

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday March 6. 1936

Present Mrs. Progg, Gelin, Cameron H.E. Roberts, Maslin Hunt Mills Callaway Wegg Burr Grant Lillie Fielding D. Kenyon Mayor Bolton

Minutes The minutes of Feb 7 & the adjournment to February 28 were read & confirmed. Apologies were received from W. Linn & W. Regg

It was decided to write a letter of sympathy to Mr. Regg on the death of his sister.

Election of member Mr. Callaway moved & Mr. Lillie seconded that Mr. W. J. Roberts be elected to the vacancy on the General Committee caused by the election of W. Linn as vice president

Treasurer The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the accounts for February & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £695.5 as shown on pages 14-15-16 of the cash book were recommended.

The Treasurer gave the usual comparative statement & moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Maslin seconded the motion which was carried.

Victoria The Secretary reported that plans had been submitted showing the various items included in the agreement with the Victoria Palace & Co. The plan did not give certain measurements which were requested. Subject to their being supplied the agreement was ready for signature. It was decided on the motion of Mr. Burr & Mr. Lillie that the plan be referred back for full particulars to be checked by the Honorary Architect when the agreement was completed. The final approval be left to the House Committee.

Chairman of sub committees The Secretary reported that the various sub committees had been appointed. Their Chairmen then:

- Finance Mr. Wegg
- Library Mr. Gelin
- House Mayor Bolton

Proposer Mr. Burr moved & Mr. Lillie seconded that the question of membership badges be referred to the special sub committee. Carried

Lectures The Secretary reported that the lecture sub committee had arranged for a series of lectures as follows:

- April 24 Professor Osborne "Success or failure in animal design"
 - May 22 Professor Hartney "Colour in Nature part."
 - Sept 25 Professor Osborne - a medical lecture on the good old days
 - Oct 23 Professor Hartney "Life of the Universe"
 - Nov 27 Professor Agassiz "The mind of an animal."
- He had interviewed Prof. Agassiz chairman of the University & Museum Board & approval had been granted for the Professor to deliver the lectures. The fee for each lecture to be £2.10.0 & where a demonstrator was required an extra fee of not more than £1.10.0 to be paid. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Progg & Mr. Callaway.

House Committee The report of the House Committee was adopted on the motion of Mayor Bolton & Mr. Wegg & Mayor Bolton was thanked for his services to the Committee.

Library The report of the library committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Gelin & D. Kenyon.

Chess Club The Secretary reported that he had received a copy of the list of members of the Chess Club & had marked on it the due dates of subscription of those members.

He had submitted to the secretary of the club a list of his members who were in arrears.

Leave Leave of absence for six months was granted to Mr. Dilling, who is about to leave for a trip to England.
H. Law.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday April 3, 1936

Present D. Law (Chair) Mr. Gales, Miss W. J. Roberts Regg, Masters Hunt W. E. Roberts Mills, Gunt Burr, Callaway, Wigg, Cannon, Major Proctor & McKimison

Minutes of meeting of March 6 were read & confirmed.

The President reported that Mr. Biggs was ill & had been ordered two months rest. The President asked for leave of absence for that period & asked that the Vice President O'Han should act in his stead. Mr. Callaway moved Mr. Wigg seconded that the President's request be acceded to. carried

The Chairman welcomed Mr. W. J. Roberts as a member of the Committee. Mr. Roberts responded. Mr. Wigg moved & Mr. Proctor seconded that Mr. Roberts be added to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for March & had found them correct. accounts amounting to £67. 17. 11 as shown on pages 17 & 18 of the cashbook were recommended for payment.

The Treasurer after explaining the accounts & the comparative statement moved the adoption of the report. Mr. Proctor seconded the motion was carried.

Victoria The Secretary produced a plan showing the various items in the agreement with the Victoria H.C. There were still some figures to be supplied. Major Proctor pointed out that the plan included a "proposed sub-committee". This was not one of the privileges which were reserved & moved that the plan be referred back to the architects to the Victoria to have the plan amended by omitting this item. Mr. Cannon seconded the motion which was carried.

Lecture D. Law was appointed chairman of the lecture by Professor Osborne on April 24. Mr. Gunt suggested that book marks showing the syllabus of lectures should be procured. The secretary was instructed to attend to the matter.

Library The library committee reported that it had held a special meeting on March 27. The minutes of that meeting were read & Mr. Gales moved & Mr. Mills seconded that the report be adopted.

Mr. Callaway thought that the proposed expenditure was quite unnecessary & a waste of money. Mr. DePledge as librarian knew the circumstances of the library & the secretary might have a chat to the clerk of the Public Library.

Mr. Regg said he thought the report should be referred to the special sub-committee. Mr. Wigg asked why that special committee had not been summoned. The secretary replied that the President had arranged with him that owing to his (the secretary's) holidays the matter should stand over.

Major Proctor moved an amendment & Mr. Callaway seconded that the report be referred to the special committee & the amendment was carried.

carried & on being put as a substantial motion was adopted

Mr Burr asked if the Library Committee was in order in holding the special meeting
The Chairman replied in the affirmative
Mr Callaway moved
Mr Grant seconded

"That the various subcommittees carry on their current work but that no fundamental reform be carried out except on the recommendation of the special committee" carried

It was decided that the special committee should hold its first meeting on April 16.

