

The daily average cost was 1s. 5½d., the smallest since the year 1900.

We are glad to note that two nurses and one attendant passed the examination of the Lunacy Department, after a three years' course of study and training. The regulations of the Medico-Psychological Association and their examination papers were adopted.

### Part IV.—Notes and News.

#### MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THE sixty-seventh annual meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association was held in London, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., on Thursday and Friday, July 23rd and 24th, 1908.

The proceedings commenced at 11 a.m., and Dr. P. W. MacDonald, the retiring President, occupied the chair.

*Present*, the following seventy-six members: S. H. Agar, W. Bevan-Lewis, G. F. Blandford, C. H. Bond, D. Bower, G. M. P. Braine-Hartnell, J. F. Briscoe, L. C. Bruce, J. Carswell, J. Chambers, R. H. Cole, H. Corner, M. Craig, W. R. Dawson, T. Drapes, F. W. Edridge-Green, F. A. Elkins, J. A. Ewan, W. F. Farquharson, C. H. Fennell, N. J. H. Gavin, B. Hart, W. H. Haslett, H. E. Haynes, J. W. Higginson, H. G. Hill, R. D. Hotchkis, T. B. Hyslop, T. Johnstone, Robert Jones, N. T. Kerr, A. B. Kingsford, W. H. C. Macartney, H. C. MacBryan, O. F. M'Carthy, P. W. MacDonald, T. W. McDowall, A. McDougall, H. J. Macevoy, E. D. Macnamara, Mary E. Martin, C. Mercier, J. Merson, W. J. Mickle, J. Middlemass, A. Miller, C. S. Morrison, H. Hayes Newington, F. W. Nutt, D. Orr, M. E. Paul, Bedford Pierce, E. Powell, R. W. Prentice, D. F. Rambaut, H. Rayner, W. Rawes, J. M. Rhodes, G. A. Rorie, R. G. Rows, E. F. Sall, E. H. O. Sankey, G. H. Savage, G. E. Shuttleworth, H. Smalley, R. Percy Smith, R. H. Steen, J. Stewart, R. J. Stilwell, W. H. B. Stoddart, D. G. Thomson, A. R. Turnbull, A. R. Urquhart, F. Watson, T. O. Wood, D. Yellowlees.

*Visitors*: Drs. H. B. Donkin and G. H. Martin (San Francisco).

Apologies for absence were received from: Drs. B. J. Alcock, J. S. Bolton, F. St. J. Bullen, H. Clarke, H. G. Cribb, G. Dickson, R. L. Donaldson, C. C. Easterbrook, G. S. Elliot, C. T. Ewart, F. C. Gayton, E. Goodall, J. T. Hingston, W. W. Ireland, G. E. Mould, H. C. Marr, M. J. Nolan, W. A. Parker, E. C. Rogers, H. Roscoe, P. C. Smith, W. R. Watson, H. B. Wilkinson.

The PRESIDENT (Dr. MACDONALD) said the minutes of the last annual meeting had already appeared in the *Journal of Mental Science*, and it might be the wish of the meeting to take them as read. This was agreed to, and they were duly signed.

The next business was the *election of Officers and Council for the coming year*. He nominated as scrutineers for the purposes of the ballot Dr. Turnbull, Dr. Middlemass, Dr. Steen, and Dr. Dawson. In regard to the two representative members of Council from the Irish Division, it was found that Dr. Nolan and Dr. Drapes had to retire owing to their having served three years. The Irish Division wished to substitute for those two gentlemen Dr. W. Graham and Dr. James J. Fitzgerald.

Agreed to.

On the agenda, under the heading "Examiners for the Nursing Certificate," Dr. Turnbull's name appeared without the qualifying words "for one year." Owing to the lamented death of Dr. Conolly Norman the vacancy had to be filled

for one year, and the Educational Committee asked Dr. Turnbull if he would carry out that somewhat thankless task for another year. Dr. Turnbull kindly consented.

Agreed.

The PRESIDENT stated that the scrutineers had announced that the ballot had been unanimous in favour of the officers and members of Council whose names appeared on the ballot paper.

#### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS.

The PRESIDENT said it was necessary for the meeting to appoint two auditors for next year. The gentlemen at present filling that office were Dr. Hyslop and Dr. Thomson. The former retired, and the latter was promoted. The gentleman appointed should be resident somewhere near London.

Dr. CRAIG proposed Dr. Steen.

Dr. THOMSON seconded, and it was agreed to

#### ELECTION OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

*Parliamentary Committee.*—The PRESIDENT then put the list of names to form the Parliamentary Committee. It was carried as shown on the agenda, with the addition of the names of Drs. James Chambers and P. T. Hughes.

*Educational Committee.*—This list of names, as shown on the agenda, was carried with the addition of the names of Drs. James Chambers, James Middlemass, D. Orr, R. G. Rows and D. G. Thomson.

Dr. YELLOWLEES drew attention to the size of these Committees, which he stated he believed to be too large and very unwieldy. He thought that a man who did not attend their meetings ought not to remain on the list.

Dr. BRISCOE supported this view.

The PRESIDENT said that no doubt the remarks which had been made would come under the cognisance of the Nominations Committee next year, and possibly they would deal with the matter in a more ruthless fashion.

*Library Committee.*—The four members whose names appeared on the agenda were elected to form this Committee.

#### THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The TREASURER said that his Report had been sent round. He regretted that the last year was not such a good one, financially, as the year before. That was partly due to the shrinkage of receipts from examination fees, but chiefly in the miscellaneous expenditure. The major part of the increase had gone in the preparation of the lithographic stones for printing the sets of tables which had been circulated round the asylums in connection with the new statistical scheme. In the present year there was nothing to cause any particular expense. And this year, as shown by the return he had just received from the Registrar, the number of candidates for examination had gone up considerably, and the income would no doubt increase. Every now and then he had made it his custom to give a statement as to the condition of the Gaskell Prize Fund in addition to his ordinary Treasurer's Account. That fund was now assuming very large proportions. It began with £1,000, contributed by the friends of Mr. Gaskell, Commissioner. Those friends subsequently gave another £300, making it up to £1,300 odd of stock. Since then, out of accumulations, the Association had invested another £300, and there was now in the hands of the Association a further sum of £167 19s. 8d., which would have to be transferred to the Fund at some later time, also a sum of some £6 as deposit account. That went on from year to year. To-day the Council had been informed there was again no candidate for the prize provided by the Fund. At times consideration had been given to the possibility of spending the money; but the terms of the Trust Deed were rather strict, and it did not seem possible, without going to Court, to get the provisions altered. So he supposed the Association must go on laying the money up for no good purpose until such time as the Council took the matter into more serious consideration and appointed a committee to decide whether it was worth while to go to the Court, with the

# THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—For the Year 1907.

## REVENUE ACCOUNT—January 1st to December 31st, 1907.

1906.	Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Cr.	1906.
£ 384	To Journal—Printing, Publishing, Engraving, Advertising, and Postage...	11	3	11	...	£ 29
174	Examinations, Association Prizes, and Clerical Assistance to Registrar...	11	3	11	...	3
43	Petty Disbursements, Stationery, Postages, etc.	4	1	11	...	2
112	Annual, General, and Divisional Meetings	16	5	10	...	20
56	Rent of Premises at 11, Chandos Street, care of Office, &c.	0	0	10	...	0
6	Audit and Clerical Assistance	6	0	0	...	285
133	Miscellaneous	17	9	8	...	10
180	Balance	0	3	1104	...	102
£1201		6	7	27	...	703
				£1131	...	6
				18	...	7

