

suburban libraries much more thoroughly nourished.⁽⁸⁷⁾ These gentlemen showed realisation of the point, overlooked by many others, that it is useless to educate a child to the age of fifteen if there are going to be no further provisions made to enable him to continue his education. In this modern age of specialisation and internationalism, it is more than ever essential that a wide range of good literature and popular reference works should be readily available to all members of the community, in order that they may understand how the other half of the world lives. Understanding and toleration are two of the first essentials of world peace and good books are a first essential of their development.

Another year passed with nothing done. The subject was, however, brought to public notice once more when, speaking at a meeting of the Spreydon Library, Councillor Andrews said that it was a question as to whether or not the suburban libraries should be supported by a rate. By emphasising that he was not much in favour of libraries being entirely supported by a rate, and that people should be prepared to pay something for their recreation,⁽⁸⁸⁾ he showed that his knowledge of the correct function of a library had not advanced. However, it was made obvious that there was no unanimity on the Council when, speaking at the same meeting, Councillor E. Parlane considered that the time had arrived when the City Council should strike a special library rate. He continued that the general rate was very modest when the return received by the people was taken into account, and he expressed the wish that, when the time came to strike a rate, the people would regard it as necessary to improve the social amenities of

87. *ibid* May 20, 1937.

88. "Star-Sun" July 22, 1938.