Mr Burr suggested that the name known as Sleight's Lane should have its name changed. The name of "Sleight" was not appropriate & in view of the fact that the Athenaeum owned the fee simple of the lane it would be more appropriate, rather Athenaeum Lane. On the motion of Mr Burr Mr Callaway the secretary was instructed to take the matter in hand, at the request of the secretary it was decided to hold the next meeting on Thursday May 7.

Conferred
Donald A Cameron

Sleight's Lane

next meeting

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Tuesday Mar 7. 1936

Present: Messrs Cameron (Chair) Galie, Barr, N.J. Roberts, H E Roberts, Hunt, Great Masters Regg Little Mills Wigglesworth Bolton
Apologies were received from Mr Callaway & W. L. Am & Dr Kennison.

Chairman Mr. Cameron was voted to the Chair.

Minutes The minutes of meetings of April 3 were read & confirmed.

President The secretary reported that the President was recovering from his illness and staying at Sussanah

Secretary The secretary reported that there had been a good attendance at Professor Ostrom's lecture which had been very interesting. Dr. Ham had presided. Mayor Bolton was appointed Chairman for Professor Ostrom's lecture on May 22

Special Committee The secretary read the minutes of the meetings of the Special Committee held on April 16 & April 30 these being presented in the shape of an interim report. The report was received.

Sleight's Lane The secretary reported that the matter of the change of name of Sleight's Lane to Athenaeum Lane was awaiting the return of Mr Butler Chairman of Directors of the Victoria Palace &c

Victoria Palace The secretary reported that the plan showing the matters ^{under discussion} & conclusions to the Victoria Palace had been amended so as to show exactly what privileges were now being exercised.

Finance The Finance Committee reported that the auditor had audited the books & accounts for April and found them correct. Payment of accounts amounting to £ 548-16-7 as shown on pages 19-21 of the cash book was recommended

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Wigg (who explained the accounts & gave the comparative statement) & Major Bolton.

Change of meeting days

The Finance Committee also recommended that the monthly meetings now held on the first Friday in the month (except when the first or second of the month is on a Friday) be held on Friday on the first Thursday under the same qualification & that the Finance Committee meet at 2.15 p.m. The Library Committee at 3.30 p.m. & the General Committee at 4 p.m. The Library Committee had approved of the alteration.

Chess club

The recommendation was approved on the motion of Major Bolton & Mr. Wigg. The matter of the arrangement with the Melbourne Chess Club was discussed, on a recommendation of the Finance Committee, and it was decided on the motion of Major Bolton & Mr. Hillier that a new arrangement be entered into, as from July 1. 1936, whereby the Melbourne Chess Club lease the room for £40 a year, paid quarterly in advance & install meters for electric light, power & provide its own light, heat & plumbing. The Secretary to the Melbourne Chess Club notice of the termination of the old arrangements as from June 30. 1936.

Library

The report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Galis & Huntly.

W. B. Giff
President

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT FOR ATHENAEUM COMMITTEE OF JUNE 4th 1936.

On resuming the chair as President of the Melbourne Athenaeum after an absence of two months owing to ill health I desire to direct attention to certain decisions of major policy and administration which have been registered by this Committee, during that period, in the hope that some of the decisions may be modified in the light of fuller information. The first of these relates to the summary change of the day of the monthly meetings of this Committee from Friday to Thursday. So far as I am aware no indication of a desire to discuss the day of meeting appeared on the notice paper for the meeting at which the decision was registered, nor was the convenience of my colleague, the Vice President, who would preside in my absence, consulted in any way. During the whole of the five or six years of my membership of this Committee the meetings have been held on Fridays, and I accepted nomination for the Presidency and took office on the basis of that arrangement. The new arrangement, which is a very important departure from standard practice, has an important bearing on my own position. I feel it necessary to indicate that the choice of Thursday denies to me the opportunity of regular attendance at your meetings. It is highly probable that the Vice-president and the three members now absent in Europe may hold views identical with those I am now expressing.

The second decision concerns the relegation of an unanimous recommendation of a special meeting of the Library Committee held in March seeking authority to spend £5.5 on a

special expert report on the internal methods of conducting the Library, to a special committee which was, in my opinion, constituted for another and larger purpose. That Special Committee was constituted - according to my recollection at the time of the special meeting of the Library Committee - to deal with structural alterations, re-building schemes, the obligations of the institution under existing leases and not with such questions as the lay-out of the library, the cataloguing and recording systems, the classification of books which were among those proposed to be subject to an expert report. A reference to the minutes of the meeting shows that my recollection was ^{wrong and} incomplete and that the motion covered "the whole question of improved facilities in the Athenaeum" as well as the best use of the site, and financial matters. Nevertheless, I venture the opinion that the adoption of the Library Committee's recommendation would have assisted the work of the Special Committee and have given it, by now, valuable data for discussion. Perhaps the Special Committee will be good enough to re-view the proposal, so that it may come before the General Committee in its present or a revised form, at the July meeting.