## BALANCE-SHEET—December 31st, 1907.

1906.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	1906.
£ 14	Journal Account	14	£ 284
7	Petty Disbursements Account	1	17
23	Examinations Account	10	8
6	Meetings Account	10	438
61	Gaskell Fund	4	310
14	Rent Account	0	19
65	Miscellaneous	4	320
10	Library	18	14
	Balance on January 1st	5	91
	Add: Balance of Revenue Account	18	19
		6	10
		1596	10
		1	7
		3	2
		5	4
		3	13
		5	10
		3	12
		6	6
		32	11
		0	0
		1540	17
		4	4
		£1790	14
		10	10

E. WOODINGTON, F.C.A.

H. HAYES NEWINGTON, TREASURER.

## THE GASKELL MEMORIAL FUND.

1903.			
Examination fees (1902) ...	£ s. d. 4 4 0	July, Balance ...	£ s. d. 94 3 4
Do. (1903) ...	4 14 0		
Dec. 31st, Balance ...	85 5 4		
	£94 3 4		£94 3 4
1904.			
July, Examination fees ...	4 4 0	Jan. 1st, Balance ...	85 5 4
Dec. 31st, Balance ...	127 1 6	Dividends ...	46 0 2
	£131 5 6		£131 5 6
1905.			
March 30th, by purchase of N. S. Wales 3 per cent. Stock ...	300 18 0	Jan. 1st, Balance ...	127 1 6
Dec. 31st, Balance ...	51 17 11	Dividends ...	50 14 5
	£352 15 11	Cash from Deposit Account	175 0 0
			£352 15 11
1906.			
Aug., Prize (Dr. Rutherford) ...	35 0 0	Jan. 1st, Balance ...	51 17 11
Examination Fees ...	4 4 0	Dividends ...	55 10 8
Medal ...	5 5 0		
Printers ...	1 5 0		
Dec. 31st, Balance ...	61 14 7		
	£107 8 7		£107 8 7
1907.			
Dec. 31st, Balance ...	117 5 3	Jan. 1st, Balance ...	61 14 7
	£117 5 3	Dividends ...	55 10 8
			£117 5 3
1908.			
July 23rd, Balance ...	167 19 8	Jan. 1st, Balance ...	117 5 3
	£167 19 8	Dividends ...	50 14 5
			£167 19 8

Since the Annual Meeting £150 of the balance, reported above, has been placed in the Deposit Account.

The funds of the Gaskell Memorial Trust are represented on October 1st, 1908, by—

New Zealand 3½ per cent. Stock ...	£1380 14 3
New South Wales 3 per cent. Stock ...	337 11 0
Deposit Account at Bank ...	156 1 5
In the hands of the Association ...	17 19 8

sanction of the friends of Mr. Gaskell, for permission to adopt some more favourable scheme. He laid the Report on the table, also the account books and bank pass book, in case any member wished to inspect them.

Dr. CLOUSTON asked whether it would be competent for him to move a resolution to the effect that the Educational Committee be requested to take into consideration the question of the re-arrangement of the terms on which the Gaskell Prize was at present awarded.

The PRESIDENT said it would be quite in order.

Dr. CLOUSTON said he desired a recommendation on the subject to go from that meeting to the Council. He saw no object in delaying the matter indefinitely. Apparently there was at present a large sum of money of the Fund unused, and at the Council there had ensued a discussion on a means of exciting interest and stimulating assistant medical officers of asylums to do more work than some of them at present seemed inclined to do. As there could be no reason for delay, he moved "That the Educational Committee be requested to consider, and if thought fit, bring forward a scheme in regard to, the Gaskell Prize Fund." He was willing to put the resolution into the terms most likely to result in carrying out what was desired.

Dr. STEWART seconded, and it was carried.

Dr. CRAIG asked whether those terms would empower the Committee to go to counsel for opinion and guidance. That was really the difficulty, because nothing could be done in the matter without legal advice. It was necessary for the Educational Committee to receive authority to obtain legal advice.

Dr. STEWART suggested that Dr. Clouston should add to his motion the words "With power to consult counsel, if necessary."

Dr. CRAIG said he thought that was the Treasurer's view also.

Dr. CLOUSTON said he would be very happy to accept the suggestion.

The resolution, with this addition, was then put and carried.

#### AUDITORS' REPORT.

Dr. D. G. THOMSON said his colleague (Dr. Hyslop) and himself spent some time in going over the accounts, and found them to correspond with the statement which had been presented by the Treasurer.

#### THE REPORT OF THE EDITORS.

The Editors have no special matters to report in connection with the publication of the Journal beyond the fact of a further increase in the number of copies printed to 1100. This increase was considered to be desirable from the advance in the number of members, the greater number of changes in membership, and some indication of a greater demand for back numbers, the stock of back numbers for some years having been exhausted.

The grievous loss sustained by the Editors by the death of Dr. Conolly Norman has already been dwelt on in the Journal. No adequate expression of our appreciation of Dr. Norman, as a co-worker or of his services to this Journal, could be conveyed within the limits of this report.

The Editors have again to express their thanks to Dr. Lord for his valuable aid in connection with the "Epitome," which is yearly increasing in interest.

HENRY RAYNER.

A. R. URQUHART.

JAMES CHAMBERS.

Dr. URQUHART, in the temporary absence of Dr. Rayner, submitted the Editors' Report. He moved its adoption, which was seconded by Dr. CRAIG and carried.

#### REPORTS OF THE THREE STANDING COMMITTEES.

##### REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.

The PRESIDENT reminded the members that this report had been circulated among them, but he believed Dr. Craig desired to make a correction and some additions.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL WORK OF THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE SINCE  
THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1907.

The following is a brief account of the work done by this Committee up to, and including, the last May meeting :

The Educational Committee have held the usual number of meetings during the year, and have had several important matters under consideration. Amongst other subjects the following have been dealt with :

They make the following recommendation *re* the Nursing Certificate Examination :

RECOMMENDATION *re* NURSING CERTIFICATE, TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE  
ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Annual Meeting, 1906, the Educational Committee made a proposal that the Nursing Examination be divided into two parts, to be taken at different times in the period of training. The idea of such a division was agreed to in principle, and the scheme was referred back to the Educational Committee for elaboration and detail. The Educational Committee, in November, 1906, re-appointed the original Sub-Committee, and gave it instructions to draw out a scheme as requested by the Annual Meeting.

The Sub-Committee made their report, and it was printed and privately issued to all members of the Educational Committee. The report was fully considered by the Educational Committee at their meetings in May, July and November, 1907, and in May, 1908, and several important amendments were made.

