

perfectly satisfactorily, whilst admitting that in other instances the criticism is just.

The Bill will add considerably to the work that the Lunacy Commission might undertake if it had a sufficient *personnel*, and will certainly entail unavoidable work, which will be a grievous addition to the existing overburden. This should offer an opportunity for the members of Parliament interested in the subject to introduce a clause strengthening the working power of the Commission by the appointment of a few more medical commissioners.

---

*The Library.*

The library of the Medico-Psychological Association would appear to be now advancing to a stage in which it will become one of the most useful adjuncts of that body.

The library was founded, as most of our members are aware, on the legacy of the books bearing on psychological medicine belonging to the late Dr. Hack Tuke, to which have been added a residuum of the library of the late Dr. Lockhart Robertson. Various smaller gifts of books from authors and others, with a few purchases, have brought the total of works to upwards of a thousand.

The income derived from the Hack Tuke Memorial Fund is also devoted to the library, and for several years past this has been expended in rebinding, cataloguing, etc. Catalogues, both of authors and subjects, have been completed, and the Library Committee have recommended that the original idea of making the library accessible by circulation to the most remote member of the Association in Great Britain and Ireland should now be carried into effect.

To enable this to be satisfactorily done, it has been further proposed that a subscription be made to Lewis's, so that current works not yet added to the permanent library may be accessible to members.

The importance of giving members of the Association who are remote from reference libraries the power of obtaining by post the books they need for any special work is too obvious, and has been too often advanced to need any additional urging.

The supplying of this long-felt need will go far to advance the scientific work of the Association.

In many libraries, a bibliography of subjects is being gradually accumulated, and one branch of the library work should certainly consist in this. If the medical officers of each asylum would undertake to compile a complete bibliography of a certain number of subjects, the value of the library would be greatly increased, and the work of the library committee in future acquisitions greatly facilitated.

The extension of the library should now attract the fullest attention of the Association. Efforts should especially be made to obtain gifts and bequests of works, and the appeal of the committee for liberal grants of money to purchase new books should be met in an intelligent and liberal spirit.

The editors are endeavouring to arrange that many of the most important exchange journals shall find their way to the library, and probably the appeal of the library committee will result in the arrival at the same destination of many of the books submitted for review.

---

*The Latest Prophet.*

Dr. Dowie, a contemporary informs us, now prefers claims to be a veritable prophet, bearing an Old Testament name, but unlike other prophets he does not seem to meet with much honour even out of his own country. The modern publicans, as represented by hotel managers, have cast him out, and from the ordinary street sinners he has to be protected by "Zion Guards."

Dr. Dowie appears to be strongly convinced that the prophet business cannot be carried on without money, and has estimated in millions of dollars the shekels received by the apostles. This suggests an interesting calculation, *viz.*: If twelve apostles get so many million dollars, how many should an Old Testament prophet get? Dr. Dowie would probably answer "As much as he can."

These prophet phenomena are certainly very astonishing in this twentieth century, and the ordinary man asks how much longer can humanity be deluded by such anachronistic absurdities. It is to be feared that they connote a very grievous