The third decision concerns the position of 100 chess [?] playing members of this institution, who are organised for the purposes of their games and their relations with other chess organisations in Australia, as the Melbourne Chess Club. During my illness and in the absence abroad of three other members of the Committee seven weeks' notice has been given to these members

through their Hon Secretary of a withdrawal of chess playing facilities in this building, unless they pay a rent of £40 for the room used, install at their own expense an electricity meter and do various other things which appear to me arbitrary in themselves and harmful to the Athenaeum's reputation and status as an intellectual centre in this city. I will not go over the controversy which began with the proposals of the Finance Committee in December, their postponement till after the annual meeting of the institution and their further postponement at the February meeting for two months. The whole question will come up for review when the correspondence with the Club is considered at today's meeting. I desire merely (1) to register my protest at a scheme which narrows the facilities provided by the Athenaeum and violates the entire spirit and letter of the verbal compact made in 1920. and (2) to express surprise that it was pressed to a vote at the last meeting of this Committee, without any specific item relating to it appearing on the May meeting notice paper.

I have taken this, my earliest opportunity of submitting these views for your consideration, because to me the duties of a President of a literary and scientific institute go beyond the mere presiding over meetings and signing documents. They include some degree of leadership and initiative, and the exhibition of moral courage to make representations when decisions, taken in his unblinded absence, are in his opinion capable of injuring the institution or lessening its value to the Community. I greatly appreciate the kind enquiries made concerning my health by several members of the Committee.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Tuesday June 4. 1936

Present

Mr. Biggs (Chair) Callaway Regg Wigg G. H. Roberts, Lillian Maslin, Gert Galis, Mills Brown O'Keenison & Joan Bottom

Apologies

apologies were received from Dr. Law H^{on} Cannon & J. Roberts attend.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of May 7 were read & confirmed

Welcome

Mr. Callaway expressed the gratification of members that the President had so far recovered his health as to be able to resume his position as chairman of the meetings of the Committee.

The President after thanking members for their reception of Mr. Callaway's remarks & the expression of good will contained therein made a statement as shown in set herewith.

Play Reading Society

The secretary read a letter from the Play reading society complaining that the art gallery had not been reserved for it for its meeting on April 17. The secretary explained the circumstances & on the motion of Major Bottom Mr. Roberts his action was endorsed.

The secretary reported that he had received from the secretary of the Play reading society a list of its members. This list included several who were not members of the A. H. Society. He was instructed to inform the secretary of the Play reading society & of the Harbour Chess Club that none but members of the A. H. Society must be admitted as members of their organizations & to ask that he be informed when any new members were admitted with ^{and} usual dues.

Finance

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for 1934 & had found them correct - the payment of

accounts amounting to £607-5-9 as shown on pages 22-24 of the cash book was recommended Mr. Meggs in moving the adoption of the report explained the figures and gave the comparative statement. The motion was seconded by Mr. Callaway, carried.

The President said it had been arranged that the Finance Committee should bring in a budget. It was decided that this should be prepared for the next meeting. The correspondence with the Melbourne Chess Club was read and was decided on the motion of the President & Mr. Callaway that consideration be deferred until the next meeting.

The Secretary reported that Professor Hutton's lecture had been most interesting. Mr. Bolton explained that he had been ill on the day of the lecture and at the last moment Mr. Greet had taken the chair. Mr. Greet was thanked for his services on the motion of Mr. Bolton & Mr. Meggs.

The report of the House Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Bolton & Mr. Greet.

The report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. Greet & Mr. Rigg. It was decided that the next meeting of the Special Committee should be held on Tuesday June 16 at 4 p.m.

It was decided to hold meetings of the various permanent committees on Fridays instead of Thursdays at the usual times.

W. Rigg
10/7/36 President

Chess Club

Lecture

House Committee

Library Committee

Special Committee

Committee Meetings

J. Pearce, Liftman, appointed July 1930	£4.10. 0
Wages Board reduced rate in July 1931 to	£4. 1. 0
Obtained permit to accept 10% cut from April 1933	£3.12.10
Wages Board reduced log rate in October 1933 to	£3.12. 0
Committee did not deduct the 10d. but paid	£3.12.10.
In 1933 & 1934 the Committee restored portion of cut and he received £9.9.4 on each occasion.	
April 10, 1936, rate increased to	£3.17. 6
On 6th June Pearce obtained permit for	£3.12.10.

Barkers Road,
HAWTHORN. E.2.,
2nd July, 1936.

R. W. E. Wilmot Esq.,
Melbourne Athenaeum,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Being unable to attend Friday's meeting, I should like you to inform the finance committee that the decision in the case of the lift attendant is, in my opinion, inequitable.

My mind was obfuscated by Major Bolton's statements which, on reflection, seem quite irrevelant. We have no more right to probe into the domestic or economic conditions of an employee in connection with the fixing of pay, than we have to insist on every member of the committee being free of any criminal associations. That a man should be penalized because he has a wife and six children is preposterous.

He has been forced to obtain a permit, but that does not prevent us from paying him the award rate to which he is legally entitled, and which he especially deserves, because of his readiness to render services to the institution which do not come within the terms of his contract.

I trust my colleagues will agree with my view of doing the right thing.