It is recommended :

- (a) That a candidate shall be eligible for the First Examination after twelve months of training and attendance on one course of at least twelve lectures.
- (b) That a candidate who has passed the First Examination shall not be eligible for the Final Examination until after completing three full years of training and having attended three courses of lectures of not less than twelve in each course, and that at least one course of lectures shall be taken subsequently to passing the First Examination.
- (c) Any candidate who has been referred back in either of the examinations shall not be admitted for re-examination until he or she has attended a further course of practical or other instruction.
- (d) That a candidate for the First Examination shall be examined in :  
(1) Anatomy and Physiology ; (2) First Aid.
- (e) That a candidate for the Final Examination shall be examined in :  
(1) Bodily Diseases and Disorders ; (2) Sick Nursing and Hygiene ;  
(3) Mental Diseases and Mental Nursing.
- (f) That each examination consist of a written and *vidæ voce* portion.
- (g) That the *vidæ voce* in each examination be divided into an Oral and a Practical portion ; and that the *vidæ voce* examination should be not less than ten minutes in length. This should be extended, if necessary, in order to make it thorough. Candidates must show a competent knowledge in both the Oral and the Practical portions.
- (h) That the Written and the *vidæ voce* portions of the Examination be regarded as separate, and candidates must satisfy the Examiners in both.

The Educational Committee consider that the present system of reporting candidates as "passed" or "failed" in both the *vidæ voce* and the Written portions of the Examination is the only practical way of marking. Nevertheless, for the instruction of the Examiners of the Written and *vidæ voce* portions, it should be understood that no candidate should be reported to the Registrar as "passed" unless the candidate has obtained the equivalent of 50 *per cent.* in general accuracy in answering in each branch.

The Educational Committee consider that the present style of questions is satisfactory, but it is decided that no question in the written portion of the examination should be on any subject that is not referred to in the Handbook, and that the questions should be framed in such a way as to bring out whether or not that candidate has a *proper* understanding of the subject asked.

The Educational Committee recommend that in Rule 9, sub-section (g), of the Nursing Rules the words "a senior" be deleted and replaced by "an," and in the following line the word "five" be replaced by "three"; so that the Rule will run as follows:

"The Coadjutor shall be the present or past Superintendent, or the Acting Superintendent of another Institution, or in the event of the inability or refusal of any of these to act, an Assistant Medical Officer of not less than three years' standing who is a member of the Medico-Psychological Association, and in all cases must be approved by the President of the Association."

It is further recommended that these Rules be not put into force until the revised edition of the Handbook is published.

It is recommended that all candidates coming up for re-examination for the Nursing Certificate should pay a fee of 5s., as at the First Examination.

The whole subject of the remuneration of the Examiners for the Nursing and the Professional Certificate has been under review, and important changes are recommended. It is considered advisable that the Examiners for the Nursing Certificate should be paid a fixed sum, and not per paper examined, as is the case at present; and it is recommended that this sum be Twenty Guineas per annum for each Examiner.

It is recommended that for the Professional Examination each Examiner shall receive Two Guineas per examination in which he takes part.

The Sub-committee, who have been preparing the new Handbook, have made good progress with their work, and most of the book is already in print.

A Sub-committee has been sitting to consider "the advantages arising from examining candidates, in the Final Examination for medical degrees, in mental diseases." No report has yet been received, but it is hoped that it will be ready to bring before the Annual Meeting.

It has been decided by the Council on the recommendation of the Educational Committee to publish, in pamphlet form for sale, one hundred questions selected from the Nursing Examination papers set during recent years.

The Registrar reported that 148 candidates entered for the Nursing Examination in November, 1907, and that 100 passed.

The percentage of failures in the Written portion of the Examination was 18 *per cent.*, and for the Practical portion 9 *per cent.*

The Registrar reported that 669 candidates entered for the Nursing Examination in May, 1908.

The percentage of failures in the Written portion of the Examination was 22 *per cent.*, and for the Practical portion 18 *per cent.*

(Signed) CHARLES MERCIER, *Chairman.*

MAURICE CRAIG, *Hon. Sec.*

Dr. CRAIG said that he desired that the paragraph dealing with the work of the Committee upon criminal procedure should be deleted. The latter was a special committee and their report would appear separately. He added that the Registrar reported that 669 candidates presented themselves for the nursing examination in May last, and of this number 434 passed, 223 failed, and 12 withdrew (66 *per cent.* passed, 34 *per cent.* failed). He reported that there were 8520 certificates on the register. Eight candidates entered for the medico-psychological certificate, all of whom passed. One essay was received for the bronze medal, and it has been awarded to Dr. Carlisle Howard, Assistant-Physician Perth District Asylum.

The Handbook Sub-committee handed in the following report, which was received and adopted:

"The Handbook Sub-committee regrets that it cannot lay the completed work on the table, but it is able to report that the whole of it is in print with one or two minor exceptions, such as the index. The Sub-committee have used the funds allowed to it by the Council in order to have a literary revision and an index prepared, and, further, an authoritative opinion has been obtained on some debatable points."

He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

Dr. MILSOM RHODES seconded.

Dr. G. THOMSON asked what was to be inferred from paragraph 5, page 3, of the Report: *A sub-committee has been sitting to consider "the advantages arising*

*from examining candidates in the final examination for medical degrees in mental diseases." No report has yet been received, but it is hoped that it will be ready to bring before the annual meeting. Was it intended to bring that before the meeting now?*

Dr. CRAIG replied that that matter had been considered. The report which had been sent in by the sub-committee was a very excellent one, but the content of it was regarded as of such importance that the Educational Committee wished to consider it further before making any recommendation upon it.

The PRESIDENT asked for any further comments, and, as there were none, he put the motion for the adoption of the Report, and it was carried.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

*Report for the Year 1907-1908.*

The Parliamentary Committee has met four times this year. It has been chiefly occupied in trying to advance the appointment of a "Minister of Public Health," but its endeavours have met with little success at present. The British Medical Association, and all examining bodies in England, Scotland, and Wales, have been communicated with, but none have exhibited any disposition to act in the matter.

The Commissioners' circular relating to the Factory Acts was also considered and reported on to the Council at the May meeting.

(Signed) DAVID BOWER, *Chairmn.*

*June 20th, 1908.*

H. WOLSELEY-LEWIS, *Secretary.*

The PRESIDENT said that a meeting of this Committee had been held the previous day, but he was not sure whether there was anything to add to this report, which had already been circulated.

Dr. BOND said there was one other point which arose at the Parliamentary Committee's meeting of the previous day, namely, consideration of the present position of pensions. The matter had been the subject of correspondence between the Parliamentary Committee and the Asylum Workers Association, and allusion was made to certain asylum officials who had recently, on taking up their appointments, been asked to sign an undertaking that they waived their claim to a pension. A sub-committee had been appointed by the Parliamentary Committee to consider how far that was legal.

Dr. BRISCOE said he desired to point out an error in the Parliamentary Committee's report. He saw it was stated that the British Medical Association had not exhibited any disposition to act in the matter concerning the appointment of a Ministry of Public Health. The fact was that the British Medical Association took it up in 1904, and it was discussed at meetings of the Southern Branch. He was Chairman of the Winchester Division of the Southern Branch, and he naturally took a good deal of interest in the subject. He had heard from the Secretary of the British Medical Association that that Association leaned very strongly towards the appointment of a Public Health Officer. He would like to read to the meeting a very short minute of the British Medical Association —

The PRESIDENT: What is it you complain of in this report?

Dr. BRISCOE: It is incorrect.

The PRESIDENT: In what respect is it incorrect?

