

Under these circumstances the Association makes the following suggestions to those examining bodies who have asked for guidance on the subject.

The Association suggests:

(1) That the candidate must be a registered medical practitioner of not less than two years' standing at the time of examination.

(2) That the candidate, subsequent to qualification, must have been in the practice of a recognised institution for the insane for not less than twelve months, that is to say, he must have held a whole-time appointment therein as medical officer or clinical assistant for that length of time.

(3) That the candidate must produce evidence that he has attended, subsequent to qualification, courses of lectures and practical instruction on the following five compulsory subjects, or that he has otherwise diligently studied the same:

(a) Neurology: the anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the nervous system

(b) Psychology.

(c) Clinical pathology.

(d) Clinical neurology.

(e) Psychiatry, lectures and demonstrations on, and the jurisprudence of psychiatry.

And on one of the following five optional subjects:

(a) Advanced psychology.

(b) Bio-chemistry.

(c) Bacteriology.

(d) Comparative anatomy and physiology of the nervous system.

(e) Eugenics.

(4) That the curriculum should consist of three terms of approximately three months each, or equivalents of these periods to suit local terms or sessions.

Having regard to the important position of neurology to the other subjects, it is believed that it will be necessary to devote not less than one third of the time of the extra-institutional part of the curriculum to its study.

A syllabus detailing the scope of the subjects enumerated above will doubtless be made by each examining body, but a model syllabus is in course of preparation.

FOREIGN DIFFICULTIES.

THE *Standard* of March 15th reports that 280 patients have been discharged from the public asylums of Bohemia owing to financial difficulties. These arise from political complications preventing the Budget being passed, so that the Provincial Government has been impelled to this extraordinary course. The criminal insane will in future be confined in prisons because they are found to be far cheaper than asylums, and this enforced economy has also suspended all building, and stopped all subventions to charitable institutions.

From St. Petersburg it is reported that the patients in the asylum have become so numerous that beds cannot be found for them, and the staff is subjected to the greatest difficulties in management. Indeed, a short notice in a German newspaper makes a statement of a nature implying a want of all decency and ordinary comfort such as can hardly be believed in this country. The *Lancet* says that Professor Bechtereff, President of the recent Congress of Russian Psychiatrists, has given a similar account of the terrible position of the neglected patients, and according to Dr. E. V. Erickson the condition of the insane in Poland is most unsatisfactory.

COMPLIMENTARY.

PRESENTATION PORTRAITS TO DR. CLOUSTON.

A NUMEROUS company of ladies and professional gentlemen assembled in the hall of the Royal College of Physicians, Queen Street, yesterday afternoon, on the occasion of the presentation of portraits of Dr. Clouston, subscribed for by friends in recognition of his long connection with the Royal Edinburgh Asylum for the Insane. In the absence of Mr. Adam, Chairman of the Managing Board of the Asylum, Professor Rankine presided.

The CHAIRMAN said he occupied that position because for over twenty years, as a Manager of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum, he had been associated with Dr. Clouston in its administration, and during that period his feeling had been one of ever-growing admiration for him as a physician, as a man of business affairs and as a friend. Dr. Clouston had attained a most eminent position as an alienist, and that his fame had gone through all the earth was well illustrated by the list of subscribers to the testimonial. As an administrator there were three noteworthy features which he would mention. The first was the initiation of that mental pathological scheme which had done much, and would do still more, for the advancement of psychiatric science. The second notable event which one liked to recall was the smooth way in which the very onerous contract with the Poor-law authorities of Edinburgh was altered into the agreement upon which the matter now rested. That agreement was largely due to the good sense of the Parish Council of the time, but it owed its initiation and most of its success to the diplomacy of Dr. Clouston and the late Mr. Ferrier, who was then parochial inspector. But above all, tangibly, at least, Dr. Clouston's monument rested on Craighouse, that magnificent pile of buildings which was unsurpassed by any in the Kingdom. The best proof of the success of the scheme and of the prescience of Dr. Clouston was that while he began in the East House in 1873 with sixty paying patients and a bare income of £8,600, when he left the institution there were at Craighouse 220 paying patients and an income of £35,000; and better still, from the business point of view, the huge debt which lay upon the scheme was disappearing with most gratifying regularity. (Applause.) It was a very sad hour to the managers when two or three years ago Dr. Clouston intimated his intention to retire. At the same time, they felt that, after a career of thirty-five years as superintendent of the Asylum, Dr. Clouston had well earned a period of comparative repose, and they all hoped he might long continue among them, not an idle man, but not tied down to the daily care of a great institution. (Applause.) Of Dr. Clouston personally, he would only say that it astonished the managers to see the buoyancy and cheeriness which he brought to bear upon what must have been at times depressing work. (Applause.) He concluded by calling on Principal Sir William Turner to unveil the portraits.

