

Dr. T. ARNOLD JOHNSTON then read a very interesting paper on the "Position of Pathology in Mental Hospitals." He referred to the difference in psychological ideas to-day as compared with formerly. He dealt with the relation of the medical superintendent and the medical officers to laboratory and research work, and to the ordinary routine work in an asylum. He considered the "incubus of routine" stifled ambition, and thought the medical officer needed encouragement and training as a stimulus to his engaging in laboratory work; that the pathological department ought to concern itself with the morbid conditions incident to ordinary illness, as well as those specially associated with mental maladies. There was need of a system of educating and interesting the medical officer, of a series of centres for the higher technical forms of laboratory work, and of an interchange and collating of proved research facts and their application to treatment. Altogether the paper brought forward many very interesting and important points.

Remarks followed by Dr. DIXON, Dr. BLAKESLEY, Dr. PIERCE, Dr. BRYAN, and others.

In the absence of Dr. MacPhail his paper on "Some Observations on the Cerebro-Spinal Fluid" was read by Dr. LYALL (see page 73).

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. MacPhail for his paper.

Dr. STEWART offered some suggestions in the way of improving the meetings of the Division, to make them more attractive and interesting. He thought the Hon. Divisional Secretary might select some suitable subjects and invite various members to take them up for discussion.

The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Visiting Committee of the Hospital and to Dr. Dixon for their kindly welcome and hospitality.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Division was held at the Devon County Asylum, Exminster, on Friday, October 24th, 1913.

There were present: Dr. Bertha Mules, Drs. Aveline, Davis, Eager, Jackson, Macdonald, McBryan, Morton, Lavers, Scott, Phillips, Perdrau, Waddelow Smith, and Blachford (Divisional Secretary); Drs. Gates, Russell Coombe, and Mr. Ackland were visitors.

Dr. A. N. Davis was voted to the Chair.

Letters of regret at their inability to be present were read from Drs. Bullen, Chambers, Nelis, and Soutar.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

Dr. Blachford was nominated for re-election as Hon. Divisional Secretary, Drs. Aveline and Nelis as representative members of Council, and Drs. Pope and Bazalgette as members of the Committee of Management.

The following were elected members of the Association:

John Barfield Adams, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Edin., 119, Redland Road, Bristol. (Proposed by Drs. Blachford, Bazalgette, and Phillips.)

John Robinson Benson, F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., Resident Physician and Proprietor, Fiddington House, Market Lavington, Wilts. (Proposed by Drs. H. MacBryan, Blachford, and Bazalgette.)

C. F. Bainbridge, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Second Assistant Medical Officer, Devon County Asylum, Exminster. (Proposed by Drs. A. N. Davis, Eager, and Blachford.)

H. Hope Scott, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Edin., Third Assistant Medical Officer, Devon County Asylum, Exminster. (Proposed by Drs. A. N. Davis, Eager, and Blachford.)

As no invitation had been received from a place at which to hold the Spring Meeting it was left to the President and Hon. Divisional Secretary to decide and arrange.

Dr. D. J. JACKSON read a very interesting paper on "The Clinical Value and Significance of Leucocytosis in Mental Disease," and circulated photographs of charts he had prepared (see page 56).

Dr. DAVIS opened a discussion on the "Mental Deficiency Bill," in which Drs. AVELINE, R. EAGER and MACDONALD took part.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Dr. Davis for his hospitality to the members.