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Books for farmers

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Farmers are among the most book-minded sections of the community today, yet one often hears it said that "Farmers don't want books." The statement is only true, in that it is not things that people want but their effects. People don't want refrigerators for instance, but they do want the things that the "fridge" can give them—fresh foods, ice-cream and cold beer. If people don't want books, they do want knowledge, new ideas, romance, adventure, and all the things that books can provide.

That is what the Library Board is for, to supply these things that people, particularly country people, want. Superficially the board provides books, actually it provides relaxation, interests, ideas, information.

The board was set up by the Government to encourage and help local authorities in the establishment of local public libraries and to supply the books needed by them on a circulation system, so that new books, both novels and non-fiction, are regularly fed into each library to replace those which have already been read. This ensures that the library remains fresh and attractive to readers, and avoids the staleness which made most libraries in the past dull and unpopular. The board pays for the cost of the books, provided that the Road Board or Municipality concerned will arrange for them to be housed and issued to readers.

In addition to supplying and maintaining a stock of books at each library, the board will also supply on request through a local library any book in the whole State stock, or any information, which may be needed. If the book or information needed is not in stock, it can probably be bought, or borrowed from another library. Thus almost any book published or the answer to practically any question can be supplied on request. In the settled areas of the State the request must come through the local library, but people who live in extreme isolation in the north or east of the State can be supplied direct from Perth if they write to the board.

To help farmers keep abreast of new books on agricultural and related subjects, a list of some of the books recently added will be published in each future issue of the Journal. Those who live in places where the Road Board or the Municipality has had the foresight to join the Library Board's scheme will be able to obtain any book listed free on application to the local library. People who live in other places (except those in the North-West or North who may borrow direct from Perth) will not of course be able to borrow the books, but at least they will know what is being published and will be able to buy any books which interest them.

The board plans to spend about £1,000 this year on agricultural books and because of the nature of the Journal the list will be more or less restricted to a selection from such books, but books on all other subjects and, of course novels, are continually being added so that not only the farmer, but his wife and family, and everyone else, will find something to meet their particular taste or interest.

Further information on the scheme will gladly be supplied on application to the Library Board of Western Australia, 11 Havelock Street, Perth.

**LIST OF SOME BOOKS ON AGRICULTURE** in the stock of **THE LIBRARY BOARD OF W.A.**

**GENERAL**


WEXHAM HATCHERY

Breeders: Australorp, W/Leghorn, 1st Cross
DAY OLD CHICKS:
Unsexed, Pullets and Cockerels when available
APRIL to OCTOBER DELIVERY, FREIGHT FREE—Air Freight Extra

6 WEEKS-OLD PULLETS
MAY to NOVEMBER DELIVERY
Plus freight and boxing
All from Government Blood Tested
PROVED SECOND SEASON STOCK

HATCHERY:
Cnr. EPSOM & SMITH AVE'S
REDCLIFFE PARK — ML 543