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who are perhaps too diffident to air their views in public, we would again say that our columns are open to any helpful suggestions or criticism.

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL CHAIR
 THE LIBRARY SPIRIT

We have the authority of Holy Writ for the assurance that "It is more blessed to give than to receive," and the pleasure some of our workers and subscribers have enjoyed in presenting books to "Our Library" has been manifest at the time of the gift. Wondering what should be the subject for the usual monthly talk, the Chair decided to briefly mention as far as possible the gifts to Our Library since its inception.

During the first year many single volumes were presented by the enthusiastic workers and friends, of which no record has been kept but apparently which did not escape notice.

The splendid gift of 44 volumes of "The Illustrated London News" in a glass covered case must have cheered the hearts of the committee. Also about the same time Messrs Willis and Aiken gave 4 volumes of "The Illustrated London News," and Mr Connal donated two volumes of "Punch." As time rolled by the Library received at intervals gifts by Mr A. Rowntree, one volume British Art, Mr C. P. Rutland, seven volumes of "The Army and Navy Gazette," Mr G. N. Hayley, Mr D. Richardson, Mr H. Burson also gave useful and valuable books.

Special mention must be made of the gift by Mr F. C. Fairclough of a portion of the library of his father, the late Rev. P. W. Fairclough, consisting of nearly 900 volumes. A splendid gift, and when we get a new and suitable building, this can be made more accessible.

Finally the development and growth of the "Library spirit" does much to strengthen and improve the actual working in the library itself.

Voluntary work must mean sacrifice, otherwise it loses its vital power, so when anyone is moved to make a gift, it comes as an uplift and added incentive to carry on the good work.

NEW NOVELS

Out of the World. By Pamela Bourne. Miss Bourne is one of those who is fortunate enough to be able to satisfy her longing for adventure.

Born in South Africa, and daughter of Sir Richard Bourne, Secretary of Defence, she desired acquaintance with the sea and far-off lands.

Working as a sailor aboard a steamer, she arrived in Australia. Then to the islands of the South Seas, visiting many and gaining much experience and enjoyment. Later to New Zealand, where she visited both North and South Islands. Back to Australia, and again shipping as a sailor she sailed for England in the "Herzogin Cecile," the well-known grain ship, going round the stormy Cape Horn.

A book that holds the reader from the first page to the end, bright and chatty, and leaves one with the impression that Miss Bourne deserved all the pleasure she evidently got out of

her ramblings, and that she herself is a charming lady. It is good reading and finely written.

On a Huge Hill, by J. D. Beresford, is rather an uncommon book, but one that should appeal to many readers who are interested in the occult. The story commences with the description of James Kingdon, a somewhat eccentric solicitor, and his partner, Anthony Spinks, who has brilliant mental powers and a gift of mediumship. James is married to Helena, a convincing characterisation of a narrow minded and extremely stupid woman. Their son Robin contracts, and is dying of, meningitis, but his father's powers miraculously save him and the mother is puzzled and jealous that her husband could do what she could not. Bickering and disagreement between them commences and is further accentuated when James tries to heal Lucy Gordon, a young married woman who is suffering from arthritis. Eventually the wife becomes transformed and joins her husband in his ideas and work. The book will be found not only enlightening but full of thrills and excitement.

The Scarlet Empress, by J. Smith Ross. This story has already been before the public, having been shown on the screen as Catherine the Great, and those who have seen the picture will enjoy the book, giving as it does, in fuller detail the romantic story of the great Empress in her later years, the marriage of her heir Peter to a German princess, his profligacy and eventual forcible disappearance, and the proclamation of his princess as Empress of all the Russias.

SOME RECENTLY PURCHASED FICTION.

- The A.B.C. Murders Agatha Christie
- The Bitterfoot Trail Jas. W. Johnson
- Blaze McGee Jay Lucas
- The Cabaret Girl Richard Starr
- Climb to the Stars Denise Robins
- Come Autumn Come Spring Anne Maybury
- David Go Back John Connell
- Death Chime Leonard Gribble
- Death in the Fenns Colin Hope
- Desert Silver Stone Cody
- Dry Ridge Gang B. M. Bower
- The Forbidden River Harold Bindloss
- The Garden Murder Case S. S. Van Dine
- The Glass House M. Barnard Eldershaw
- The Hand of Four Mark Cross
- Hurricane Vance Palmer
- If the Fall Victor McClure
- The Kiowa Trail Philip F. Deere
- The Lamp of Friendship Effie A. Rowlands
- The Lone Wolf's Last Prowl L. J. Vance
- Love is a Star Deirdre O'Brien
- Love Lies Deep Errol Fitzgerald
- No, Sir Henry Anthony Weymouth
- Orange Blossom Lewis Cox
- Outlaws of Half-a-day Creek J. B. Hendryx
- Perilous Errand Morris Sutherland
- The Prairie Rider Fred Beckdolt
- Scarlet and White Olive Wadsley
- Son of a Cow Thief P. E. Leyman
- Toils of Silence Hry. St. J. Cooper
- Who Killed Gatton E. Chas. Vivian

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