Sir WILLIAM TURNER said he might call attention to one or two points in Dr. Clouston's career which had assisted him largely in attaining the position of a great specialist. His acquaintance with Dr. Clouston dated from 1861, the year in which he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh, and presented a thesis for the excellence of which he was awarded by the Faculty of Medicine the gold medal. It was a thesis on "The Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System in Invertebrate Animals." In that year the youngest pathologists and physiologists had been doing their best to unravel the mysteries of the nervous system, a task of great difficulty, because the methods then in use were crude to a degree. He (Sir William) drew from that thesis and its subject the moral that Dr. Clouston's mind, in his early professional life, was bent on a certain kind of medical research—an inquiry into the nervous system and its functions. At that early period he recognised the line which he should follow in his professional career, and they were there to testify how well he had followed it. Shortly after obtaining his degree he was appointed one of the assistants of the Morningside Asylum, and in 1873 he became the physician superintendent. In 1879 he was appointed the sole lecturer on mental diseases to the University of Edinburgh, and that marked another very important advance in his career, because he could combine with his work as a teacher his practical experience as the head of the great Edinburgh asylum. It was a great point in medical education that with the theoretical instruction there should always be combined the practical methods in applying theories in the elucidation of disease. Dr. Clouston was, therefore, in a position to become a great teacher of his subject and a great trainer of physicians who were to take up as their practice mental diseases. They all knew how well he had succeeded in his theoretical and practical teaching. No man had trained so many who had been and who were still superintendents of asylums as Dr. Clouston, and they had in these pupils practical illustrations of what his power was over the young men who came under his charge. There was another point bearing upon Dr. Clouston's scientific work, and that was his power of illustrating his ideas by his pen. His professional brethren recognised that

He was for some years the editor of their official journal, he was appointed President of the great Association which represented that branch of the profession; he was also President of the distinguished College in which they were assembled, and he produced from time to time writings which attracted attention, lectures on mental diseases, mental hygiene, and other works. But he thought in the main some of the most remarkable products of his pen were his annual reports on the work done at Morningside, which were always read with the greatest care, not only by the physicians, but by the public, because there was usually a moral in each report which the public were asked to consider and give effect to. The Chairman had referred to the depressing influence of Dr. Clouston's work, but there was always a cheery optimism about him. He liked to look at the bright side of his patients' cases, and that, no doubt, had an important influence on those who came under his care. (Applause.)

The portraits were then unveiled amid applause. Both are admirable works of art by Mr. Fiddes Watt, representing Dr. Clouston in familiar attitudes, and affording a striking likeness of the subject. The larger picture, a full-length portrait in medical gown and hood, is to be hung in the hall of the asylum, and a three-quarter portrait, showing Dr. Clouston in ordinary morning attire, is a personal gift to the doctor.

The Rev. Dr. Fisher, on behalf of the managers of the asylum, accepted the custody of the larger portrait.

Dr. CLOUSTON, in returning thanks for the gifts, said he was appointed to the Carlisle Asylum as a sort of boy physician at the age of twenty-three, the youngest ever appointed to that position. When he was appointed to Edinburgh at the age of thirty-three his experience was no doubt deficient, but he had fairly high ideals, and he had enthusiasm, and, as the Chairman had indicated, an almost unbounded optimism. An optimist he had lived, and an optimist he hoped to die. He was most anxious, in the interest of the patients, that the institution should be brought up to the highest position attainable, and he had also the ambition, which he thought they would not blame him for, to make the hospital for the insane at Morningside one of the great circle of educational, medical, and philanthropic institutions which the capital of Scotland possessed. (Applause.) They were all aware that mental disease, through a series of unfortunate accidents, as it were, and partly from its very nature, was regarded with quite an undeserved feeling of repugnance and want of interest; and to take away what, in certain respects, one might call the reproach of mental disease was one of his intense ambitions. In his annual reports he did try to secure that, and he believed the reproach was now dying out, and that insanity was coming to be regarded with no other feeling than one of the utmost sympathy. His ideal was to connect his administrative duties with the scientific study of brain and mental disease, and his opportunity of lecturing to nearly three thousand students in the University was a perpetual incitement to himself and his staff. In regard to the scientific work, there was no more difficult subject in human study than the relationship of mind to brain. It was very backward, but they were doing something to lay the foundations of the generalisations of the future. They had done something at Morningside in that way, for there had been published during his time nine volumes and at least two hundred papers in the medical journals. His University connection he looked upon as being at the very core of the kind of work one had to do in keeping up one's enthusiasm and interest in one's work. (Applause.)

