

## CONVALESCENT FUND FOR MENTAL NURSES.

(1) THE Medico-Psychological Association have accepted the balance of the Convalescent Fund of the late Asylum Workers' Association amounting to £79 17s. 1d. to be administered by a special committee on, as far as possible, the same lines as formerly.

(2) The object of the Fund is to assist mental nurses in obtaining necessary rest and change at health resorts during convalescence from illness.

(3) All mental nurses, male or female, actually engaged in the practice of their profession, whether in mental hospitals, institutions for mental defectives or in private nursing, are eligible for grants from the Fund—usually £3 for a fortnight's expenses.

(4) Applications for grants should be made personally in writing to the General Secretary, M.P.A. 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Sq., W., or to Dr. J. F. Powell, Mental Hospital, Caterham, Surrey, enclosing a medical certificate (made out on the official form, copies of which can be obtained from the General Secretary, or from Dr. J. F. Powell) signed by the Medical Superintendent or other medical officer in charge, or in the case of private nurses of the insane or mental defectives, by the medical practitioner who has been in attendance.

(5) The Treasurer of the Association will be empowered to draw cheques on the Fund for the amount of grants which may be decided upon by the Committee, or by the member of the Committee appointed to receive applications for grants.

(6) Medical Superintendents are requested to make known to their staff the above details concerning the Fund, and the procedure necessary in obtaining grants therefrom.

(Signed)

G. E. SHUTTLEWORTH,	} M.P.A. Conva- lescent Fund Committee.
JAMES CHAMBERS,	
R. WORTH,	
J. FARQUHARSON POWELL,	

May, 1920.

## OBITUARY.

Dr. WILSON EAGER,

*Late Resident Physician and Superintendent of Suffolk County Asylum, Melton  
(now St. Audry's Hospital).*

We regret to record the death of Wilson Eager, which took place at his residence in Woodbridge, Suffolk, on 11th May, 1920.

He was born on the 10th May, 1845, the son of Dr. Richard Eager, a surgeon in Guildford, Surrey. Wilson Eager and his elder brother, Reginald Eager, were both medical students at Guy's Hospital, and both eventually made their life-work the study of mental disease and the care of the insane. Dr. Wilson Eager, having obtained his L.S.A., L.R.C.P., and M.R.C.S. qualifications in 1871, was Clinical Assistant at Bethlem Hospital. From here he obtained a post as Assistant Medical Officer at the Prestwich Asylum, near Manchester. It was from this institution that he was appointed Resident Physician and Superintendent of the Suffolk County Asylum, Melton (now St. Audry's Hospital), a position from which he retired in 1897, after twenty-one years' service. During his period of office as Medical Superintendent he was responsible for a great many improvements in the lighting, heating and structural arrangements of this institution, which during the latter part of the eighteenth century had been the Woodbridge Workhouse.

Bare brick walls, which gave a prison-like appearance, were plastered and painted, and windows added wherever possible. Fireplaces, which were previously scantily provided, were enlarged and increased in number, and overmantels, made in the institution workshops, were erected over each.

Quite a feature of the place was the large bird-cages made on the premises containing some of the prettiest of the feathered tribe, which won the attention of many patients during the day.

When Dr. Eager resigned his office, each ward in the institution was self-contained—a contrast to the state of affairs when he was appointed Medical Superintendent there, at which time none had either storeroom or scullery, and goods were frequently stuffed away under the stairs. Besides being an administrator, Dr. Eager was of an inventive frame of mind. He introduced into the institution many ingenious contrivances for nursing, amongst which should be mentioned a means by which baths could be emptied and made ready for a second patient in one minute—an important detail when large numbers of patients have to be bathed in batches under nurses' supervision.

Dr. Eager also took a warm interest in the social life of the institution. He was of a musical disposition, and many old pensioners of that institution will recall the enthusiasm with which he used to superintend and take part in concerts and theatricals provided for the enjoyment of the patients. It was during his period of residence that a very fine dancing-room with stage was provided for this purpose, and through his personal efforts he secured an excellent organ for the chapel costing £300.

On his retirement he was the recipient of handsome presents from the staff of the institution, and nothing could better serve to emphasise Dr. Eager's popularity, kindness of heart and readiness to help all under him than the expressions of regret that he received on that occasion.

On leaving county asylum work, Dr. Eager joined his brother in partnership at Northwood Private Asylum, near Bristol, but, after ten years, he decided to retire and return to live in Woodbridge, Suffolk, where he had many friends.

He leaves a son, Dr. Richard Eager, O.B.E., who is Deputy Medical Superintendent of the Devon Mental Hospital, and a married daughter who has been living with him in Woodbridge for many years. His wife predeceased him by twelve years.

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An obituary notice of Dr. J. Batty Tuke, of New Saughton Hall, Midlothian, who died on April 11th, will appear in the October number.

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## NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Buxton Town Council have officially invited the Association to hold their Annual Meeting there this year.

*Monday, July 26th.*—Committee commence at 2.30 p.m. in Town Hall, Buxton. If Council business is finished by 5 p.m., General Meeting at 6 p.m., adjourn 7.30.

*Tuesday, 27th.*—Spent at Cheddleton. Char-a-banc leaves Palace Hotel, Buxton, 9.15 a.m. (Return fare 8s., or less according to numbers.) General Meeting 11 a.m.; Lunch 1.15 p.m., Presidential Address, 2.15 p.m., Garden Party 3.30 p.m. Visit to Silk Mill in Leek for Ladies 10.30 a.m.

*Wednesday, 28th.*—Scientific discussions, Town Hall, Buxton, 10 a.m. Half-day excursion for Ladies in the forenoon. The Buxton Town Council and High Peak Medical Society invite Members and Guests to a reception in Town Gardens 3.30–5.30 p.m. Annual Dinner at Palace Hotel, Buxton 8 p.m. (Ladies of Association included). Tickets 15s. without wine.

*Thursday, 29th.*—Full-day excursion to Haddon Hall and Chatsworth. If more papers are promised, so that a meeting on Thursday morning becomes desirable, half-day excursion will be arranged for Thursday afternoon, and the Haddon Hall excursion on Friday if Members will stay, in view of the fact that the following Monday is Bank Holiday.

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS should be made at Buxton *at once*, as the end of July is the height of the local season and lodgings become unobtainable.

The following hotel accommodation at Buxton is recommended: Palace Hotel, Crescent Hotel, St. Ann's Hotel, Buxton Hydro, Haddon Hall Hydro, Oliver's Hydro, Sandringham Hotel, Milton House, Old Hall Hotel, Shakespeare Hotel, Pendennis, George Hotel, Pavilion.