

THOUGHTFUL assistants will glean useful hints on their course of reading from Mrs. Humphrey Ward's address at the Canning Town Public Hall on October 17th. She dwelt upon the great advantage which people got out of a bit of stiff reading. She advised them to exercise their minds as hard as they possibly could on a bit of science or of history and continue at it until they found their minds grew and were strengthened in the process.

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the members of this Association was held at the Library Bureau, on Thursday, October 3rd, at 8 p.m. Mr. Peddie presided. Miss James, the hon. curator of the L.A.U.K. Museum, gave a demonstration of the various exhibits under her charge. In the course of her remarks, Miss James suggested that it was desirable to establish a circulating library of books relating to Library Management, which would be found very useful to library assistants, and offered to lend any of her own books to those assistants who might be desirous of consulting them. She announced that a friend had kindly offered a donation of two guineas towards the cost of forming such a collection, and that she would gladly give a similar amount. At the conclusion of the demonstration, which was both interesting and instructive, the members present were allowed to personally examine the collection, and Miss James kindly answered questions put to her. A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Peddie and seconded by the treasurer, was unanimously accorded to Miss James.

E. H. C.

ON Wednesday, October 16th, a meeting of the Library Assistants' Association was held (by kind permission of the Commissioners) at St. Saviour's Public Library, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., the chair being taken by Mr. R. A. Peddie, and a paper was read entitled "The Library Assistant: Criticisms and Suggestions," by Mr. H. D. Roberts, the Librarian of St. Saviour's Library. In the course of his remarks, the speaker stated that the importance of the librarian as a factor in social life was gradually being recognised, and it was to be hoped that before long the Universities would deal with librarianship as a teaching subject. There could be no doubt that the best librarians were those who had been trained to the work. Education alone was not all that was necessary. The success of the library depended to a great extent on the courtesy and fidelity of its assistants. They should cultivate as a cardinal virtue a courteous and pleasing manner. They should avoid careless work and be thorough in all they were called upon to do. They should take a pride in keeping their library tidy and orderly. The condition of the library was a criterion as to the care of the assistants. The seniors should help the juniors by advice and example. They must learn to obey before they could expect to rule. They should aim to be prompt and ready to deal with any emergency, and should be both *suaviter in modo* and *fortiter in re*. The speaker concluded by urging on his hearers the need for private study if they were to rise in their profession.

The paper was discussed, and on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Carter, a vote of thanks was passed to the author.
F. M. R.

MISS M. S. R. JAMES has presented a bound set of the LIBRARY, vols. i. to v., to the Association. This will be kept up to date, and may be borrowed by members desirous of consulting them, upon application to the Secretary, in whose keeping they are for the present.

Mr. FRANK CAMPBELL has had printed, by the Chiswick Press, the paper which he delivered before the Association on September 18th, and has presented 100 copies to be distributed among the members. He has also presented printed copies of various papers which he has read before the L.A.U.K. and other associations.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for a Smoking Concert to be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Wednesday, November 20th, at 8 p.m. No charge will be made for admission. All library assistants, members or otherwise, and their friends will be invited, as well as others who are interested in the Association. A good programme is promised, and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance.

F. M. R.

Library Association of the United Kingdom.

President—THE RIGHT HON. LORD WINDSOR.

SEASON 1895-96.

Notice of Meeting.

The Second Monthly Meeting of the Season will be held on Monday, November 11th, at 8 p.m., at 20, Hanover Square, W. A paper will be read entitled "On the Bibliography of Periodical Literature," by Mr. Frank Campbell, Printed Book Department, British Museum.

J. Y. W. MACALISTER,
Hon. Secretary.

EXTRACT FROM CONSTITUTION.

"The Monthly Meetings shall receive and consider papers and suggestions on all subjects relating to the aims of the Association; *shall examine all library appliances and designs submitted to them*, and shall lay their conclusions and recommendations before the Council. They shall further have power to appoint special committees for the investigation of any particular subject, and the reports of such committees shall be submitted to the Council."

