

It had been truly remarked that men seldom knew the meaning or the result of that work they were doing. It might be a fancy of his, but it had occurred to him that the work he was referring to was preliminary to work of greater importance. In 1899 the speaker was succeeded by his friend Dr. George M. Robertson. The members of the Association expected that he would have been present at this meeting, and Prof. Robertson himself was looking forward to being present at it. He would say of Robertson, not that his death was a loss, but that his life was a great gain to psychiatry in this country. It was here that Prof. Robertson developed and perfected the work of his life, which he himself called "the hospitalization of asylums." It was obvious that coming to Larbert and finding ready to his hand a modernized institution made that work much more easy. To-day members would have the opportunity of seeing some of Robertson's methods in operation. There was one of his methods which could not be seen by day, but which could be seen by night by those who cared to pay a visit, *i.e.*, the night nursing and night supervision of the patients. This he carried out with a degree of perfection hitherto unprecedented.

Before resuming his seat he would like to concur with what had been said by Mr. Paul concerning the honour which had been conferred upon Dr. Campbell. And he would like to congratulate Mr. Paul and the members of his Committee on the fact that their Medical Superintendent had been elected to the Presidency of the Association. (Applause.) It could be relied upon that the members of the Association would not have selected him for the post had they not been sure that he was suitable for it. It would be to the Committee a justification of the confidence which, the speaker knew, they had always reposed in him. (Applause.)

EX-PROVOST CADDELL said that he could bear out all Sir John Macpherson had told the gathering. He could even tell more than Sir John had told. When Sir John was here, the Committee sanctioned buildings which were to cost £112,000. Ex-Provost Thomson would know that the Council borrowed £112,000, to be extended to 30 years for repayment of the loan, and both of them had lived to see the whole of the loan paid off. (Applause.) Of course, the Council had gone on borrowing a lot more since then. (Laughter.) He thought the money borrowed had been well spent. He was no longer a member of the Board, but he was glad to be present. Mr. Paul succeeded him, and he asked the company to drink Mr. Paul's health.

The toast was heartily pledged.

MR. PAUL, in responding, mentioned that Ex-Provost Caddell had recently had conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D. The Committee had had their wings clipped to some extent: they had been reduced from the status of the Stirling District Board of Control to that of an ordinary Committee of the County Councils. Therefore now, when a heavy item of expenditure was to be incurred, the members had to approach the various constituent authorities for power to do this, and that made the procedure rather awkward. He gave some further particulars of the financial position and equipment of the institution.

#### GARDEN PARTY AT LARBERT HOUSE.

At the kind invitation of the Directors of the Royal Scottish National Institution, members and guests attended a Garden Party in the grounds of Larbert House. Members were shown over the New Colony for Mental Defectives, in course of erection, by Dr. R. D. Clarkson, the Medical Superintendent.

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#### THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling. Some 140 members and guests were present. The chair was occupied by the President, Dr. R. B. CAMPBELL.

The guests included the Rt. Hon. Lord Younger of Leckie, the Rt. Hon. Craigie M. Aitchison, K.C., M.P. (Lord Advocate), Sir H. Arthur Rose, D.S.O., (Chairman, General Board of Control in Scotland) and Lady Rose, Mr. L. Brock (Chairman,

Board of Control, England and Wales), Mr. W. L. Pullar (Lord Lieutenant of Stirlingshire) and Mrs. Pullar, Capt. Thomas Harvey (Convener, Stirlingshire County Council) and Mrs. Harvey, Provost Duff, Stirling, Sheriff Dean Leslie, Sheriff J. A. T. Robertson, Mr. J. S. C. Reid, *K.C.*, *M.P.* for Stirling Burghs, Mr. David Paul (Chairman, Joint Committee of Stirling District Mental Hospital), the Rev. D. Merrow, Mr. J. Learmouth (Clerk to Stirling County Council), Mr. D. B. Morris (Town Clerk, Stirling), Mr. J. Dobbie (Clerk to Stirling Mental Hospital Committee).