Dr. BRISCOE stated it was incorrect in saying that the British Medical Association had not exhibited any disposition to act in the matter. He did not remember having received any communication from the Medico-Psychological Association on the matter, although Dr. Bower called upon him once, and he explained the matter to him. There was a memorandum published by the British Medical Association, and if the President or the Secretary of the Medico-Psychological Association would write for a copy it would be sent. It stated: "It is therefore considered that the co-ordination and central administration concerning matters of public health would best be effected by entrusting all duties of the kind to the Local Government Board." He apologised for interrupting.

The PRESIDENT said that was the very point which he thought Dr. Briscoe was coming to. The British Medical Association did not view the matter from the same standpoint as did their own Association. The former wished to place it under the Local Government Board, but their own Association asked for a special Minister of Public Health, quite outside the Local Government Board.



## REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

This was as follows :

*Books Added.*

Barr.—*Mental Defectives.* 1905.  
 Clouston.—*Hygiene of Mind.* 1906. (Presented by Author.)  
 Jones, R.—*Mental Nursing.* 1908. (Presented by Author.)  
*Report of the Royal Commission on the Feeble-minded.* 1908.  
 Tredgold, A. F.—*Mental Deficiency.* 1908. (Presented.)  
 Wilson.—*Education, Personality, and Crime.* 1908.  
 Ziehen.—*Psychiatrie.* 1908.

Also the usual journals, exchanges, and review copies sent here by the editors of *The Journal of Mental Science.*

The Library has been well used both for reference and for home reading.

H. RAYNER.  
 R. H. COLE.  
 T. OUTTERSON WOOD.

The report was adopted.

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The number of members—ordinary, honorary, and corresponding—on December 31st, 1907, was 690, which is an increase of five as compared with the corresponding figure for the previous year.

The following table shows the membership during the past decade :

Members.	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Ordinary . . .	540	550	568	580	586	597	620	641	638	645
Honorary . . .	38	36	38	37	37	36	35	32	32	30
Corresponding . . .	12	12	10	11	12	12	15	15	15	15
Total . . .	590	598	616	628	635	645	670	688	685	690

From this it will be seen that the ordinary membership has increased by seven, the honorary members are less by two, while the number of corresponding members remains unchanged.

The number of new members continues very satisfactory, as many as thirty-nine having been registered during last year, while the names of two former members were replaced.

The Council regrets to have to chronicle the deaths of three honorary members—Dr. Charles Fèrè, Sir William T. Gairdner, K.C.B., and Dr. A. E. MacDonald, and of four ordinary members—Drs. J. Forsyth, A. T. Abbot, F. R. Dickson, and R. A. L. Graham.

The usual quarterly meetings were held in February, May, and November. That in February was, by the courtesy of Dr. Miller, held at Warwick County Asylum. The standard of the papers read has been well maintained and the attendance unusually good.

Eleven Divisional meetings were held.

The possibility of a change in the future accommodation of the Association and its library was again reported upon at the last annual meeting. The special Committee dealing with this matter was re-appointed, with power to negotiate. Since then no action has been necessary.

The Workmen's Compensation Act Committee at the last annual meeting issued a valuable report embodying numerous points of useful information.

Following the action against a member of the Association, a Criminal Procedure

Committee was appointed last July to consider the present practice in relation to the question of the alleged insanity in accused persons and other allied matters. Its three sub-committees have held meetings, and the Committee, as a whole, are reporting to the present annual meeting.

The Factory and Workshops Act of 1907 was the subject of discussion at the February meeting, and a resolution was passed to the effect that in the opinion of the Association it was undesirable that asylums should be brought under the provisions of the Factory Acts.

The Educational Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Mercier, presents its report. Its work, which has included the revision of the regulation for the nursing certificate, has been very heavy.

The Parliamentary Committee, now under the chairmanship of Dr. Bower—Dr. Ernest White having resigned after three years' service as chairman—also presents its report.

The question of the most convenient week-day in which certain of the Association's meetings should be held has been under consideration, and after a general referendum it was resolved that the majority of the meetings, including the May meeting, should be held on Tuesdays. In this connection the thanks of the Association are due to the Treasurer for much time spent in endeavouring to secure better terms from the railway companies.

The Journal continues much appreciated and its circulation satisfactory. Its editorship has sustained a severe loss in the lamented death of Dr. Conolly Norman.

The Library Committee's useful work continues.

The finances of the Association remain in a sound position under the able and vigilant administration of the Treasurer.

The number of entries for the nursing certificate was again slightly less than the past two years. But the Registrar's duties continue very heavy, and as heretofore, to him, to the Divisional Secretaries (who have assiduously promoted the success of their respective divisions), and other officers, the hearty thanks of the Association are due.

The GENERAL SECRETARY read the report and moved its adoption.

Dr. STEWART said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion for adoption, and took the opportunity of remarking how great was the obligation which ordinary members of the Association were under to the Council and the Committees for the work they had done. It was obvious that a good deal of time must be spent in connection with all the details, and those who did not work on those Committees perhaps did not take sufficient cognisance of the self-sacrifice shown by the members of those Committees. He wished to allude to one matter which had been brought to his notice by some members who had not the courage of their convictions. He had. There were many men, like himself, who had long been members of the Association, and having contributed something like forty guineas to the Association by paying their guinea each year, some consideration should be given by the Council to the question of whether a life-membership should not be established as was the case in other associations, such as the Medical Society of London. He asked that the Council would consider the suggestion before the next annual meeting.

The report was then put, and agreed to.

## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

### REPORT OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL PROCEDURE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The respective Sub-Committees for Great Britain and Ireland appointed *re* criminal and civil procedure have held several meetings and have collected together much valuable material, but it has been impossible yet to formulate any definite opinions or to make any recommendations. It is therefore desirable that these Sub-Committees should be re-appointed with power to co-opt to their numbers. They further ask that a sum not exceeding £25 should be granted to meet any expenses that they may incur in the matter of printing and circulating reports, etc.

Dr. CRAIG submitted this report, and moved that it be received and adopted.

Dr. MILSOM RHODES seconded the motion, and drew attention to a flagrant case which took place last week in the Leeds murder case. A man killed a woman by chopping her head off and was surprised in the act of cutting off her right arm, another man threatening to kill him with a crowbar if he did not desist. The murderer then turned quietly round, lit a cigarette, and began smoking it. He then picked up the woman's corsets and said he could sell them for half-a-crown, picked up her umbrella and said it would fetch 7s. 6d. At the trial three mental experts were called, and they said he was insane. Yet the jury found—and the judge appeared to agree with them—that he was guilty of wilful murder, and the man was now lying under sentence of death. It was monstrous that such a thing should be possible in this country at the present time, and he urged upon the Committee not only to consider what they were doing, but to go to the Home Office to see if some alteration could be made. The Lunacy Commissioners had drawn attention to it, as had several other people, and he declared that our criminal law as it at present stood was a disgrace to the Statute Book.

Dr. URQUHART, in supporting the motion, said he would like to explain in a few words the actual state of matters. Some ten years ago the Association had a very important committee to consider that question, and after two years' work and long debates the net result was that, although they did not approve of the state of the law, they had, at that time, no suggestion to make for its amendment. But in the course of last year another committee was appointed, and it was thought well to have it representative of all three Divisions of the Kingdom, as the law was so different in those Divisions. After a year's work they found themselves unable to report at great length to-day, and they had requested re-appointment for another year, before those very important and intricate legal matters could be fully considered.