Yours faithfully,

W.A. Callaway
W.A. Callaway

2.

ESTIMATE FOR YEAR 1936.

and

ACTUAL FIGURES FOR 1935.

		<u>1935.</u>	
Cr. Balance	1/1/35		£644
Expenditure		£7208	
Receipts		<u>6746</u>	<u>462</u>
			<u>£182</u>

		<u>1936.</u>	
Cr. Balance	1/1/36		£182
Expenditure		£7488	
Receipts		<u>7266</u>	<u>222</u>
Excess of Expenditure			<u>222</u>
Estimated Dr. Balance 31/12/36.			<u>£40</u>

BUDGET 1/7/36 TO 31/12/36.

DETAILED STATEMENT.

	<u>Receipts.</u>				<u>Expenditure.</u>				
	<u>Act-</u>	<u>Esti-</u>	<u>In-</u>	<u>De-</u>	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>In-</u>	<u>De-</u>	
	<u>ual</u>	<u>mate</u>	<u>crease</u>	<u>crease</u>			<u>crease</u>	<u>crease</u>	
	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>							
Subscriptions	£1259	£1275	£16	-	Salaries & Wages	£1029	£985	-	£44
Talbot Lease	869	869	-	-	Books	894	850	-	44
Art Gallery	225	255	30	-	Light, Heat & Power	175	160	-	15
Shops	687	765	78	-	Repairs	34	50	16	-
Rooms	73	73	-	-	Interest	343	350	7	-
Sales	116	125	9	-	Rates	368	368	-	-
Victoria Palace	113	113	-	-	Insurance	215	215	-	-
Insurance Re-					Law costs	-	25	25	-
funds	120	120	-	-	Architects	182	10	-	172
Sundries	131	130	-	1	Stationery & P.C.	184	175	-	9
					Sundries	472	450	-	22
	<u>£3593</u>	<u>£3725</u>	<u>£133</u>	<u>£1</u>		<u>£3896</u>	<u>£3638</u>	<u>£48</u>	<u>£306</u>

Estimated Increase - £132.

Net Decrease - £258.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on July 10. 1936

Present - The President in the chair Mrs. Lillie, Regg, Foster, Grant Barr, Gatis, Hunt with Cannon & Lam & Major Boston

apologies - apologies were received from Mr. Wigg, Callaway, & G. H. Roberts

minutes - The minutes of meeting of June 4 were read and confirmed.

Resignation - The Resignation of W. Kemison as a member of Committee was accepted with regret & it was decided to write him to attend the next meeting of the Committee to receive its thanks. The motion was moved by Mr. Lillie & seconded by Mr. Barr

W. Kemison - a letter was read from Mr. Callaway as shown here with urging that the decision to ask the W. Kemison to apply for a permit to work at less than the top rate be reversed. The finance committee reported that it had gone very carefully into the matter & that in view of all the circumstances it could not agree to any alteration.

Motion - moved by Mr. Grant and seconded by Major Boston that the Finance Committee's action be endorsed. The motion was adopted by nine votes to two.

Finance - The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for June & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £686.47 as shown on pages 25/27 of the cash book was recommended. The Treasurer explained the accounts moved the adoption of the report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gatis & carried.

Budget - Mr. Regg reported that the finance committee had prepared a budget for the second half of the year 1936 as shown here with. He explained the figures & moved that the budget be adopted. Mr. Hunt seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The Victoria

Mr. Bourne
Chess Club

^{Finance and Secretary}
D. Law suggested that the committee be thanked for the interesting information supplied & this was agreed to.

The secretary reported that the draft of the lease with the Victoria had been completed & had been sent on to W.D. Sanderson for settlement.

Moved by Major Bolton & seconded by D. Law "That the Trustees be authorized to sign the agreement when completed Carried
Major Bolton moved
Mr. Lillie seconded

"That the recommendation of the Finance Committee of June 4 "that six months notice of the determination of the lease of the Chess Room to the Mr. Bourne Chess Club on March 31. 1937" be adopted"

The President moved an amendment and Mr. Burr seconded

"That a conference be held at a date to be agreed upon between the Finance Committee and representatives of the Chess Club with reference to the future relations between the Mr. Bourne Chess Club and the club"

on the amendment being put the voting was equal six for and six against. The Chairman gave his casting vote in favor of the amendment

The rest of the business on the notice paper was postponed &

R. Briggs
President.

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on August 14. 1936

Present The President Mr. W. Reag. Wigg, Captain Wills & H. Roberts, Hunt, Martin, Grant, Lillie, Burr Robinson, W. J. Roberts, ^{Callaway} D. Law & Major Bolton

Minutes The minutes of meeting of July 10 were read & confirmed

apology
Play Reading Society
an apology was received from Mr. Callaway
The secretary read the correspondence with the Play Reading Society. Major Bolton moved Mr. Wigg seconded that the secretary inform the Play Reading Society that until the questions as to subscriptions are answered the matter referred to by the Society be postponed & that the Committee will have to consider whether the concessions now being be continued

Mr. Briggs moved an amendment which was seconded by Mr. Burr that representatives of the Play Reading Society be asked to meet the President and Secretary in conference.