The following wrote expressing their regret that they were unable to accept the invitation to be present: His Grace the Duke of Montrose, *C.B.*, *C.V.O.*, The Most Hon. the Marquess of Linlithgow, *K.T.*, *G.C.I.E.* (Lord Lieutenant of West Lothian), The Right Hon. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, *K.T.* (Lord Lieutenant of Clackmannanshire), The Right Hon. Sir John Gilmour, *Bart.*, of Montrave (Minister of Agriculture), Lieut.-Col. Sir Iain Colquhoun, *Bart.*, of Luss, *D.S.O.* (Lord Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire), The Right Hon. Lord Polwarth, *C.B.E.*, The Right Hon. Sir Robert Horne, *G.B.E.*, *K.C.*, *M.P.*, The Right Hon. Major Walter Elliot, *M.C.*, *M.P.*, The President of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, The President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Sheriff Macphail, *K.C.*, J. Wellwood Johnston, *Esq.*, *M.P.*, Ex-Provost Thomson, Stirling, Ex-Provost H. M. Caddell, *LL.D.*, Capt. Alan Burns.

The toast of "The King" having been honoured—

Sir HUBERT BOND, *K.B.E.*, in proposing the toast of "The County and Royal Burgh of Stirling," said he fully realized that this toast, the submission of which had been entrusted to him, was a most important one, and for that reason he wished the duty had been placed in the hands of one who was more capable than he of doing it justice, both in oratorical capacity and in the possession of that intimate and personal knowledge so necessary for such a toast as this one. Yet his ignorance was not so abysmal as that of a visitor to Stirling recently who asked what a certain famous tower, now familiar to all present, was; and on being told it was the Wallace Monument, exclaimed, "Oh, yes, of course, poor Edgar!" (Laughter.) But now, having to face this theme and to find words not wholly unworthy of its greatness, he was reminded of and felt the full force of that couplet:

"The more I stand on open height  
My faults more subject are to sight,"

to which his attention was drawn on one of the stones on "Mar's Work" in Stirling yesterday, and which he was sure was familiar to many of his hearers.

It was a remarkable thing, but an indisputable fact, that in the ninety-one years during which this Association had existed, every one of the twelve Presidents whom Scotland had provided held their meetings in either Edinburgh or Glasgow, despite the fact that one at least of them had his habitat at Perth. He believed he was right in the statement that during the Association's long course this was the first time that this oft-observed custom had been broken through. He, Sir Hubert, yielded to none in his affection for and allegiance to Edinburgh, and that being so, he would not be misunderstood, he hoped, when he said that he and, he was sure he could add, they all were glad that Dr. Campbell had decided on holding the meeting in his own county, and within this Royal Burgh. The question was sometimes put whether we ought not to feel a pang in the realization that we had been born in an "inferior" age. He did not think that was the case, but some might be excused for feeling some regret that they were not born and bred in the vivid and romantic times which everyone who knew this city of Stirling was reminded of. Would someone present rend him if he dared express some sympathy with the lady who recently did something at Stirling Castle with a flag? Perchance, were opportunity given to us to exercise our psycho-analytical skill, the probability was that we should find this lady innocent of so much as a shred of disloyalty, intent only on emphasizing a noble sentiment, and ignorant of the big extent to which it was already represented in the emblem she thought to replace. In conclusion, he wished to say that he regarded the locality of this annual meeting as an altogether suitable one. It had been aptly termed "The cockpit of Scotland," and it could well be said that it had been the cockpit of Great Britain. Seven battle-fields were said to be visible from Stirling Castle: it was "The Key of the Highlands and the Garden of the Lowlands." Figuratively, those thoughts could

be applied to our work ; for we had before us important problems and difficult matters which members of the Association themselves had got to discuss, to fight over and to disentangle.

He was sure the company would enthusiastically drink to the toast of the County and Royal Burgh of Stirling ; and he had been asked to associate with the toast the names of His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Stirlingshire, Mr. W. L. Pullar, and of Provost Duff. (Applause.)