The report was then put and adopted.

#### MOTIONS INVOLVING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.

The PRESIDENT said he had been informed by the Treasurer that there were no such motions.

#### FIXING DATES OF ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

The PRESIDENT said a suggestion had been made that the meeting provisionally fixed for Tuesday, November 24th, should be altered to Thursday, November 19th. That came before the Council, and they recommended the alteration. This and the other dates were then agreed to.

Dr. THOMSON said that arising out of Section F, fixing the date of the annual meeting, he would like to offer a suggestion.

The PRESIDENT said that was usually left to the Council.

Dr. THOMSON said he would like to suggest that it be an instruction to the Council that, if possible, next year the meetings of the Association should not clash with the opening meeting or with other meetings of the British Medical Association. Not being Jekyll and Hyde, he could not be in two places to-morrow, and therefore he felt a great sense of disappointment that he could not attend both the present annual meeting and the meeting of the British Medical Association. He put it forward as a suggestion to the Council.

The PRESIDENT said he could sympathise with Dr. Thomson, but unfortunately it arose owing to the fact that the representative meeting of the British Medical Association fixed up two or three days more than it used to do for its annual meeting. So the Medico-Psychological Association would have to go either backwards or forwards ten days if its annual meeting was to escape that of the other Association.

Dr. THOMSON said it needed only an alteration of one day.

The PRESIDENT said he felt sure that the President-elect, when he succeeded to the office, would bear the suggestion in mind.

Dr. THOMSON thanked the President, remarking that that was all he wished.

Dr. MERCIER said he was somewhat responsible for the situation, owing to an attempt to get particular speakers for the dinner.

## BALLOT FOR NEW MEMBERS.

A ballot was then taken for the following ten gentlemen who had been proposed for election as members of the Association. They were unanimously elected:—Anderson, James Richard Sunner, M.B., Ch.B.Glasg., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Cumberland and Westmorland Asylum, Carlisle (proposed by W. F. Farquharson, G. F. Barham, and C. Hubert Bond); Blandy, Gurth Swinnerton, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Assistant Medical Officer, Middlesex County Asylum, Napsbury, Herts (proposed by T. O'C. Donelan, R. H. Steen, and C. Hubert Bond); Ellison, Arthur, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Deputy Medical Officer, H.M. Prison, Leeds; 120, Domestic Street, Holbeck, Leeds (proposed by John Exley, T. S. Adair, and Harold R. Cross); Geale, William James, L.R.C.S.&P.Edin., L.F.P.S.Glasg., Assistant Medical Officer, Scalebor Park, Burley-in-Wharfedale, Yorks (proposed by J. R. Gilmour, G. F. Barham, and C. Hubert Bond); Inglis, J. P. Park, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Assistant Medical Officer, Borough Asylum, Canterbury (proposed by E. F. Sall, N. Navarra, and R. H. Steen); Littelljohn, Edward Salterne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Medical Officer, London County Asylum, Hanwell, W. (proposed by Percy J. Baily, H. Hayes Newington, and C. Hubert Bond); Morton, John Hall, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., Univ. Dubl., Assistant Medical Officer, Hatton Asylum, Warwick (proposed by Alfred Miller, Arthur W. Wilcox, and W. F. Samuels); Rodgers, Frederick Millar, M.B., Ch.B.Vict., D.P.H., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Lancashire County Asylum, Winwick (proposed by Alexander Simpson, G. F. Barham, and C. Hubert Bond); Rolleston, Charles Ffrance, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Univ. Dubl. (Assistant Medical Officer, County of London Manor Asylum), Horton Manor, Epsom (proposed by W. J. Donaldson, G. F. Barham, and C. Hubert Bond); Tattersall, John, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Medical Officer, London County Asylum, Hanwell, W. (proposed by Percy J. Baily, H. Hayes Newington, and C. Hubert Bond).

## DR. THOMSON'S MOTION.

Dr. THOMSON formally proposed the following resolution, of which he had given notice, and which appeared on the agenda:

"That for the more efficient teaching and training of the coming generation of alienists in psychiatry, the Medico-Psychological Association—in the first instance through its Education Committee—consider some scheme for post-graduate teaching and training, with or without the imprimatur of a diploma given after such a course (with or without examination) with a view to its being brought before the Universities and other qualifying and teaching bodies."

He said he did not think there was any need to take up much of the time of the meeting by any remarks on the motion because it had been twice before the majority of the members in abstract, printed among abstracts of papers. Further, the Editors of the Journal had kindly published an expurgated edition of his short paper in the July issue. He wished to add, however, that three months' further consideration of the subject had convinced him more than ever of the importance of taking some action on the motion. In the discussion he would like the question of asylum administration to be kept out as much as possible because that was not quite the point touched on, and its consideration would come later on. The whole point of his motion was that they should catch their men young, and train them properly at that stage, just as other specialists were trained, such as medical officers of health, military and naval men, and so on. The rest would follow. He mentioned that, because at the discussion on his paper, which was reported in the July Journal, speakers went into details concerning the co-existence of administrative capacity with purely medical capacity. He did not regard that as germane to the subject at all. Members of that Association were primarily specialists in mental disorders, and he maintained that they ought to be trained as such. He moved the motion standing in his name.

Dr. CLOUSTON said he had great pleasure in seconding Dr. Thomson's motion. As yet the idea foreshadowed by Dr. Thomson was somewhat vague, but all present understood what he meant, and it was certainly worth while to refer it to the Educational Committee to have it thoroughly thrashed out, and have the great

question of the special study of psychiatry among assistant medical officers of asylums taken into consideration, and if possible, some concrete scheme submitted to the Association. No doubt there were many difficulties in the matter, and he imagined that the chief one was that there existed already quite enough difficulty in getting assistant medical officers, whether trained or untrained; and if anything were added to the qualifications required of them probably the market for such assistants would still further decline and they would not be able to get assistant medical officers at all. However, Dr. Thomson, both in his speech and in his paper, rather foreshadowed that it should not be a kind of qualifying examination for the admission of asylum medical officers, but a course of study which they should take up after being assistant medical officers of an institution. Probably that would be by far the better mode of tackling the subject. (Hear, hear.) There could be no doubt of the need of instilling into everybody who entered asylum service the scientific spirit. The only possible means by which our reputation as a nation for the study of psychiatry would be advanced would be to get our young men keenly interested in that subject. It was beyond doubt that there was plenty of ability. And that being so, why should they not proceed to train it on the right lines in their own specialty? He did not wish to occupy much of the time of the meeting. Everybody was convinced—as he was himself—that it would be a very good thing if a practical scheme could be administered. It was known that the Army allowed the medical officers in the Indian Medical Service time for special study, and the same thing could probably be arranged for in institutions if assistant medical officers were allowed to go to a medical school for three months in the summer once in two or three years for post-graduate study. It could not fail to add enormously to their usefulness and efficiency.