The amendment was lost by 9 votes to 7 & the original motion was carried by 9 votes to 7.
an election for the members on the general committee caused by the resignation of D. Kenyon was held by ballot

Mr. E. Edwards ^{Kelly} secured 10 votes
Mr. Stuart Murray 6 votes
Mr. E. Edwards Kelly was declared elected.

about
Committee
The President read letters from Mr. Petzelter & Mr. Dildney. The letter from Mr. Petzelter told of his business. Mr. Dildney gave some interesting information regarding a library he had visited. The recommendation of the library committee that the letter be conveyed by the chairman W. Galis & the secretary & Librarian in report was

adopted.

leave of absence

Mr. Wigg said that he wished to be granted indefinite leave of absence. He hoped that when the weather became warmer he would be able to resume. He suggested that Mr. Rigg act as Treasurer.

Finance

leave of absence was granted & Mr Wigg's suggestion was adopted on the motion of Mr. Lillie & Mr G.H. Roberts. The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for July, had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to £ 363-1-7 as shown on page 28/30 of the cash book was recommended.

Special Committee

The report was adopted on the motion of Mr Rigg, who gave the usual comparative statement, & Mr. G.H. Roberts. The report of the special sub-committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Biggs & Mr Lillie.

Victoria

The Secretary said that the Directors of the Victoria were meeting at the same time as the General Committee of the Athenaeum. He understood that the Directors would agree to the draft agreement except as to one matter. They thought the clause relating to the beam across & lights have supporting the beam dock should come under the 25 years limitation as in the other clauses.

Chess Club

It was moved by Major Bolton & seconded by Mr Bourne that this be agreed to. Carried. The Secretary produced the minutes of the conference between the Finance Committee of the Chess Club & this was read. The Chess Club had agreed to the proposals. Major Bolton moved Mr Rigg seconded that

THE MELBOURNE ATHENAEUM

Minutes of Conference held on July 31, 1936, between the Finance Committee of the Melbourne Athenaeum and the representatives of the Melbourne Chess Club.

Present: Messrs. Wigg, Biggs, Rigg, Masters, Grut, Lillie, W. J. Roberts and Major Bolton, members of the Finance Committee, and Messrs. Watson, Cowen, Dall and Brown, representing the Melbourne Chess Club.

Mr. Biggs expressed the view that as President of the Athenaeum he should preside. At a conference of this nature the president should always take the chair. On the motion of Major Bolton and Mr. Lillie it was decided that Mr. Wigg, as chairman of the Finance Committee, should preside.

The chairman explained the position and the matters which had led up to the conference. The Secretary read the letter of May 8, 1936, from the Athenaeum to the Chess Club, and the reply thereto dated May 23, 1936.

The chairman, in answer to questions, said it was understood that the agreement now in force would not expire until March 31, 1937; that the partition between the Chess-room and the Smoking-room could be extended up to the ceiling; that the room to be leased was the room now occupied by the Chess Club; that the privileges at present granted to the Chess Club in the Art Gallery would be reserved and that it was proposed that a formal agreement be entered into between the two bodies.

After discussion on various points, the representatives agreed to recommend to their respective committees that an agreement be entered into on the following lines:-

1. That the Melbourne Athenaeum should lease to the Melbourne Chess Club the premises now occupied by the Club for one year, commencing April 1, 1937. Six months' notice of termination of the agreement to be given by either side.
2. The rental for the first year to be £30, payable quarterly in advance, the first payment to be made on April 1, 1937. The rental to be reviewed for subsequent years.
3. The Chess-room to be closed on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and Anzac Day, and such other day as may be gazetted a close holiday.

4. The Chess-room to close at 11 p.m., at which time the lift will stop running. A quarter of an hour's grace to be given in the closing of the room on special occasions.

5. The Athenaeum to instal meters for electric light and heat, and from the commencement of the new lease the Chess Club to pay for its own current.

6. The Chess Club to have the use of the Board-room when available for twelve meetings in the year free of charge - due notice of all such meetings to be given. Any extra meetings to be paid for at the rate of five shillings per meeting.

7. The Chess Club to have the use of the Art Gallery when available on payment of ten shillings and sixpence a night. Due notice of intention to use the Gallery to be given. The use of the trestles and chess tables the property of the Athenaeum to be granted free of charge.

8. The Chess Club to be granted the use of the Art Gallery for tournament or congress purposes once a year between December 25 and the first few days in January if available free of charge.

9. The Chess Club to pay for its own cleaning.

10. The chairs at this date (31.7.36) in the Chess-room, the property of the Athenaeum, to become the property of the Chess Club.

The recommendations of the conference be approved. Carried
Major Proctor moved Mr. Regg seconded that
Notice given the character of the termination
of the present agreement as from March 31
1937. Carried

It was decided that the three trustees
Messrs Callaway, Regg & Proctor should represent
the institution on the citizens roll.

Major Proctor moved that a fortnight
after the letter referred to in a recent minute
had been sent to the Play Reading Society, the
Secretary be instructed to write to the Play
Reading Society inviting the President &
Secretary of that body to attend the next
meeting of the Finance Committee on Sept 11
at 3 p.m. in order to bring forward any
matter affecting the Society & the other members.
The motion was seconded by D. L. Law.
The President thought the representation
of the committee should be wider than the
Finance Committee & that he should be
Chairman of the conference.