Mr. W. L. PULLAR (Lord Lieutenant of Stirlingshire), in responding, referred to the unique historical associations of Stirling. The Provost and civic rulers of Stirling had always realized the value of the heritage which had fallen to their lot, and had never forgotten that the individual lives and passes on, but the glory of the past remains.

They did not, however, live entirely on their past, but still followed the path of modern progress and reform. He hoped that the meeting, besides fulfilling the important work it had set out to do, would also result in the members having a closer knowledge of Stirlingshire, which could offer unforgettable panoramas of lochs, glens and hills. They could always be sure of a warm welcome from the people of Stirlingshire. (Applause.)

Provost DUFF also responded. He said that they in Stirling appreciated the honour that had been conferred on them by the presence of this meeting. He hoped their deliberations were being helpful, and that their visit would be a pleasant one. He referred to some of Stirling's ancient buildings, especially the Castle, with its ancient associations and unrivalled view.

He again thanked the members for coming there, and trusted they would have very pleasant thoughts to carry away with them. (Applause.)

Mr. J. S. C. REID, K.C., M.P., in submitting the toast of "The General Boards of Control," said that he knew very little about the Boards of Control. Some day, perhaps, he might know more, for he noticed the other day that there was a special Act of Parliament to deal with lunatic Members of Parliament. When one looked at the definition of insane people one found it was so wide that nearly all people might be included in the term. How many of the present company could lay their hands on their hearts and say, "I am clear of all these classes" ? He himself preferred the good old Scotch legal classification into fatuous, furious and natural idiots. That seemed to cover the ground admirably. One heard about the conflict between medicine and the law in this matter, but, being a lawyer, he was staunch in his support of the legal classification and the legal idea.

But—to be serious for a moment—it was rather disturbing to find the proportion of lunatics going up year by year, not very fast, perhaps, but still on the increase. The public looked to members of the Association to reverse that tendency, because he could hardly believe it was beyond the scope and capacity of medical science to do that. Another disturbing factor was that, as yet, the rate of recovery did not seem to have improved very much ; it amounted to only 30% or 40%, and that had been the rate for the past fifty years. He hoped it would be within the power of members of the Association to produce a better figure.

There was one thing which he wanted to say about the Scottish reports. These were days of economy, and he had noticed with great gratification that the Scottish Board was wholeheartedly in favour of boarding out harmless lunatics. That not only saved money in the maintenance of such lunatics—as he noticed that the boarded-out lunatics cost 13s. 4d. per week, as against 19s. 7d. a week for a patient in an institution—but it was a saving also in the matter of new buildings. His hearers were, of course, aware how much present buildings were overtaxed to find accommodation. They looked to members of the Association to support the present national movement, and to do all they possibly could to prevent unnecessary capital expenditure in the near future. And that seemed to him to be one method by which they could materially help the present national crisis. Boarding-out of lunatics did not seem to be a bad thing, if he might take one example from the Scottish Report of this year. There was mentioned in that Report the case of two lunatics who were boarders-out on a small farm—which was particularized—and he would like to tell the company what was their daily routine. They started the day—quite admirably—with tea in bed at 6.30. At 8 o'clock they had tea and bacon and eggs, and at 11 o'clock more tea. Then they

had dinner at 1, but no tea with this. (Laughter.) The deficiency was made up, however, by tea at 3 o'clock. They had tea and supper at 6, and, finally, they had tea at 9 o'clock in the evening. The Report stated that they had lived in complete comfort at the farm for twenty years, and had never seen a doctor. (Laughter.) He, the speaker, did not know whether his inside would stand six doses of tea a day, but it did not follow, because the mind was weak, that the digestion was weak too.