Dr. LEWIS BRUCE wished to support Dr. Thomson's motion, as he thought it a most desirable thing that the younger men of the specialty should have a chance of being educated and being capable of doing good work in such a tremendous field as that of psychiatry. He did not agree with Dr. Clouston's view that if men were better trained for the work there would be a greater difficulty in getting assistant medical officers for asylums. He knew from personal experience, and from talking with young men who had been in asylum service and left it, that they left it because there was a lack of interest in the service; they saw no chance of advancement. That state of affairs could not be improved because, on the average, only one of four assistants got promoted to a medical superintendency. What, therefore, was to become of the other three? They must become what were known as "chronics" in asylum service, which was not desirable; or else they must be in a position to acquire knowledge which would help them in other branches. That was where Dr. Thomson's scheme would come in so well; it would make the service much more attractive than at present. If a man, after taking two or three years of asylum service, left that service after acquiring a store of knowledge, not necessarily a knowledge of psychiatry, but such as would enable him to devote himself to clinical work of various sorts, he would be a very much more valuable man and more likely to obtain a billet outside the specialty than a man who had been three or four years in an asylum and did nothing to improve his knowledge, who did nothing but go his rounds, and allowed his medical knowledge to rust. He could speak, also, from the experience of men who had been with him, who went in for the Indian Medical Service and passed well, merely in consequence of the work they had done off their own bat in an institution.

Dr. BEVAN LEWIS said he had the greatest appreciation for the motion and the way it had been framed and advocated by Dr. Thomson, as well as for the manner in which the meeting had received it. And in criticising it he hoped he would not be regarded as captious, nor as regarding with pessimism the great difficulties which stood in the way. Until those difficulties had been removed he did not think much advance would be made. Why was it that at present they had, by implication, to charge our asylums with a certain degree of stagnation in the medical spirit? He could indicate two, perhaps three, difficulties which were present and accounted for that stagnation. First, there was the passing of the clinical assistant—a very important matter. Again, he would indicate the extension—and the very large extension—of the medical curriculum, and the overwhelming amount of work which the assistant had to take in hand. The third point, and one of very great difficulty,

was the paucity of those institutions which would afford their young men what he looked upon as the absolutely essential foundation for their study as psychiatrists, namely, their attendance at hospitals for general mental and nervous diseases, such as that at Queen Square. That, above all things, formed an essential element in the education of the alienist physician. With regard to the passing of the clinical assistant, he would refer to the resident assistant who had been in asylum service for nine, twelve, or eighteen months. At Wakefield, as probably many knew, under Sir James Crichton Browne, his successor, Dr. Herbert Major, and himself, there had been a constant passage through the wards of men who, though doubly qualified and unpaid, took up the post of clinical assistant, and assisted the staff right manfully, who enjoyed the work, and benefited by it, gaining an enormous and excellent experience, yet who were unpaid. It might be asked how that was possible. It was possible in those days, and at present many of those men held eminent positions in the specialty, in England, Scotland, Ireland, and the Colonies. That day seemed to have passed away. Perhaps it was a pessimistic view of the case to take when speaking of the passing of the clinical assistant. He trusted there would be a resurrection ere long. What was the special utility of that state of things? Surely it was that those men he referred to brought in an enormous stimulus to the permanent staff of the asylum. The senior assistant would take them in hand and follow up the teaching; and the circumstances seemed to require that he should keep abreast of the times. He, Dr. Lewis, deplored the passing of the clinical assistant. It was due, he thought, to the very keen competition for existence. Coupled with that was the prolongation of studies. Then there was also the very important fact that the clinical assistant had very great attractions in other paths. A very important one was the *locum tenens* physician. The remuneration for a *locum tenens* used to be about two guineas a week. He was now paid from three to five guineas. Of course one could not expect a clinical assistant to take a position in an asylum who had an opportunity of serving as *locum tenens* at three to five guineas a week outside. His remedy was to offer more prizes to applicants for office in asylums, and in that way perhaps there would be brought about the resurrection he desired. Then, all would agree as to the over-burdening of the medical curriculum, especially in the fifth year of the graduate's existence. At the present time it was almost impossible for a man to take out a resident course of studies in an asylum. An attempt was being made at Wakefield, and he hoped it would succeed. There would be considerable difficulty with the university and teaching authorities generally in bringing that about. What was required was a longer period of residence in the asylums, also an oral examination in mental diseases.

Dr. THOMSON said he was sorry to interrupt Dr. Bevan Lewis, but did so on a point of order. His motion had reference entirely to post-graduate teaching. There was no question of overburdening the medical student in it, and a great deal of what Dr. Lewis suggested was a matter for the Committee.

Dr. BEVAN LEWIS, continuing, said he thought he fully conceived the tendency of Dr. Thomson's remarks. He thought the development of post-graduate tuition depended to a great extent on the very great interest of the profession in psychiatric medicine, and if residents at asylums could get courses at the great institutions which taught general nervous diseases, he thought that would be securing a great deal of what was wanted. He did not mean as a substitute for what Dr. Thomson proposed, but as a strong accessory to the same end.

The PRESIDENT said that if no one else wished to discuss the motion, he would suggest that the question be referred to the Educational Committee to consider and report.

Agreed.

The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

#### AFTERNOON MEETING.

On resuming, Dr. MACDONALD welcomed to the meeting Dr. George Henry Martin, of San Francisco, whom he was sure all would be pleased to have amongst them.

## THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT AND OFFICERS.

Dr. BLANDFORD said he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks, in which he was quite sure all present would cordially concur. It referred to the President and Officers of the Association for their work during the past year. He was sure it was quite unnecessary to enlarge upon the merits of the President or of the officers, who thoroughly deserved the members' thanks.

Dr. PERCY SMITH seconded the proposal, remarking that only those who had gone through the mill of the various offices knew how great an amount of work was entailed, and how it increased from year to year. Members had heard the President's expressions of sympathy with the medical student on account of the amount of work he was expected to get through, and the same might be said of the Association's officers. The amount of work was on the increase, as those serving the offices knew.

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT (Dr. MACDONALD), in thanking the mover and seconder and the meeting generally for the vote of thanks, said he felt as if he must put himself in the background, for whether in that Association or any other, the real success depended on the permanent officials. He thought the Association was fortunate in its permanent officials. No president could know that better than he did himself. If he began with the General Secretary, it was because he had a large share of the work to do; and he assured the meeting that from no man could he have received greater help than he had had from Dr. Bond. Another officer who had a tremendous amount of work to do was the Registrar, and that he knew now more than he had ever known before. He thought very few members realised the amount of work which Dr. Miller had to do, and therefore the special thanks of the Association were due to him also. They were all glad to see that most necessary and important officer, the Treasurer, among them again. Long might he be spared to occupy his usual seat at the meetings. During his year of office he, the President, had made it a point to try and go round the divisions, and it had been a source of the greatest satisfaction to him to see the amount of interest which was being taken in the work of the Association, and what was more, to see on the spot the amount of good and useful work being carried out. He therefore wished to thank the officers of the divisions for the interest they were taking in the work of the Association. Having said that there yet remained one other department of the Association's activity, which was well known, namely the Journal. Members knew with what care and earnestness the Editors looked after the Journal, and so long as it retained the Editors now controlling it he thought it was likely to continue its present high standard, and, indeed, to go upwards in influence and reputation. He had one further word to say. It was a late date to do what should have been done twelve months ago, namely, to return to members his very grateful thanks for the honour they did him by placing him in the presidential chair. It had been to him a most happy year of office, and that had been due to the great kindness and consideration which he had received from everybody. In conclusion he returned grateful thanks on behalf of the officers of the Association.

