

THE
JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE

[*Published by Authority of the Medico-Psychological Association
of Great Britain and Ireland.*]

No. 255 [NEW SERIES] OCTOBER, 1915. VOL. LXI.

Apologia.

*But, indeed, we prefer books to pounds; and we love manuscripts better
than florins; and we prefer small pamphlets to war horses.—
ISAAC DISRAELI, 'Curiosities of Literature.'*

CERTES, it is not from preference that the Editors of this Journal are presenting on this occasion only a small pamphlet for the perusal of the members of the Association in lieu of the usual October number. They find themselves the victims of necessity, and just at present it would seem easier to procure a war horse than a manuscript suitable for publication in its pages. This condition of things was not unforeseen, and in their report to the Council at the Annual Meeting in July the Editors expressed their apprehensions that a dearth of contributions would become acutely felt during the progress of the war. As most of the members are, no doubt, aware, no papers were read at the Annual Meeting, which occupied itself solely with the business affairs of the Association. Nor have any been read at any divisional meeting, so far as the Editors are aware; none, at any rate, have reached their hands. Their forecast, therefore, has unfortunately found a literal fulfilment, and they find themselves all but empty-handed, with the scantiest material at their disposal for publication. The usual sources of this material are in fact, at the present crisis of affairs, all but dried up. In this experience, however, they are not singular, as in other countries—France, for instance—the issue of some medical

journals has had to be suspended altogether for many months. And when we consider how greatly the staffs of asylums in the British Isles have been depleted during the past year—about 180 members of the medical staffs and some 3,000 of non-medical asylum employes having joined one or other of the Services—it need engender no surprise if, as a result, research work should have practically come to a standstill, and the flow of contributions have been abruptly checked. Those of our asylum colleagues who are still in charge have more than enough to occupy them in purely administrative work.

Under these circumstances it has been considered advisable to limit the current issue to records of business matters alone, and to reserve the few small literary items at present in the hands of the Editors for the January number, in the hope that some additions may be made to these before the time of its publication, so that we may not again have to offer to the members, as an apology for a journal of ordinary size, a mere tract of such slender dimensions as in the present instance. As long, however, as the war continues we feel that we can hardly expect to receive more than a fractional amount of material for publication as compared with what is usually available under normal conditions.

Notes and News.

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held at the Society's rooms, 11, Chandos Street, London, W., on Thursday, July 22nd, 1915, Dr. David G. Thomson, President, in the Chair.

There were present: Sir George Savage, and Drs. T. S. Adair, Fletcher Beach, D. Bower, J. Chambers, R. H. Cole, M. A. Collins, H. Corner, M. Craig, W. R. Dawson, T. Duff, T. Drapes, J. H. Earls, J. W. Geddes, J. R. Gilmour, H. E. Haynes, T. B. Hyslop, G. H. Johnston, N. T. Kerr, R. Langdon-Down, N. Lavers, H. Wolseley-Lewis, A. Miller, A. Neill, W. F. Nelis, H. H. Newington, H. J. Norman, D. Orr, J. Porter Phillips, W. Samuels, J. N. Sergeant, R. P. Smith, J. G. Soutar, R. H. Steen, J. Stewart, F. R. P. Taylor, T. S. Tuke.

Present at Council Meeting: Dr. David G. Thomson (President) in the Chair; Drs. James Chambers, H. Hayes Newington, M. A. Collins, J. N. Sergeant, T. S. Adair, H. Wolseley-Lewis, R. H. Cole, J. G. Porter Phillips, Alfred Miller, Thomas Drapes, T. Seymour Tuke, J. R. Gilmour, N. T. Kerr, E. D. O'Neill, W. R. Dawson, J. G. Soutar, and R. H. Steen (Acting Hon. Sec.).