He apologized to Mr. Brock for having dealt with the Scottish Report first, but he would now say a word or two about the English Report. It included about 400 pages of the results of research—(Hear, hear)—and they were most admirable results. But the trouble was that a man like himself, a layman, could not read two consecutive lines in that English Report without encountering a word of which he did not know the meaning, so his researches into that Report were more or less fruitless. He made no complaint about that, but it was somewhat discouraging, and it balked him in what seemed to be a very nice topic to discuss. Still, he hit upon one line of research which was, to him, more or less intelligible: he discovered that two Americans had devised a system whereby one did not need to look at men's minds at all; it was only necessary to measure them in order to find out what kind of people they were. The way it was done was as follows: One ascertained, first, the length of the person's leg, though whether that was taken before the leg was pulled or not he did not know. (Laughter.) That figure was divided by the thickness of the chest and the length of the trunk—it was not even necessary to multiply by the number one first thought of—and the result of that little sum was, that one not only discovered whether the man or woman was sane or not, but also what type of insanity he or she had if not sane. That opened up vast possibilities. After all, one had an objective test. It was well known—and nobody knew it better than he did—how doctors who were interested in this type of disease differed among themselves; and if the matter could be reduced to one of measurement, all that trouble and difference of opinion would be got rid of. It was true that some of their friends who were "expert witnesses" might lose in the process, but let all make sacrifices in the public interest. (Laughter.) He thought the company could congratulate the English Board of Control on digging up a line of research of that kind, and he hoped both Boards would continue in the good work they were doing. (Applause.)

Sir HUGH ARTHUR ROSE, D.S.O. (Chairman, General Board of Control in Scotland), in responding, said that if Mr. Reid was telling the truth, he was the first man the speaker had met who had read the Reports of both the Boards, though he thought that gentleman's reading must have been a little cursory, as he noted two glaring inaccuracies in Mr. Reid's speech. Speaking of the Report of the Scottish Board, he spoke of a patient who took tea six times a day and had never seen a doctor. But that Report was made by a doctor who visited the patient regularly. What Mr. Reid failed to apprehend was that this man was so well looked after in the home in which he was boarded out that it was unnecessary to call in the local doctor for any physical ailments. And, in the next place, he wondered how it would be possible, as a mathematical proposition, to divide the length of a man's leg first by the circumference of the chest, which was nearly as large, and by the length of his trunk, which between them must be more than the original figure to be divided. Perhaps Mr. Brock would deal with that problem. Also, he thought Mr. Reid had said too much about the Boards of Control when dealing with the progress made in the care of the unfortunate people with whom the Boards were entrusted. He wished to give full marks to his medical colleagues for their guidance and for all the excellent part they had played in this work, but he said, without fear of contradiction, that any real progress achieved in Scotland had been due primarily to the medical superintendents and their wonderful staffs in these institutions. He thanked Mr. Reid for the kindly—if slightly inaccurate—statements he had made in regard to their work. (Applause.)

Mr. L. G. BROCK, C.B. (Chairman of the Board of Control for England and Wales), who also responded to the toast, said that to find any assembly as large as this ready to drink the health of the Board of Control was an experience which was still rare enough to be very pleasurable. But he had never before found an assembly which was willing to drink the health of two Boards. Such all-embracing charity was

very moving, though he could not help a certain amount of regret that in the desire to combine the two Boards in one toast a title had been bestowed on his Board which did not belong to it. The Board over which Sir Arthur Rose presided was, quite properly, the General Board of Control, and he could think of no other title more appropriate to a body over which Sir Arthur Rose presided, because, as far as the speaker could discover, there were few activities to which that genial Mussolini of Edinburgh had not given his controlling genius at some time or other. The speaker's own Board was a more modest body; it was only "The Board of Control." But it was even more gratifying that this toast should have been proposed to-night by a Member of Parliament, because, not so long ago, when the Mental Treatment Act was under discussion in the House of Commons, namely in 1929, it was his, the speaker's, duty—he could hardly say it was his privilege—to sit through more than twelve days of debate in Committee, including the best part of a hot summer night, listening to discussions in which the Board of Control was very frequently referred to. Did right hon. and hon. members follow Mr. Reid's example and, in well-rounded and felicitous phrases, express their appreciation of this work? No, they did not; they called those who projected the Bill bureaucrats, and one went further and called them inaccessible bureaucrats—he did not know why. It was suggested that the Commissioners were grinding the faces of the poor, innocent, harmless local authorities. It was even hinted that the Board of Control was a collection of long-haired cranks—a reproach which scarcely could be said to lie either against Sir Arthur Rose or against himself. (Laughter). And he was more than gratified, he was touched at what he felt was a sign of a parliamentary change of heart.

