

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

OXFORD AND READING BRANCH—WINDSOR DIVISION.

At the Annual General Meeting of this Division, held at the King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, on Friday, May 31, 1929, the following resolutions were approved for submission to the Representative Body of the B.M.A. :

(1) "That all departments of hospitals dealing with early nervous, borderland, or mental patients, whether sent in as observation cases or otherwise, should be under the care of experts in this branch of medicine."

(2) "That County Councils and County Borough Councils should be asked, in re-allocating beds which come under their ægis under the De-rating Act, to consider the claims of the early nervous and borderland patients, for whom, in most places there is now no provision whatever."

(3) "The Association is of the opinion that in any scheme which may be devised, the early nervous or borderland cases should be separated from the mental cases sent in through the Public Assistance Committee for observation, and that both classes should be separated from chronic mental cases."

(4) "The Association is of opinion that it should be possible to have a Visiting Specialist in charge of these wards, this system having proved satisfactory, so far as observation wards are concerned, in various institutions throughout the country."

THE TAVISTOCK SQUARE CLINIC.

The annual general meeting of the Tavistock Square Clinic took place at the Hotel Russell on May 6. Sir Frederick Willis presided.

SIR FREDERICK WILLIS said that the annual report was the record of good work. This Clinic was started eight years ago, because of the urgent need for treating cases of mental illness. It was a remarkable fact that the incidence of certified insanity in this country and also the recovery-rate had not improved for a large number of years—the more remarkable because in other spheres of medical treatment great improvements had been made. One reason might be that other illnesses were now treated earlier than formerly, whereas early mental illness had gone untreated.

Dr. CRICHTON MILLER stated that during the last twelve months there had been 5,447 attendances (4,582 adults and 865 children). There was no appreciable difference in the number of new cases, but the average length of treatment had increased. Adults who received treatment, as opposed to mere consultation or advice, had been seen, on the average, fifteen times. The number of cases referred to the Clinic by hospitals had doubled in three years, and that of cases referred from police courts (mostly children) had nearly trebled. The honorary and acting staff, including the clinical assistants, numbered thirty-three doctors. The Clinic was suffering from limitation of space and a scheme for extension had been prepared.

JOINT BOARD OF RESEARCH FOR MENTAL DISEASES.

CITY AND UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM.

**Annual Report of the Laboratory for the Year ending
March 14, 1928.***[Abridged.]*

STAFF.

THE Director, F. A. Pickworth, B.Sc., M.B., B.S.Lond., A.I.C., is assisted by D. L. Woodhouse, M.Sc., Research Scholar, and by H. A. Strecker, M.D., Hon. Research Appointment, H. Blunden, Bacteriological Assistant, A. T. Rennie, Histological Assistant, and G. Murray, General Assistant.

General.—The investigation of the fat-lipoid-cholesterol ratios in adrenals and gonads has now been completed and is ready for publication. Further experiments on basal metabolism have been carried out, although this work was interrupted