

He remarked that since the meeting in October last he had received a large number of letters from medical men throughout England. He stated that he did not know of any asylum—except the Devon County Asylum—where urea was being administered.

With regard to its administration he said the process was very clear, and was described very simply in his paper of October last. Pure urea was the best form to administer on account of its more pleasing taste and rapid solubility in ordinary media, water, etc. at ordinary temperatures.

With regard to results, he spoke of a few cases which had occurred at the Devon County Asylum; in two instances he was sorry to say death had resulted, but these patients were very far advanced in consumption. He thought that when urea was going to be administered it would be better to select the cases; in such conditions he thought the results would be satisfactory.

In conclusion he affirmed that it was perfectly clear that if experiments were not made no advance could be gained, and he suggested that his paper should receive their consideration.

The CHAIRMAN moved, and it was seconded and carried, that a vote of thanks be accorded Dr. Baskin for his able paper.

Dr. BENHAM contributed a paper entitled "Remarks on Suicides in Public Asylums" (see page 447).

Dr. J. V. BLACHFORD contributed a paper on "The Frequency of Occurrence of Granular Ependyma in General Paralysis" (see page 483).

Professor FAWCETT spoke of the great importance of the subject, and of the desirability of following up the matter, and expressed a hope that Dr. Blachford would carry his work very much farther, and he felt sure that by doing so it would result in great credit to the institution.

Dr. BULLEN congratulated Dr. Blachford on his excellent paper, and trusted that he would prepare, at some future date, another paper on microscopic investigations, which would be a most interesting subject.

The CHAIRMAN said that a valuable subject had been opened up, which he hoped they would not allow to drop.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman said they all regretted to hear that Dr. MacDonald had been so ill and thoroughly run down. He could fully appreciate his position, because last year he himself was in a similar state of health. He understood that Dr. MacDonald was going to Switzerland, and he trusted that he would come back with all his old energy and vigour restored.

Dr. EAGER returned thanks, on behalf of the meeting, to the Chairman for his generous hospitality.

The members and visitors dined together in the evening at Stuckey's Restaurant, Bristol.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of the Northern and Midland Division was held at Cheddleton Asylum, Leek, on the 30th April, 1903. Dr. Menzies occupied the Chair.

Members present: Drs. McLeod, Macphail, Miller, Menzies, Bedford Pierce, Rice, Rambaut, Sheldon, Torney, Trevelyan, and Hitchcock.

Visitor: Dr. F. Edwards.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. MILLER proposed that Dr. Bedford Pierce should be recommended to the Council to succeed Dr. Hitchcock as Hon. Sec. to the Division, and expressed his regret that Dr. Hitchcock should have been obliged from ill-health to resign office. Dr. Bedford Pierce was unanimously appointed, and expressed his thanks to the Division for electing him. At the same time he asked for their cordial support, in order that the Division should continue to be a success.

Dr. McDOWALL, of Morpeth, having kindly invited the Division to his asylum for the October Meeting, the invitation was cordially accepted, and the Secretary was requested to endeavour to arrange the meeting for the first or second Friday in October.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Dr. TREVELYAN, Leeds, then read a paper on "The Permanence and Value of 'Dry Brain' Preparations," and he showed specimens. He expressed his preference for those preserved by Laskowsky's method.

In the ensuing general discussion Dr. MENZIES expressed the great obligation of the Association for the most interesting and instructive paper and exhibits. Dr. Menzies asked whether these dry specimens were of equal value to plaster casts of fresh brains, and whether there was likely to be unequal shrinking in the process of drying.

Dr. TREVELYAN replied that the shrinking was equal and general, and that he found real specimens which could be handled and pulled about were preferable to casts, especially for teaching purposes, as the student so obtained a much more memorable impression.

Dr. RICE showed a pathological specimen of a remarkably large aneurism of the cerebral artery, and gave a very interesting description of the clinical features which the case had presented during life.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and for his hospitality to the members.

THE INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CONGRESS AT MADRID.

SECTION OF NEUROLOGY, MENTAL DISEASES, AND CRIMINAL ANTHROPOLOGY.

THE meetings of this section were held in the Royal Library and Museum under the presidency of M. José Maria Esquerdo y Zaragoza. A small room, in which were placed glass cases containing ancient manuscripts, was assigned to this section, and it was necessary to pass through a room occupied by another section in order to reach it. However, there were no paintings on the walls, as in some of the rooms devoted to the sections, to distract the attention. The first meeting took place on Friday morning, April 24th, when the president took the chair at nine o'clock. According to the general programme, which was handed to each member, ten reports and sixty-six communications were to be read, but it was impossible to carry out this arrangement, as there was not sufficient time allowed for it. No meetings were held on three afternoons; the reception by the King at the Palace on Friday, the Municipal Garden Party in the Buen Retiro Park on Tuesday, and the Royal Garden Party in the Palace Gardens on Wednesday took place about three o'clock, and, as every member of the Congress wished to attend these functions, it was of no use having a meeting of the section. In addition, Dr. Julian Calleja, the President of the Congress, wished to show the institution for epileptics of San José, which will be described later on, to as many members as possible, and the excursion there was fixed for Monday afternoon. Thus there remained only five mornings at which papers could be read from nine to twelve o'clock and one afternoon, and the consequence of this was that many papers had to be taken as read. One great defect in this, as well as in other sections, was that no notice was put up stating the subject of the paper that was being read and the name of the author, so that, especially when the reader of the paper was a Spaniard, it was impossible to find out what was going on. Every day a journal was published giving the names of the papers that were to be read in the different sections, but as they were not always taken in the order in which they were printed, much confusion was created.

Of the ten "reports," which were considered of more importance than the "communications," the most interesting were those (1) by M. Bianchi, of Naples, on a "Centre of Projection and Association in the Brain according to the Determinations of Actual Pathological Anatomy;" (2) by MM. Martinez and Lombroso, of Turin, on "The Intervention of Psychiatry in the Reformatory Treatment of Delinquents;" (3) by Dr. Galiana, of Madrid, on "Toxic and Infectious Insanities;" and (4) by Dr. Pregowski, of Heidelberg, on "The Affection described sometimes as Periodic Neurasthenia, sometimes as a Circulatory Psychosis." Eleven authors had sent abstracts of their papers in French, and these were printed and arrived about eleven o'clock on the first morning on which the section met. Dr. Galiana gave the conclusions at which he had arrived with regard to