But he did most heartily associate himself with what Sir Arthur Rose said about the mental hospital superintendents. He, Mr. Brock, realized—nobody more so—that though the Board might give advice and make suggestions, as they often did, even if they were as wise as his colleagues looked and felt, it would avail nothing without the work of the superintendents. The future of mental hospitals—he might almost say the future of psychological medicine—was in their hands. That was why he was specially glad to be present to-night and to be the guest of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, as he did appreciate so deeply what that Association stood for. He supposed that everyone who had ever been associated with the administration of a big institution must realize how subtle and insidious was the temptation to become absorbed in the everyday routine; there was so much that must be done, and so much that was important that must be carried out, that it was very easy to be absorbed in the daily round of routine duties. He would be the last to depreciate in any way the importance of custodial care, but he did feel that the functions of the medical superintendents went a long way beyond that; and it was because he felt that the Association stood for a scientific outlook, for the spirit of research, for the development of medicine, that he was so glad to be present at this gathering. After all, the ultimate objective of medicine was the conquest of disease, and because he believed that that was the spirit in which the Association worked, and that these were the ideals by which it was actuated, it gave him great pleasure to be present. (Applause.)

Dr. HAMILTON C. MARR, C.B., in submitting the toast of "The Guests," said that a year or two ago he was sitting, at one of the Association's annual dinners, at the side of a guest who asked him how long he had been associated with the insane, and he replied, "About forty years." The guest became quiet and a little thoughtful, and then said to him, "Is it not the case that those who have been associated with the insane become a little peculiar themselves?" He, the speaker, wished to assure the guests to-night that the great majority of the members of the Association were very sane people, though there might be a few who might admit that in their individual case only a thin partition divided them from madness.

In speaking of the guests he preferred to attach to the word the Latin meaning. In the Anglo-Saxon the term meant stranger. And though the Medico-Psychological Association had never been forgetful of entertaining strangers and thereby had entertained angels unawares, the word "hospes" meant both host and guest, and all the guests to-night had done some form of public service, and so could not be considered as in any way strangers to the Association.

This toast was to be replied to by two gentlemen, one, Sheriff Dean Leslie,

representing a public service. He did not know whether in England there was such a position as that of Sheriff, but it was a position which, in Scotland, was regarded with the greatest of respect; indeed their own Sir Walter Scott was a beloved Sheriff of Selkirk. The other, Captain Harvey, was of those who performed a public service voluntarily and freely—who did it for love of their fellow men. No words of his, the speaker's, could picture that service so beautifully as it was depicted by Scott in the person of Bailie Nicol Jarvie, and what the public thought of such service could not be expressed better than in the words of Andrew Fairservice, when Francis Osbaldistone asked where this man Nicol Jarvie lived, "He is no a man, he is a bailie." It was an interesting psychological problem, and perhaps a subject of research by this Association to ascertain, if a bailie was a superman, in what category ought a provost or a county convener to be placed?

He had much pleasure in proposing this toast, coupled with the names of Sheriff Dean Leslie and Captain Harvey, Convener of Stirlingshire. (Applause.)

SHERIFF DEAN LESLIE, in responding to the toast, said that those present had not only enjoyed the good material comforts with which the Association had entertained them, but had also enjoyed the feast of soul and the flow of reason in what had been uttered. His young friend Mr. Reid had taken it upon himself to divide his fellow men into classes, and had given names to three samples. He, the speaker, having been brought up on the Shorter Catechism and sermons, thought he also was entitled to divide mankind into three categories. He was perhaps further justified in doing so because the greatest and most celebrated epileptic known in history himself divided the subject with which he was dealing into three parts when he said *Omnis Gallia in tres partes divisa est*. He did not know what instances there might be in the past, but might he be allowed to give a modern instance of the division of mankind? In Glasgow, where his fair neighbour and himself came from, there used to live a distinguished family of the name of Pattison; they were the owners of Kelvin Grove, which now formed that most beautiful part of the West End of that City. People used to say of the citizens of Glasgow: "There's the wise folk, and the daft folk, and the Pattisons." He was sure there would be no difficulty to-night in asserting that all the guests belonged to the first of those classes—he was not now speaking for himself, and he would remind the company that was present by their kind invitation.