Major Proctor replied that it was not a conference
but the Finance Committee should deal
with the matter under its chairman.
The motion was carried.

11/9/36

Mr. Regg
President

Citizens
Roll

Play Reading
Society

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, Sept-11, 1936

Present The President, Mr Rigg, Burr, Masters, Grest, Hunt, Kellie, Mills, Kelly, Robinson

apologies apologies were received from Mr Callaway, Mr Cameron & D. Law.

Mr Kelly The President welcomed Mr E.E. Kelly on taking his seat as a member of Committee Mr Kelly responded

Minutes The minutes of meeting of August-14 were read & confirmed.

Arising out of minutes The Secretary reported the following matters arising out of minutes

- 1 Play Reading Society. Some of the information asked for had been supplied. The President of the Play Reading Society had been unable to accept the invitation to attend the meeting of the Finance Committee. The recommendation of the Finance Committee that the matter stand over for the present was adopted.
- 2 Mr Wigg's Health. A letter was received from Mr Wigg resigning his position as Treasurer. It was decided on the motion of Mr G.H. Roberts & Traor Bolton that Mr Wigg be asked to withhold his resignation to accept leave of absence until the end of the financial year Mr Rigg to act in his absence.
- 3 Victoria Palace. The Secretary reported that the agreement with the Victoria had been finally settled & was with the Directors for signature. The report was received.
- 4 Chess Club. The Secretary reported that notice had been given to the Chess Club which had called a special meeting for September 12 to deal with the matter. The report was received.

26 Fordham Road
Hawthorn E.2.
August 18th 1936.

Dear Mr Wilmot,

To avoid a repetition of last Friday's experience in relation to the correspondence with the Play Reading Society, will you please take it as an official direction that I, as President, must be informed prior to any meeting of the General Committee of any correspondence received after the issue of the official Notice paper which it is intended to bring before that Committee or any subordinate committee. The communication need not be more than a telephoned summary of the letters but I must insist on this procedure being adopted. Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

Yours very truly,


President The Melbourne Athenaeum.

R. W. E. Wilmot Esq.,
Secretary
The Melbourne Athenaeum.

President's
instruction

The secretary read a letter from the President as shown hereunder regarding matter to be brought before the committee. after some discussion

Major Bolton moved & Mr. Hillie seconded
" That the letter be received and that it be recorded that the committee decides that before any instructions are issued to the secretary and/or staff such matters shall be laid before the committee for its consideration"

Mr. Galis moved as an amendment Mr. Hunt seconded

That consideration of the matter be postponed until the next meeting.

The amendment was lost by seven votes to six & the motion on being put was adopted by 7 votes to 6.

Special
committee

The report of the special committee meeting of June 16 regarding the appointment of an expert from the Public Library was read. The President moved Mr. G. H. Roberts seconded that the report be adopted

Major Bolton moved as an amendment & Mr. Hillie seconded that the matter be postponed for three months. The amendment was lost by 10 votes to 4 & the original motion was adopted by 10 votes to 4.

In view of a vote of motion lodged by Mr. Robinson it was later agreed that the report of the special committee be held over until Mr. Robinson's motion had been considered

Finance

The Finance committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for August & had found them correct. The payment of accounts amounting to \$4148.44 as shown on pages 51-55 of the checkbook was recommended. Mr. Hagg who saw the comparative

YEARS.
LILLIE.—On the 23rd September (suddenly), James Lillie, of East Malvern, husband of Louise, and father of Cyril, Geoffrey, and John, aged 69 years.

statement moved the adoption of the report which was seconded by Mr Kelly & carried

M^r Walker The Finance Committee also reported that complaints had been made of the conduct of Mr. Walker whose subscription was overdue since March. The secretary explained the position & Mr Regg moved & Mayor Bolton seconded that Mr. Walker be notified of the cancellation of his membership under rule 13 carried

Town Hall The secretary proposed the agreement with the Melbourne City Council regarding the light area opposite the Board room. In view of the suggestion that the Town Hall site should be sold he had asked the solicitors what the position would be if a new owner came into possession & what rights could be enforced. The solicitors had replied that the agreement would be binding but to safeguard the interests of the Institution a caveat should be lodged Mr. Regg moved & Mayor Bolton seconded that the solicitors be instructed to lodge the necessary caveat & to inform the City Council of what was being done carried

Library The Report of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Gates & Mr W. J. Roberts

Finance Committee Decline On the motion of Mr. Regg & Mr Burr Mr Kelly was appointed to the Finance Committee on the motion of Mayor Bolton Mr. J. W. Roberts Mr. Regg was appointed Chairman for Professor & Mrs. Leitch on Sept 25

Notice of Motion Mr. Robinson gave notice that at the next meeting he would move "that there be a conference between the Library & Building Committees with a view to combining the present Library & Reading Room & to modernize same"

23/10/36
D. M. G.
Chairman

Minutes of meetings of the General Committee held on October 23 1936

Present The President Mrs Regg Callaway, Mr J. Roberts, G. H. Roberts, Maslin, Mrs Gates, Hunt, Robinson, Burr Kelly, & Mrs Bolton

apologies apologies were received from Mr Cameron Mr Mills & Mr Law

Mr Lillie The secretary reported the sudden death of Mr. Lillie

The chairman moved "That this Committee deeply regrets the death of Mr. J. A. Lillie & records its appreciation of his services to the Institution & the loss it has sustained as a member of the General Committee & the Finance & House Committee since January 1924. It further expresses its deep sympathy with his family & its sense of gratitude for his services"

The motion which was seconded by Mr Callaway was carried all standing

Minutes The minutes of meetings of September 11 were read & approved.