## INDUCTION OF DR. MERCIER AS THE NEW PRESIDENT.

The PRESIDENT said the last duty remaining to him as President was not by any means the least pleasant. He viewed it as a distinct honour that it should have fallen to his lot to induct into the chair Charles Mercier. If he had felt called upon to use any words in doing so, he did not know what words he should choose, but he felt that any words would be an impertinent superfluity. In placing around the neck of the new President the medallion of office he wished him a very pleasant year in his new sphere.

Dr. MERCIER then took the chair.

The PRESIDENT, in returning thanks, said he supposed there was no position more grateful to a man who had worked for a number of years at one particular speciality among a large number of colleagues scattered all over the country than to be elected, by the suffrages of his fellows to the chair of that Association. He need scarcely say how very highly he appreciated the great honour his fellow mem-

bers had done him, and how much indebted he was to his predecessor for the graceful words with which he introduced him.

He announced that the Association's Bronze Medal had been awarded to Dr. S. Carlisle Howard, Assistant Physician of the Perth District Asylum for an essay on "The Systematic Estimation of the Leucocytes in certain Cases of Insanity, with Special Reference to the Toxæmic Theory." Dr. Howard was not present, but the medal would be forwarded to him, and he expressed the Association's congratulations to the recipient. Unfortunately, as the Treasurer intimated in the morning, the Gaskell Prize had not been awarded. It was a matter of great regret, and he could not allow the present occasion to pass without expressing his sorrow that the very handsome and splendid provision which was made by Mr. Gaskell's relatives was not more appreciated, and that there was not more competition for that Prize. It had been several times suggested that other prizes should be offered by the Association for scientific work done in asylums; but as long as the Gaskell Prize remained unawarded it would be, he thought, futile to encourage work by those means. The fund was now increased, owing to lapses, so that by the aid of judicious investments it was now 50 *per cent.* greater, and whoever gained the award would receive a very handsome one. It consisted of a gold medal with a sum of money, and it was matter for regret that it was not more sought after.

Another pleasant duty which he had was to ask the Association to accept an extremely handsome present which had been made to it by a past president, Dr. Outterson Wood, who had been associated with Dr. Urquhart in the matter, and had succeeded, after the expenditure of infinite time and labour, in unearthing the portraits of every president of the Association, from its inception to the present day. Those had been combined in an album, and that album Dr. Outterson Wood would now present to the Association.

#### PRESENTATION OF ALBUM OF PORTRAITS OF PAST PRESIDENTS.

Dr. OUTTERSON WOOD said it afforded him very great pleasure to lay before his fellow members an album containing portraits of past Presidents of the Association. It contained fifty-eight such portraits, with the name, date, and qualification of each, together with a characteristic sentence from their writings. The first annual meeting of the Association, as many might remember, was held at the Nottingham County Asylum in 1841. The chairman of that meeting was Dr. Blake, who was then visiting physician to that institution. Fortunately, he had been able to obtain his portrait with which to commence the series, and the likeness of each successor was continued in an unbroken line down to to-day. The labour had, admittedly, been considerable, but he assured his hearers it had been a labour of love, and he could scarcely express the extent to which they were all indebted to the indomitable perseverance and energy of their esteemed colleague Dr. Urquhart for the enormous trouble he had taken in unearthing the records of the past in order that the value of the album might be enhanced by a characteristic sentence from the writings of each president. There was something from every one of them! Acting also upon Dr. Urquhart's suggestion, there had been added to the book a "*foreword*" or preface, in the beautiful words of their esteemed predecessor, Conolly, in which he gave expression to his feelings on leaving Hanwell Asylum. As they were very brief he craved permission to quote them: "No longer residing in the Hanwell Asylum, and no longer superintending it, or even visiting it, I continue to live within view of the building and its familiar trees and grounds. The sound of the bell that announces the hour of the patients' dinner still gives me pleasure, because I know it summons the poorest creature there to a comfortable, well-prepared, and sufficient meal; and the tone of the chapel bell, coming across the narrow valley of the Brent, still reminds me, morning and evening, of the well-remembered and mingled congregation of the afflicted who are then assembling, humble, yet hopeful and not forgotten, and not spiritually deserted. The contemplation of the vast exterior of the wings of the Asylum still deepens the happy impression that through



all that extent of ward and gallery kindness and watchfulness ever reign. And when my thoughts are transferred from this, my home asylum, with its 1,000 patients, to nearly forty institutions for the insane in this great country, in which there are more than 13,000 patients to whom similar comforts are afforded, and throughout which the same system prevails, I find a reward for any share I have had in promoting these things beyond my deserving, a consolation in years of comparative inactivity, and a happiness far overbalancing the pains and troubles incidental to my life as to that of all mortal men." Dr. Outterson Wood said he thought any further remarks of his own were unnecessary, and he now confided the album to their keeping, with the hope that in the days that are to come others may be found to continue the work which he and Dr. Urquhart had ventured to begin. In conclusion he begged the Association to accept the album as a gift from himself and as a small recognition of the pleasant memories connected with his membership of the Association for so many years.

Dr. YELLOWLEES said he thought the Association should not be content with the expression of gratitude from the chair only, but that as an Association they should say how very highly they appreciated the beautiful gift by Dr. Outterson Wood, and the infinite trouble and pains which he and Dr. Urquhart took in the matter, and how much it was valued. There should be a very special vote of thanks. Without Dr. Urquhart's research into the remoter ages even Dr. Wood's patience would not have sufficed.

Dr. URQUHART said he did not know that it was necessary for him to offer any remarks, except to acknowledge the very kind words which had fallen from the President and from Dr. Yellowlees for the two years' work which had been put into the Album. Dr. Wood naturally could not say what he had done to carry out that work, which he long ago began by placing before the Association a complete record of the history of the chairmen and presidents, working over the whole chronology of the Association in the admirable introduction to each volume, which showed how they stood year by year. It was a great pleasure to him that Dr. Wood's gift had been so acceptable to members, and any help which he, Dr. Urquhart, had been able to give had been a source of great gratification to himself. The most impressive part of the little ceremony just performed was the reading of Conolly's eloquent words. Sir John Bucknill used to say to him that he would have every man who practised amongst the insane read every word that Conolly ever wrote; and it was, perhaps, only when one returned to Conolly after many years and re-read what he wrote that one fully appreciated the power, the influence, and the extraordinary facility which he had in guiding opinion in this country. It was a great pleasure to be able to insert that preface, because he was sure that amongst those presidents who had retired from more active administrative duties, those words of Conolly must find an echo in their hearts. And that was an encouragement to those who were not yet upon the shelf.

The PRESIDENT said the Album would now be deposited among the archives. It would be for all time a record of the personal appearance of every past president of the Association. He supposed there was no other medical society in London which had the same privilege of referring to so intimate a personal image of its previous directors.

The President then delivered his Address (see p. 619).