He expressed great admiration for the medical capacity of the profession as well as for the extraordinary administrative abilities with which its members were endowed. He was grateful for the way in which the toast was proposed by Dr. Marr. (Applause.)

CAPTAIN T. HARVEY also responded. He said he was endeavouring to define in his mind what were the qualities which entitled one to be invited as a guest, and in pursuing his investigations into that matter he asked if it could possibly be that the guests of this evening were the only sane people in Stirlingshire. But when reading over the kind invitation he noted the motto of the Association, "Let Wisdom Guide," and it seemed to him that, from the point of view of the guests to-night, wisdom had guided their hosts in a way that from the guests' point of view was not only commendable, but was highly to be admired. He would like to say to the hosts of to-night, "Thank you most heartily for this sumptuous and enjoyable entertainment."

Before closing he would like to take the opportunity, as Convener of the County, to say how deeply indebted they were to the President of this Association, the superintendent of the great establishment at Larbert, for the extraordinarily valuable work he had done there for many years; that work had been crowned by the Association when it made him its President. (Applause.) Dr. Campbell was a man who was not only revered and respected by all who had dealings with him, but he could say he was beloved. Long might he remain to continue the splendid work which he had been doing for so long. He hoped the stay of members in Stirling had been enjoyable and profitable. (Applause.)

The Rt. Hon. the LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. CRAIGIE M. AITCHISON, K.C., M.P.), in submitting the toast of "The Royal Medico-Psychological Association," said that many years ago now a very distinguished predecessor of his in the office he

had the honour to hold, rose at 25 minutes to 12 to reply to the toast of "The Guests," and he said, "My Lords and Gentlemen, at this late hour of the evening I would rather reply than answer for the guests." (Laughter.) His own task to-night was, in some respects, a simpler one; he could reply for no one, but he confessed to feeling some astonishment that this toast which he was about to propose, should be so far down the list. But he had been told that the reason was a simple one: it was a test of whether the proposer was able to drive his own car home.

When he was honoured by being asked to propose this toast he confessed he was apprehensive. It was true that he had met mental specialists professionally, but never more than two at a time—never in such numbers as he now saw before him. And yet, having listened to two of his legal brethren, and finding them still at liberty, he felt emboldened to carry on and say a few words in proposing this toast.

After all, lawyers relied a good deal on doctors, Shortly after he was called to the Bar he was asked to defend a man who was charged with murder. There was really no defence, so he said to the lawyer who was representing the man, "We had better get a mental specialist." (Laughter.) He went to a very great mental specialist, one whose name was, he was sure, honoured in this Association—Sir Thomas Clouston. (Applause.) The speaker went, as a very junior counsel, to him, and said there was no good fee in the case, and Clouston replied, "Never mind, if I can help you I will." And Sir Thomas Clouston went to Glasgow, at his own expense, and gave the speaker a consultation for the following night. Sir Thomas then said, "Have you seen anything wrong about that man who is charged with murder?" ; the speaker replied that he had not, and Sir Thomas continued: "Have you not observed that his ears are very high in his head? I am giving you a tip. If ever you find a man whose ears are high in his head, so that when you draw a line from the corner of the eye to the centre of the ear that line runs upwards, you may be certain that that man suffers from some kind of mental deficiency." He never told that story in any company without having first made a careful inspection of the ears of those present. (Laughter.)