Play Reading Society a letter was read from the Play Reading Society asking for permission to place notices in the left hand end of the meetings of the Society. It was decided on the motion of Mr G. H. Roberts Mr Hunt that the request be granted provided the notice be submitted & approved by the secretary. The notice to be affixed by the left to be displayed during the week of the meeting.

Tellor Mr. Frank Taylor P. H. wrote asking for permission to go ahead with the alterations suggested last December. The matter was referred to the House Committee & that Tellor be asked to furnish full plans & specifications. The motion was moved by Mayor Bolton & seconded by Mr Callaway.

accounts

The Finance Committee reported that the Auditors had audited the books & accounts for September & had found them correct. Payment of accounts amounting to £693.1.3 as shown on pages 34-35 of the cash book was recommended. Mr Reay who gave the comparative statement moved the adoption of the report which was seconded by Mr Gird & carried.

Mr Robinson's motion

a notice of motion by Mr Robinson that there be a conference between the Library, Buildings Committee with a view to combining the present library & Reading Room to modernise same" was agreed to on the motion of Mr Gales & Mr Callaway & it was also decided to refer Mr Mills suggestion that the library be transferred to the Reading room which would be changed to what the library now is.

Library

That part of the Library Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Gales & Mr Callaway.

action

Mr Gird was appointed chairman in Mr Hartley's absence &

Confirmed J.W. Byggs
13/11/36 President

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on November 13. 1936

Present

Mrs. Biggs, Regg Radley, J.W. Byggs, Callaway, Kelly, Robinson, Burr, G.H. Roberts, Mills Hunt & Tracy Bolton

apologies

apologies were received from Mr Callaway, Mr Gird & Mr Law

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of October 23 were read & confirmed.

Plan

89/91 Queen Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

11th September, 1936.

R.W.E. Wilmot, Esq.
Secretary,
Melbourne Athenaeum,
Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. C.1.

Dear Mr. Wilmot/

Would you kindly bring forward a motion, on the following lines, at the next Committee Meeting :-

"That there be a conference between the Library and Building Committees, with a view to combining the present Library and Reading Rooms, and to modernising same."

Yours faithfully,
J.W. Byggs

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE LIBRARY & HOUSE COMMITTEES

HELD ON OCT. 30, 1936.

Major Bolton was voted to the chair.

Those present were Major Bolton and Mr. Robinson representing the House Committee and Messrs. Gates, G. H. Roberts and Mills representing the Library Committee.

Apologies were received from Messrs. Hunt, Callaway & Dr. Law.

Mr. Mills' proposal to transfer the Library to the Reading Room was explained.

Mr. Robinson suggested that it would be to the improvement of the Reading Room and Library if a light wall were run east and west in the Reading Room cutting it off from the lift entrance on a line through the northern post. This would reduce the size of the Reading Room but that could be largely minimized by the introduction of modern furniture. The northern side of the new wall would provide much new wall space. After discussion Mr. Biggs moved and Mr. Roberts seconded "that the report of the Library expert authorized by the General Committee include advice inter alia on two proposals- (1) that the Library be transferred to the Reading Room and vice versa as suggested by Mr. Mills; (2) that the Library be extended by including within it a portion of the present Reading Room on the lines suggested by Mr. Robinson". The Secretary said he thought that the proper method of procedure was for the conference to affirm the principle of some alteration and to ask the General Committee to fix a sum that it was prepared to vote for the purpose.

Play Reading
Act

The Secretary reported that he had written
to the Play Reading Society regarding the
notice to be placed in the diary

Business

The Secretary submitted the report of the House
& Library Committee conference as shown
here with. The report was adopted on the
motion of Mr Briggs 11 Roberts

Committee

Mr W. H. Treadwell was elected a member
of the Committee in place of Mr H. H. S. C.
on the motion of Mr E. H. Roberts & Mr H. H. S. C.

Accounts

The Finance Committee reported that the
auditors had audited the books & accounts
for the year and found them correct. The
payment of accounts amounting to
£323-11-9 as shown on pages 36 & 37 of the
cash book was recommended.

Mr Briggs moving the adoption of
the report gave the usual comparative
statement. The motion was seconded by
Major Bolton & carried.

Other No.

The Secretary reported that the House Committee
had gone into the question of plans & specifications
in connection with the alterations proposed
by Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd. Mr H. H. S. C. had
reported that various alterations would
have to be made in the plans & specifications.

