

Sir, Regarding your proposals to cut back on Library services. A number of years ago when asked by the Council what should be done, I suggested a nominal charge of 40 pence be made on each Library Book loaned out. Unfortunately, I was told "under no circumstances could a charge be made" why not? The Carnegie Library was set up by an American Philanthropist in I believe 1884 for those day children were running around with no shoes and ragged clothing.

Times have indeed improved for the working classes since those days. I feel certain in these modern times a charge of 50 pence to loan a book would be quite acceptable.

I'm an old codger now! and have been borrowing books from Croydon Library for

² nearly 50 years. The Council Tax is quite high in Croydon Borough, the main problem being too many people sponging off benefits. Instead of suspending the Library service it would be far better and beneficial to the rate paying public, if there was more control on paying out benefits to these people.

I would thank you for reading this letter, and I would hope suitable action be taken.