During the speeches which had been heard that night he confessed his attention had been diverted somewhat in looking round the various tables, and if by any chance he had overlooked anyone to whom the description might apply, there was plenty of advice available in the banquetting chamber. (Laughter.) From that day he had had the greatest admiration for the mental specialist. A very great friend of his, a mental specialist who was present this evening—he would not mention the gentleman's name—was supposed to come to the speaker's house at 6 o'clock; but he did not turn up, and he, the speaker, did not understand why. The reason turned out to be that he was so badly dressed that the maid thought he was a tramp and refused to allow him inside the door. That was an important symptom. (Laughter.)

He would like to say two things. First, he would like to join with Capt. Harvey in what he had said to-night regarding the honour which had fallen to the President. He did not think there was a citizen in the whole County of Stirling who was not proud of the honour which had come to Stirling and to the President himself. (Applause.) He wished also to say that he had read with the greatest pleasure, in that morning's Press, that the Conference had present at it representatives from countries all over the world: from the United States, from across the narrower Irish Sea, from India and other countries in the East. And that was exactly as it should be, for, after all, the profession of medicine knew no frontier, and the more that eminent men from all countries came into contact with each other—in spite of the barriers of distance and of race—the better it would be for the civilization of the world. (Cheers.)

There were many things he would like to say, and which he meant to have said if time had permitted; but one more thing he would say. People talked about psychological medicine, but he did not know whether mental specialists realized that the most interesting cases for the mental specialist were furnished by the doctors themselves: he was now speaking of medical psychology in relation to crime. If he were asked what were the great names in the history of crime in its relation to mental peculiarities, he would give the names of a number of doctors: Pritchard the famous poisoner, Neil Cream, who was a Glasgow doctor, Dr. Lamson, Dr. Palmer, and—to take a modern instance—Dr. Crippen. So those who belonged to the Association were in good company. And from across the

seas there was the case of Dr. Webster, who murdered an old professor. He felt great sympathy for Dr. Webster.

He had already said that lawyers relied a great deal upon the doctors in the study of these matters, and he thought he could say in a general way that the lawyers followed medical opinion in these matters. It was now 89 years ago—two years short of the lifetime of this Association—that, following upon what was known as the McNaghten case, fourteen judges returned the famous answers to certain questions which were put to them by the Privy Council, as to what were the legal tests of insanity. Those present knew them far better than he did. They knew the familiar test of whether a man knew or understood the quality of his act, and, if he did understand it, whether he knew it was wrong, and so on. Theoretically, that was still the law in this country. Yet medical science had advanced far beyond that, and, whatever the law might be theoretically, no one who was familiar with practical work in the Courts, in either Scotland or England, was unaware that matters had moved far away from the law as laid down by those fourteen judges. (Applause.) No longer was the community divided into the sane and the insane, in the way that the old preachers used to divide the people into the elect and the damned. It was now fully recognized that there were gradations, that there were whites and blacks and partly whites and partly blacks. That was largely due to the progress made by the medical profession through a long series of years. He supposed that when next this Association should meet in Stirling there would be no insane left at all. But if all were to be made sane, he would say, "For God's sake leave us with our eccentricities!" (Laughter.) For what would life be without eccentricities? When Dr. Johnson walked down Fleet Street he gathered all the orange peel he saw and put it in his pocket; Charles Lamb hit every lamp-post he passed with his stick, and if he missed one in his stride, he went back and hit it specially. So what should we be if we had not our eccentricities?

In asking this gathering to drink the toast he would say, finally, "Don't be afraid of new ideas." There was a great passage in the works of George Borrow, in which he told of a company in one of the old English inns, where a horse dealer came in with the news that the country lanes of England were to be destroyed because of the coming of "the iron horse." The iron horse came, but instead of destroying the country lanes of England it brought the town dweller out of the towns into the country lanes of England; in Borrow's words, it brought the town dweller to the sun and the moon and the stars, and the wind on the heath. Therefore he, the speaker, saw in the days in which we lived developments taking place, and he would say, "Don't let us be afraid of new ideas." He believed that psychological medicine could make a really great contribution to the happiness and the well-being of mankind. One of our great poets, who was not often quoted, Edward Fitzgerald, had written some lines which the speaker would like to see carved on the lintel of every mental hospital in the land:

"For like a child sent with a fluttering light  
To feel his way along a gusty night,  
Man walks the world, again and yet again  
The lamp shall be by fits of passion slain,  
But shall not he who sent him from the door  
Relight the lamp once more and yet once more?"