On the motion of Mr. GARSON, W.S., a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, to Sir William Turner, as chairman of the Committee of Subscribers, and to Mr. R. Scott Moncrieff, W.S., the honorary secretary and treasurer.—*Scotsman*, January 11th, 1910.

Dr. JAMES HYSLOP.

We congratulate Dr. James Hyslop on the honour which he lately received in recognition of his distinguished services to Natal. When Dr. Hyslop was in this country last year his portrait was painted by Mr. Fiddes Watt, and it has now been presented to the Art Gallery of Pietermaritzburg. The presentation was made by Sir Henry Bale, who said that it had been his high privilege to perform many duties of a pleasant nature, but never one which he performed with greater

appreciation than the ceremony which was the occasion of a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen representing every part of the Colony. Continuing, Sir Henry Bale said that Dr. Hyslop had rendered great and valuable services in his own peaceful profession, at the head of the medical service. He was glad to have that opportunity of recognising Dr. Hyslop's work in connection with science and education, and in many other beneficent directions. He recognised his work as honestly and faithfully done, and his success as well-earned. The *Natal Witness* gave the following list of Dr. Hyslop's qualifications and appointments, and we heartily congratulate him on the results of his strenuous labours in Natal in a time of great difficulty, and especially upon the esteem and respect in which he is held after twenty-seven years in the Colony:

Bachelor of Medicine and Master of Surgery, Edinburgh University, 1879; Lieut.-Col. on the Staff and P.M.O., Natal Militia (twenty-eight years' service), Medical Superintendent, Natal Government Asylum since 1882. President, Natal Medical Council since 1896. Chairman, Health Board, from 1904 to 1909, and still a member thereof. Member Natal Pharmacy Board since 1896. President, South African Association for the Advancement of Science, 1906. President, South African Medical Congress, 1905. Delegate to Medical Congresses in South Africa from Natal Branch of British Medical Association, 1906, 1907, and 1908. Delegate to the annual meeting of the British Medical Association, Belfast, Ireland, 1909, from the Natal Branch; and Edinburgh, 1898. Local President, Cancer Research Committee; ex-President of the Natal Branch, British Medical Association, and of the Pietermaritzburg division of the same, and of the Pietermaritzburg Medical Society. One of the Natal representatives on the Council of the University of the Cape of Good Hope. Appointed by Government as the Natal Representative to the Conference of South African States and Colonies on Plague, held at Pretoria, 1899, and Chairman thereof at Durban the same year. Chairman of Inter-Colonial Medical Conference of Delegates appointed by South African Governments, 1904; Government Delegate to Conference on Higher University Education called by the High Commissioner, 1906. Member of various Government commissions of inquiry, etc. Ex-President of various local institutions, such as The Natal Society, Horticultural Society, Botanic Society, etc. Served as P.M.O., Natal Volunteers, South African War, 1899-1901; present in Ladysmith during the siege. Twice mentioned in despatches. P.M.O. of Forces, Natal Native Rebellion, 1906.

OBITUARY.

SIR ARTHUR MITCHELL, K.C.B., M.D.

FOURTEEN years ago we recorded the proceedings of a meeting held in Edinburgh on the occasion of Sir Arthur Mitchell's retirement from the General Board of Lunacy. Lord Kinnear said many fine things about this distinguished Scotsman, who made a happy reply. He was not conscious of decrepitude and hoped that there was still some work in him, although his official career had ended. That hope was well fulfilled, and the evening of his days was calm and bright. He died in his eighty-fourth year, on October 12th last. The following article appeared in the *Scotsman*, and we feel that it will be acceptable to our readers in these pages, not only to those for whom he is an historical figure, but also to those who have lost a friend whose place can never be filled.

"Sir Arthur Mitchell was born on January 19th, 1826, and was the son of Mr. George Mitchell, C.E. After receiving his early education at Elgin, he proceeded to Aberdeen University, and afterwards studied in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna. At the passing of the Lunacy Act of 1857 he was appointed one of the Deputy Commissioners, and in 1870 he became a Commissioner. It is beyond doubt that lunacy administration in Scotland has drawn its inspiration from Sir Arthur Mitchell more than from anyone else. Connected with the Board from its institution, he may be truly said to have been the guiding spirit in shaping and developing its policy. Of the system of caring for the insane in private dwellings as it exists at present in Scotland—that feature of Scottish lunacy administration which specially distinguishes it from the lunacy administration of any other country—Sir Arthur