

(1) Proposed by Dr. Soutar and seconded by Dr. David Bower—"Resolved that to deny any asylum authority the discretionary power to appoint a medical officer as its representative on the National Council of Institutions for the Treatment of the Mentally Afflicted is inimical to the best interests of the patients, in whose treatment and care there often arise questions in which administration and medical considerations are so inextricably involved that the special knowledge and experience of the medical officers are essential for the proper understanding of such matters, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Provisional Secretary of the National Council of Institutions for the Treatment and Care of the Mentally Afflicted, and to all asylum authorities in England and Wales."

(2) Proposed by Dr. Turner and seconded by Dr. Turnbull—"That whilst this Association is in sympathy with reducing the hours of work so far as possible for the asylum nursing staff, it is opposed to the principle of a uniform standard of hours of work per week with payment for overtime as contrary to the ethics of the nursing profession."

(3) Proposed by Dr. Steen and seconded by Dr. Robertson—"That a special committee be formed to watch all movements of asylum management, and to be a general advisory committee to be appointed by the chairman, treasurer, and general secretary, together with the chairmen of the Educational and Parliamentary Committees."

(4) Proposed by Dr. Rice and seconded by Dr. Robertson—"That it be an instruction to the above committee that the fact be constantly pressed upon the Ministry of Labour and any industrial council formed to deal with asylum service, that the National Asylum Workers' Union is not truly representative of asylum workers, since it debar from membership all officers, whilst admitting domestic workers, artisans, and the most junior probationers, and makes no distinction between the trained and certificated, and the untrained."

Preliminary announcement: The annual meeting will be held at York on July 22nd and 23rd, 1919. Council meeting on July 21st, 1919.

IRISH MEETING.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Irish Division was held on Thursday, April 3rd, at St. Edmondsbury, Lucan, by the invitation of Dr. Leeper.

Members present.—J. M. Colles, K.C., LL.D., Lieut.-Col. Dawson, Dr. J. O'C. Donelan, Dr. Greene, Dr. Mills, Dr. O'Mara, Dr. Rainsford, Dr. H. R. C. Rutherford, and Dr. Leeper (Hon. Sec.).

Letters and telegrams of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Lieut.-Col. Keay (President of the Association), Dr. Nolan (Downpatrick), Dr. Drapes, Dr. Hetherington, Dr. Lawless, Dr. Revington, Dr. Redington, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Fitzgerald (Clonmel), Dr. Irwin (Limerick), Dr. H. Eustace, Dr. Gavin, Dr. Considine.

Dr. Colles having been moved to the chair, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

A ballot was next taken for election of the Hon. Secretary and two representative members of Council for ensuing year.

Dr. Mills and Dr. O'Mara having been appointed scrutineers, the Chairman declared that Dr. Leeper was elected Hon. Secretary; Dr. Nolan, District Asylum, Downpatrick, and Dr. J. O'C. Donelan were elected representative members of Council.

A ballot was next taken for election of two ordinary members of the Association. Dr. John Murnane and Dr. Stanley Blake were declared elected.

It was decided to hold the Summer Meeting at Ennis Asylum by the kind invitation of Dr. O'Mara.

The following dates were provisionally fixed for the meetings of the Division for the ensuing year: Autumn Meeting, Thursday, November 6th, 1919; Spring Meeting, Thursday, April 1st, 1920; Summer Meeting, Thursday, July 1st, 1920.

Dr. J. O'C. Donelan and Dr. Gavin were elected to the posts of Examiners for the certificate of the Association for the year.

The HON. SECRETARY stated to the meeting that the Royal College of Physicians had invited two delegates from the Irish Division of the Association to form part

of a deputation to the Chief Secretary for Ireland regarding the Ministry of Health Bill and its extension to Ireland. As the time given was so short he had secured the help of Dr. Nolan, who was very interested and fully informed with respect to all matters in connection with the subject, and he and Dr. Nolan had acted as delegates from the Division, and formed part of the deputation to the Chief Secretary. The Hon. Secretary then read to the meeting the statement handed in on behalf of the Division as part of the deputation.

Statement to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, March 24th, 1919.

"As representing the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, we notice that in Sub-Clause 1 of the Clause of Ministry of Health Bill extending the same to Ireland the duty is laid on the Chief Secretary *inter alia* to take measures for the treatment of mental defects. We also notice that on the proposed Irish Public Health Council there is no representative of the Irish Asylum Service. We are strongly of opinion that no such measure should be undertaken without full consultation with the Irish Lunacy Department, without prejudice to the independence of the latter as a department, the powers of which should in our opinion be amplified in any event."

It was proposed by Dr. Mills, seconded by Dr. O'Mara, and passed unanimously: "That the action of Dr. Leeper and Dr. Nolan in acting as delegates by attending the deputation to the Chief Secretary and submitting the views, as stated, of the members of the Irish Division, be cordially approved of."

The meeting next proceeded to discuss this important matter, and the following resolution was proposed by Dr. Rainsford, seconded by Dr. O'Mara, and passed unanimously, and the Hon. Secretary was directed to forward same to the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General for Ireland, Sir Edward Carson, M.P., Sir Robert Woods, M.P., J. Devlin, M.P., Sir Maurice Dockrell, M.P., the Inspectors of Asylums, and to the Secretary, Parliamentary Committee of the Medico-Psychological Association, with the request that Dr. Cole would give it all possible support.

Resolution.

"That the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association, having read the Clause of the Ministry of Health Bill, in which the treatment of mental defects is mentioned as one of the objects of that measure, respectfully suggests that in the appointment of an Irish Public Health Council due representation should be given on that Council to that branch of the profession specially concerned with the treatment of insanity in Ireland."

A vote of thanks to Dr. Leeper for his having entertained the Division terminated the proceedings.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1917 FROM THE LUNACY DIVISION, EGYPT, BEING THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT ON THE GOVERNMENT ASYLUM AT ABBASIYA, AND THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ASYLUM AT KHANKA.

THIS Report again provides ample material for full consideration. As usual Dr. Warnock's Report is a model of what such reports should be. It really represents, or is equivalent to, the Report of our Board of Control. It is divided into two parts, one concerned with the central establishment at Cairo, the other with the branch at Khanka.

Again we notice that there is great need for other asylums, the present ones being crowded, and the criminal lunatics being also retained in the general asylum.

The Report is a complete record not only of the medical but also of the financial sides of the lunacy work in Egypt. Beside the general Egyptian lunacy a considerable amount of work has had to be done in consequence of the war. Dr. Warnock established a special hospital for all the military cases occurring in officers connected with the British contingent.

Many points of special interest are reviewed, to which we shall refer in detail: for example, the serious effects of pellagra, and the different class of patients received into the central asylum and in the country one.