The President had said on the previous night that Scotland was a poor country. It was a poor country, but they in Scotland had always kept the lamp of reason alight in their country. Let it be the task of this Association to light the lamp "once more and yet once more." (Cheers.)

The PRESIDENT, in responding to the toast, reminded the company that the hour was very late. He confessed that he did not altogether regret that fact, as it meant that he would not have to say very much.

Firstly, he wished to thank the Lord Advocate for having come to the dinner and given such a delightful speech in proposing the toast. He, the President, had been present at a good number of annual dinners of the Association, and he could say, without exaggeration or fear of contradiction, that he had never heard a finer speech in submitting the toast of the Association than had been heard that evening. Putting on one side all the embarrassing remarks which had been



made about himself personally—for which he expressed his thanks to the speakers—he would remind those present that this was the Royal Medico-Psychological Association and that that body must have a President. He thanked the guests who had given the Association the great privilege and pleasure of entertaining them.

He knew it had sometimes been the custom for the President on such occasions to give a short history of the Association, but he assured the company that he had no intention of doing so at this late hour. Still, he would like to say—though it would be no news to the members—that the Association was a very old one, yet it still remained young in mind and spirit, and its endeavour was to progress with the times. He thought it must be admitted that at any rate the specialty of which they were members had endeavoured, during many years, to advance the care of the insane, and to promote the good treatment of those unfortunate individuals. The Association had been in existence ninety-one years. It was started in a very small way, by a few medical men who were interested in the specialty, meeting to discuss matters of interest with regard to the insane and the management of institutions for them, and in process of years this small society grew and developed. A few years ago, His Gracious Majesty, by Royal Warrant, authorized the Association to enjoy the prefix “Royal,” and it was in that form the Association met to-night. (Applause.)

Between the toasts musical items were rendered by Miss May M. Morrison and Messrs. Adam R. Lennox and M. R. MacLaren, accompanied by Miss Ishbel C. Phillips.

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#### Friday, July 15.—Morning Session.

At the Municipal Buildings, Stirling.

19. PAPER.—“**The Place of Psychiatry in Medical Education,**” by RALPH A. NOBLE, M.B., Ch.M.Syd., D.P.M.Camb. (*vide* p. 793).

The PRESIDENT said he was sure all present felt extremely obliged to Dr. Noble for his most interesting paper. It covered a great deal of very important ground, and there must be many who would wish to join in the discussion on it which the reader had invited.

Dr. RICE remarked that as he had represented the Association on the Committee of the British Medical Association to whose report Dr. Noble had referred, it was perhaps incumbent upon him to speak on Dr. Noble's paper. Until Dr. Noble said he had read that report, he, the speaker, wondered whether he had done so. On inquiring among medical men generally, among members of this Association and elsewhere, he had found that singularly few had read it. Dr. Noble would agree, he thought, that the attempt had been made to work very much on the lines suggested in the paper. He would like members of this Association particularly to read that report, and to send in, either to himself or to Dr. Menzies, any remarks which they thought ought to be made when the report came up before the Annual Representative Meeting. If any member of the Association wished anything said on the subject at that meeting he, Dr. Rice, would be happy to say it, because it would be possible to bring up amendments which might be suggested by individuals, or by the Association.

Speaking by and large, he thought practitioners in this branch were in a happier position in America than were similar workers here as to the relationship between the psychiatrists and their colleagues on the medical and surgical sides. They were somewhat more advanced in America. Dr. Noble was referring chiefly to the teaching of the universities on this subject, and the work of the universities generally. He, Dr. Rice, was approaching the subject on the British Medical Association Committee more from the point of view of the provincial medical superintendent who was trying to run an out-patient clinic at the general