AUTHORS IN SHIRT SLEEVES

New Service For Country Folk

scarce as trips to town since petrol was restricted, it is entirely the fault of the population.

One of the most consistently successful projects developed since New Zealand had a Labour Government has been the Country Library Service, Hampers of books going out regularly at an absurdly small cost, vans touring the country as travelling libraries, special services to specialists and students-these are among the activities of one of the most important jobs of work in the coun-

Now comes news of yet another service to subscribers.

The Library agencies have inaugurated an extensive Information Service, fed by a growing collection of pamphlets, newspaper clippings, pictures and periodicals. This should prove a boon to rural communities. It is an answer to the growing demand for up-to-the-minute information on topics about which there has not yet been time for books to be written and published.

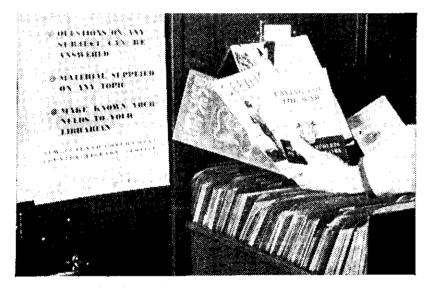
Oliver Wendell Holmes once said that "A great proportion of the best writing and reading comes in paper covers. The

F there is any country centre in writer appears, as it were, in his shirt-New Zealand where books are as sleeves." This is truer now than then. To-day more than ever, commercial organisations, research committees, social bodies, and the like, keep up with social and economic change by rushing out pamphlets, brochures and booklets "in their shirt-sleeves." It is these that form the basis of the new Information Ser-

> The Country Library Service has regularly circulated nearly one hundred newspapers and periodicals. These are also now part of its Information Service.

> A picture often conveys more than words: the Service is adding a wide range of pictures to its information files art prints, photographs, architects' plans, technical designs. These should greatly extend this field.

> The Information Service is available to all readers of participating libraries. There is no guarantee that "crossword puzzle" types of questions will be answered, but requests for information on politics, technology, the international situation, art, farming or the home, re-forred by the local librarian to Wellington, will be given immediate atten-



Out of these files information goes to all the odd corners of New Zealand

Inspector Hornleigh Takes Charge

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the worst! Only Inspector Hornleigh could save him, he pleaded, by letting him know secretly beforehand the solution of each week's problem!

A Hornleigh Craze

To-day in England you will come across special "Inspector Hornleigh" games, "Inspector Hornleigh" hats, "Inspector Hornleigh" shoes. Card games and cigarette pictures carry the distinguished countenance of the great detective, children play "let's-pretend-In-spector-Hornleigh." This character of the ether has grown to be a flesh-and-blood figure of the stage and a shadow figure of the screen. The public, which hitherto has only heard its hero's voice from the

obscurity of the wireless waves, has dragged him into living reality where it can see him too.

Beginning with England, this Sherlock Holmes of the air has conquered the world. In nineteen countries he bestrides the radio like a colossus; and to-day is as well known to the maidens of Bali as he is to those of Holland. His place in radio popularity in New Zealand is assured.

Truly a great triumph for his creator. And somewhere above, in the rarified atmosphere of that Olympus where all great detective story writers forgather at the end of their own autobiographies, Conan Doyle and Edgar Wallace rack their brains collectively every Monday Night at Seven to solve the latest problem of Inspector Hornleigh.

