommended. The report was adopted on the motion of Mayor Bolton & Mr Briggs.

Proposals The Finance Committee reported that it had gone over carefully into the proposed rebuilding scheme & found it was financially unsound. The report which is shown herewith was read by the Secular & adopted unanimously. It was also decided to thank the Finance Committee for the

C.I. June 10, 5.

To the Honourable the Lord Mayor and the Aldermen and Councillors of the CITY OF MELBOURNE.

Sirs,

I have the honour, as President of the Melbourne Athenaeum - the oldest institution in Melbourne, it having been founded on February 14, 1839 - to convey to you the congratulations of the Athenaeum Committee on the occasion of the celebration of this great City's 100th anniversary.

The Committee and myself feel that we are entitled to so approach you because of the fact that your Council's first meeting was held on our premises, and that for a considerable period afterwards the hall erected by this Institution - then known as the Mechanics' Institute - was your Council Chamber.

The wonderful progress and stability of our City are assuredly the result of the initiative, confidence and balance of its people, co-operating responsively with like qualities in the people of Victoria. The original, essential opportunity is of course of wider attribution.

As constituents of your Council we desire to join with you in the hopeful and kindly spirit of the celebrations.

Yours truly,

President.



June 7, 1935.

The Finance Committee cannot recommend the scheme placed before them because the additional income expected will be quite insufficient to pay interest plus other charges and contingencies.

First principles in this consideration are that the General Committee must bear in mind its responsibilities as trustees for the Institution. However desirable such outlay may be, the onus is absolutely on this committee to justify any Capital Expenditure whether large or small, and this matter must not be confused with the normal and quite different duties of dealing with income and expenditure accounts, or revenue. It is much more serious, and a failure of caution in connection with such an undertaking with a subsequent depreciation of the capital proposed to be employed in this scheme resulting from the inability of the committee to balance their revenue account would reflect upon the committee disastrously.

It must be remembered that the Institution's only reserve is in the unmortgaged cover remaining after the proposed new loan has been made, and obviously to borrow later on to any large extent seeing that the income in future years is a speculation and not a certainty would be indefensible. The capital is known, the income is unknown.

Further, the provision of more comforts for subscribers many of whom are here today and gone tomorrow, is unjustifiable. The only matter of consequence is the better accommodation for the Chess Club.

We might look for a large increase in the number of subscribers! Much increase is unlikely, and more than a certain number of Members in view of present or future accommodations is not desirable. It might be necessary some day should the members increase materially to place a limit on the number of members. There would be no revenue from this source to place our income and expenditure accounts within safe borders.

Suppose this scheme were given effect to. A large sum will have been expended on the building with no corresponding increase in the asset, then before long a much better proposition might be presented, this time including the complete rebuilding of the whole property, theatre and all. A lofty and effective building might be possibly planned producing a satisfactory net income both for the theatre and the Athenaeum. The £16,000 or £18,000 venture before us will be a dead loss then.

The plans that were submitted to us are probably the best that any architect could devise considering the clumsy floor area and shallow depth available resulting in wasteful apportionments for the offices

A complete rebuilding scheme for the whole building would give our architects an opportunity of making an actual success as compared to the present suggestions. Patched or partly altered buildings are inferior assets.

Also will the committee please note that when the then committee of 8 or 9 years ago gave effect to the theatre agreement which has provided us with a very useful and substantial yearly income since, they took no risks; besides legal indemnities, a large sum of money was held in escrow to ensure our safety.

In this proposition we have no third party to guarantee us against loss or mishap. The dangers are very possible, of losses from claims, for recompense for interference on our part with the businesses of the Theatre and shops, from the inability to foresee weaknesses concealed in the old structure, and other dangers as well. People who find their premises insufficient for their needs rarely build upon old walls and foundations. They raze the old buildings to the ground, and dig new foundations. We would build at our peril.

Finally the Finance Committee suggest that the scheme before us, together with our aspirations for many comforts for subscribers without any corresponding subscription, might be defensible if the Government or the Municipality took the responsibility of any losses made, great or small. That is what these paternal institutions are for. We are not so protected, and it is our duty to go warily and act carefully. Optimism is out of place when we are dealing with such matters and are trustees.

great care it had displayed especially to express its appreciation of the services of Mr. Reeg who had drafted the memorandum.

Plans

The Secretary reported that Professor Domenico Fubini associated with Frank Talbot Proprietors Limited had had plans prepared for an extension of the Theatre. These should marked curtailment of the premises available for the Institution moreover it contemplated the attendance spending £10000. The plans were useless. It was decided they should lie on the table. The Secretary further reported that with the Honorary architect he was exploring further possibilities. On the motion of Mr Black & Mr Pielzker the sub-committee was asked to require into all suggestions made in this direction.

Victoria

The President reported that he had had an interview with Mr Boulton chairman or Director of the Victoria Coach had agreed to recommend to his committee or directors as the earliest he could that the agreement is for a rental of £225 per annum for 20 years, privileges already being exercised for the current term - that is for 20 years from August 15. 1922.

After some discussion it was moved that the recommendation of the President be approved & that the new agreement date from Jan 1. 1935 & that it be prepared by the solicitors to the Institution at the expense of the Victoria Palace Co. The motion was moved by Mr Boulton & seconded by Mr Pielzker & carried with his dissentials.

Library

The report of the library committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Pielzker & Roberts

City Centenary

The President suggested that a letter be sent to the Lord Mayor to convey the congratulations of the Institution on the centenary of the City. It was decided on the motion of Mr Lam & Mr Cannon to adopt the suggestion.

The President retained members as at the previous meeting.

M. W. 5/7/35