That The General Committee approves of the scheme submitted subject
to certain information and alterations of plans to be approved by
the Architect and the Chairman of the House Committee. On the
information required being furnished and the alterations to the
plans made to the satisfaction of the Architect and the Chairman
of the House Committee the Secretary be instructed to inform
Frank Talbot Pty. Ltd. that they may proceed with the work which
must be carried out to the satisfaction of the Architect and the
Chairman of the House Committee. Was moved by Major

Bolton & carried. H. H. S. C. & carried.

Newman's Shop

The House Committee reported that it had engaged fully into the work of widening the base of N. Newman's shop. It would be necessary to put in a design. Funds had been received from their contractors the total price being £2. The House Committee considered this two men. on the motion of Major Bolton & Mr Robinson it was decided to call for Public tenders & the work to be authorized by the chairman of the House Committee

Library Committee

The report of the library committee was adopted on the motion of Mr Bezz & Mr Kelly.

Lecture

The secretary reported that Professor Hartley's lecture had been well attended. Mr Grant has presided for Kelly was asked to preside at Professor's lecture on November 27.

William Bolton
Act Chairman.

Minutes of Meeting of the General Committee held on December 11, 1936

Present Major Bolton (Chairman), Gates, G. H. Roberts, Cannon, Haskin, Grant, Bolton, Regg, Kelly, W. J. Roberts, Hunt, Pudevick, Kelly, Burr
Apologies were received from Mrs Bezz, Callaway & Dr. Law

Major Bolton was appointed chairman for the meeting & welcomed Mr. Pudevick who took his seat for the first time. Mr. Pudevick responded

The minutes of meeting of November 13 were read & confirmed.

The Chairman reported that with the Hon member (Mr. Service) he had inspected the

Present

apologies

Newman's

Minutes

Taylor's

accounts

plans & specifications of the work in connection with the alterations to the main entrance & after certain amendments had been made had given approval that signed both plans & specifications. The action of the chairman & Mr. Service was approved on the motion of Mr. Regg & Mr. Grant & authority was given to proceed with the work

The Finance Committee reported that the auditors had audited the books & accounts for November & had found them correct. The Finance Committee had had before it an estimate of the receipts & expenditure for December & expected that on Dec 31 there would be a credit balance of about £175. The Finance Committee had considered the advisability of restoring to the staff some portion of the amount by which their salaries & wages had been reduced. In view of the position the Finance Committee recommended that half the amount by which salaries had been reduced should be restored. This would involve an expenditure of £85-8-7.

Mr. Regg moved & Mr. Haskin seconded that the Finance Committee report & recommendation be adopted. Carried
Mr. G. H. Roberts gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that the salaries & wages of the staff be restored in full as from January 1, 1937 and that in the meantime the Finance Committee be asked to fix the matter in consideration. The Treasurer said the usual committee figures in connection with accounts showed that the payment of accounts amounting to

Notice of Motion

M. Tomlin

1941-8-0 as shown on pages 38/40 of the cash book he agreed to. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heskis & carried. The secretary reported that the assistant librarian had been concerned in a motor accident & a court case was pending. It was decided to defer consideration until the court case was concluded, on the motion of Mr. G. F. R. Mills & T. Devenish.

Library

The library committee reported that Mr. Baud the officer of the Public Library appointed to report on the library had begun his investigation & that it was expected that his report would be ready by the next meeting.

The committee had a two attenders to routine matters. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. G. F. Burr.

Lecture

The secretary reported that Professor Agar lecture had been well attended. The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. Mills. Mr. Mills suggested that in considering the lectures for 1937 the subcommittee should endeavour to make them of a more popular nature.

Slights (am)

Mr. Burr moved that steps be taken to have the name of Slights Lane altered to Atholman Place & Mr. G. F. Burr seconded the motion which was carried. The chairman in declaring the meeting closed wished members the compliments of the season.

Annual Meeting

It was decided to hold the annual meeting on Friday Jan 29. Notice of the meeting to be posted in the library reading room on January 14. Nominations for

office bearers to close on January 21. The election if any to be held on Monday, January 1.

15/1/37
A. W. Bygg
President

Present

Minutes of meeting of the General Committee held on Friday, January 15, 1937. The President Mr. Martin, Gent, G. F. Burr, Fredrick, H. J. Roberts, Mills Robinson, Burr, Hunt, the Rev. J. A. Cameron & Dr. Lam & Major Bollen.

apologies

apologies were received from Mr. C. C. C. & H. Roberts.

Minutes

The minutes of meeting of December 11, 1936 were read & approved.

President

welcomes

Dr. Lam expressed to the President the gratification of members at his recovery & begged to take the chair. Mr. Bygg responded.

Library

Report

The secretary reported that Mr. W. C. Ball had furnished his report on the library. The President directed attention to the fact that the report contained no reference to the suggestion of Mr. Robinson & Mills. Major Bollen moved Dr. Lam reminded that Mr. Baud had asked in an expression of opinion on the suggestion, referred to that the report be circulated among members of committee.

Tutor

The secretary reported that the work of allocations by Frank Tabor to be carried out. There had been a deal of correspondence to members of the Institution but this was inevitable. The work had been carefully supervised by the Hon. committee (Mr. G. F. Burr).