Dr. CLOUSTON said the Association had just listened to a unique address, and from an unique origin. He thought members had that day seen and heard Dr. Mercier at his very best. It was not always that a man when promoted to the presidential chair appeared and spoke his best. He was very well aware that to thank a man for a magnificent address like that just delivered was always so much of an anticlimax that the speaker was anathematised by those who listened to him. But they could not pass over that address without at all events expressing their warmest appreciation of the pleasure which it had given, and conveying their warm congratulations to the President, not only for the address itself, but for the way in which it had been delivered. (Cheers.) The subtlety of the address had been great. First, members had an experience of Mercier the wit, in the introduction, and then they saw Mercier the metaphysician and the philosopher. Then he got as far as the psychology. Then, with a touch of physiology thrown in, he got at last to the physician. And those portions were so delightfully put together that his audience were taken in, as it were, and the transition from the one phase

to the other was imperceptible. He believed that the old philosopher of the most cast-iron mind would have accepted Dr. Mercier's general proposition. But Mercier himself began with the ego, the consciousness, the will, and told them that everything depended upon that, especially the great things of the mind—desire, love, hate. That would satisfy the physician absolutely and he would not want anything more; he would have said that all the rest was mere addition to that main proposition. But Dr. Mercier gradually led his audience in his subtle way through those psychological regions, and so adroitly that he did not think anyone would fail to agree with him. Probably when they got home they would disagree with several of his main propositions, but they did not do so then. Dr. Mercier was wise enough not to begin in the ordinary commonplace way of the psychologist of the present day by explaining mind in its relationship to reflex action as it occurred in the lower creatures, and working upwards. He hit out from the shoulder and attacked the main problem of the *ego* of consciousness, and from that he worked down, as they had heard. The Association must feel proud of itself, and he could tell the President he had not only made a brilliant appearance, but what he had done had brought good to the Association over which he was presiding. (Cheers.)

Dr. G. SAVAGE, in seconding the vote of thanks, said he felt, with Dr. Clouston, that it was a very good thing indeed that Dr. Mercier had presented such a paper; it was altogether out of the common, and he was happy to say it was not intensely practical. One felt the greatest respect for the workers of the world—for the practical men; but the men who prided themselves on being practical were so often nothing else, and in many cases their practicality was rather doubtful. One was also pleased to find that Dr. Mercier was getting older; it was a pleasure to find that softening influence which age was supposed to bring. He often thought of an aged French physician coming round with him at Bethlem Hospital many years ago, and whom he asked whether he believed in a number of things. The reply was: "When I was young I believed all sorts of things about all sorts of things, but now I am old I believe nothing about nothing." He was inclined to feel that the President was subject to that healthy agnosticism, that capacity for receiving fresh impressions and absorbing them, that feeling that there was something beyond the definite, that, in fact, our knowledge must depend upon our growth. He thought that one of the most impressive things to him for many years was the way in which Mr. Balfour, at a meeting of the British Association, pointed out that science was so self-satisfied, and yet he asked what science was? It was the measure of experience, of things occurring in the outer world. What were those things measured by? By the very instruments which those impressions made. Eyes were used to measure and gauge light and sight; yet they were created by impressions. And for a scientific man to say he could only believe what he saw and heard, and was not prepared to accept anything beyond that, simply meant that he did not recognise that there were other forces and other things which we had not yet attained to, and that our attempt to explain what mind was must depend, in each age, upon the advance which we had made towards its knowledge. He was sure that such an address as that just given by Dr. Mercier helped members distinctly to feel what they would like to know. The way in which Dr. Mercier had referred to desire on the one hand, while throwing in healthy doubt, was very helpful. The President pointed out that we had grounds for believing in a very definite relationship between mind and matter. When he spoke so eloquently as he did upon desire and its relationships, one could not help feeling that there was in Nature, as exhibited by desire, almost a chemical action, and he, Dr. Savage, was in the habit of thinking—if not of saying—that desire, affection, and the rest were, after all, glandular; that they were, to a very great extent, dependent upon the attraction of something towards the self. And, as Dr. Mercier had pointed out, it was an entirely organic thing, which could be explained. He had said quite enough to show how fully he appreciated the address which had been given, and he was sure all would agree that it deserved their heartiest thanks.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said he would express his acknowledgment of the vote in few words. Dr. Clouston had surpassed himself in eulogy, and he could only say—much exaggerated. He thanked the meeting for its kind appreciation.

The PRESIDENT then invited a discussion on Dr. Cunyngham Brown's paper

upon "The Boarding-out of the Insane in Private Dwellings." (The paper had already been published in the Journal for July this year.)

Following a *resumé* of the paper by Dr. BROWN, a good discussion was elicited, in which Drs. Milsom Rhodes, Elkins, Clouston, McDowall, Rayner, Sankey, Hayes Newington, Dawson, Bond, and Robert Jones took part.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that there was as yet no seconder to the resolution embodied in the paper. He suggested that Dr. Brown might bring the matter up again the following morning, having in view the appointment of a committee and their exact terms of reference.

#### SECOND DAY.

The PRESIDENT, Dr. MERCIER, was in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT expressed regret that Dr. Cunyngham Brown was unable to be present, as he had hoped he would have had this opportunity to reply to the discussion on his paper, and to submit terms of reference if it were decided to appoint a Committee.

Dr. RAYNER then proposed the formation of a committee, indicating its membership, and was seconded by Dr. DRAPES.

After considerable discussion, in which Drs. Dawson, Rayner, Bedford Pierce, Yellowlees, Rhodes, Hayes Newington, Robert Jones, P. W. MacDonald, Bower, and the President took part, it was resolved, having in view the forthcoming report of the Royal Commission upon the Feeble-minded, to adjourn the consideration of the matter until November.

"The Case against Dementia Præcox" was the title of a paper which was then read by Dr. ROBERT JONES (see p. 651).

A very lively discussion ensued, in which the President, Drs. Stoddart, Drapes, Percy Smith, Bevan-Lewis, T. Johnstone, Clouston, and Bower took part.

As several other members were desirous of joining in the discussion, but were prevented from lack of available time, it was resolved, in view of the importance of the subject, to adjourn the discussion until the November meeting, and further, that as the subject was complicated and difficult, it would be better that the adjourned discussion take the form of a set symposium by those who were willing to take part.

#### AFTERNOON MEETING OF SECOND DAY.

Dr. ALAN MCDUGALL read a paper entitled "On the Principles of the Treatment of Epilepsy" (see p. 718).

The PRESIDENT having remarked that the true title of the paper would seem to be "The Treatment of Epileptics," Dr. Savage opened an interesting discussion, which was continued by Drs. Milsom Rhodes, Rayner, Shuttleworth, Yellowlees, Robert Jones, Clouston, Briscoe, Paul, Orr, Bond, and the President.

Dr. MCDUGALL replied.

The PRESIDENT said the Association was honoured that afternoon by the presence of Lady Henry Somerset, who had promised to communicate some of her great experience on the treatment of inebriety.

Lady HENRY SOMERSET then gave an instructive and highly interesting address, entitled, "Some Aspects of Inebriety" (see p. 704).

It was followed by a full and animated discussion, in which the President, Drs. Stewart, Clouston, Yellowlees, Milsom Rhodes, Hayes Newington, Bedford Pierce, and Rayner took part.

The proceedings were terminated by a paper read by Dr. Elkins. Its title was, "Asylum Officials: Is it Necessary or Advisable for so many to Live on the Premises?" (see p. 691).

Owing to the lateness of the hour and the obvious importance of the paper it was agreed that the discussion on it should take place at the November meeting, the paper in the meantime to appear in the Journal.

#### ANNUAL DINNER.

The annual dinner was held in the evening of the second day at the Criterion Restaurant. The occasion was unique in the history of the Association, as it was the first time that the presence of ladies graced the dinner. About fifty members and thirty guests were present.