

there would not be sufficient sane people left to manage the asylums. He believed there was one cause of the increase of insanity which Dr. Andriezen had not mentioned, and it arose from the struggle for existence in these days, the turning of night into day. In the metropolis many cases came from districts like Fleet Street. He considered that alcoholism was responsible for even more than had been stated. They had to remember not only the cases directly caused by alcohol, but the many attributed to specific conditions which had really been mainly due to alcohol. Then as to syphilis. A great injury was done to the country when the Contagious Diseases Act was repealed.

Dr. ANDRIEZEN, in reply, said he agreed entirely with Dr. Hyslop in regard to the Contagious Diseases Act. He noticed that two or three American states, Minnesota being one of them, had made laws within the last month or two to prevent the marriage of weak-minded people, epileptics, etc. He admitted that it was one of the unfortunate effects of progress and civilisation that we lived at too high pressure.

After the discussion on the papers a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Moore for inviting the Division to meet at Virginia Water and for his hospitality was unanimously carried, as was also a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The members were afterwards hospitably entertained by Dr. Moore at dinner.

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#### SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The Autumn Meeting was held in the Board Room of the Royal Mineral Water Hospital, Bath, on Tuesday, October 22nd, by kind permission of the Governors.

Dr. Goodall was voted to the chair.

Present: Drs. Weatherly, Baker, Blachford, Benham, Rorie, Deas, Morton, Bullen, Millar, MacBryan, Aveline, MacDonald (Hon. Sec.), and Monckton, as visitor.

The Honorary Secretary announced letters of apology from Dr. Oscar Woods, Dr. Morrison, Dr. Mumby, Dr. Soutar, and Dr. Noott.

The minutes having been read and signed, the names of two candidates were submitted for election, viz. Glasgow, John George, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S., A.M.O. Portsmouth Asylum (Proposers: B. H. Mumby, P. W. MacDonald, and G. A. Rorie); Findlay, John, M.B., B.Ch., A.M.O. Dorchester Asylum (Proposers: P. W. MacDonald, G. A. Rorie, and J. Chambers); and were unanimously elected.

#### THE NEXT MEETING.

The Hon. Sec. reported an invitation from Dr. Aveline to hold the Spring Meeting at the Catford Asylum, near Taunton, and moved that it be accepted with thanks. This was cordially agreed to.

#### THE LATE DR. LAW WADE.

The Hon. Sec. said that as this was the first time they had met since the death of the late Dr. Law Wade, of Wells, he felt sure they all wished to express their sense of regret and loss at his untimely and unexpected death. Dr. Wade had always taken a great interest in the Division. He was not cut off after his full term of years, but in the prime of life, full of energy and full of work, and he felt it was an extremely sad thing, not only for those more immediately concerned, but for those who knew him and worked with him. He would formally move that an expression of their regret be conveyed to his sorrowing widow.

Dr. LIONEL A. WEATHERLY seconded the motion, and, speaking as an old friend of Dr. Wade's, he said that they would all miss him very much for his geniality. His energy in his work was unbounded, and they all valued his able help. The resolution was adopted.

Dr. JOHN BAKER read a paper entitled "Female Criminal Lunatics" (see page 13).

Dr. J. V. BLACHFORD read a paper entitled "Degeneration of the Optic Thalami" (see page 58).

Dr. P. W. MACDONALD read a paper entitled "Note on the Prefrontal Lobes and the Localisation of Mental Functions" (see page 9).

On the motion of Dr. BENHAM, seconded by Dr. Deas, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Governors of the Hospital for the use of the Board Room.

The members dined afterwards at Messrs. Fortt's restaurant.

#### NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

A meeting of the members of the Northern and Midland Division of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at Bootham Asylum, York, on Wednesday, October 30th, 1901.

Members present: Drs. Adair, Blair, Clapham, Ewan, Gill, Grove, Gramshaw, Hearder, Hingston, Hitchcock, Holmes, Kershaw, Legge, Macleod, Macphail, Mackenzie, Merson, Miller, Middlemass, Pope, Powell, Tighe. Visitor: Dr. T. Anderson.

Dr. Clapham having been voted to the chair, Dr. Hitchcock (Hon. Sec.) read the minutes of the preceding meeting, which were approved.

In connection with the nomination of members by the Northern and Midland Division for vacancies on the Council of the Association, the following resolution was, on the motion of Dr. MACPHAIL, seconded by Dr. POWELL, unanimously adopted:

"That this Division desires to record its dissatisfaction that on two occasions its nomination and recommendation of members to the Council for vacancies arising from the retirement of members representing the Northern and Midland Division had not been accepted."

It was further resolved that a copy of the foregoing resolution should be sent to the General Secretary, with a request that he should bring it before the Council of the Association at their next meeting.

On the invitation of Dr. Gill, it was resolved that the next meeting of the Division should be held at Shaftesbury House, Formby, on Wednesday, April 16th, 1902.

#### BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

Dr. MILLER (Hatton Asylum) presented his report on the progress made in the establishment of a bureau of information on matters of asylum administration. The report was as follows:

At a meeting of our Branch at Leicester in April last, I briefly opened a discussion on the desirability of forming a bureau of information in connection with asylum management. My remarks were followed by a discussion in which all members present, I think, took part, and while not feeling very sure of my ground I still thought that the meeting was sufficiently in sympathy with my project to justify my going further.

Following on the report of our proceedings in the JOURNAL, the question appeared to claim the attention of other members of our Association, who seemed to think that some good might accrue from the formation of a bureau on the lines suggested by me.

At the meeting of the Council of the Association, held at Cork, a resolution was unanimously passed in favour of my proposal, and I was asked to proceed with the work. As I was anxious, if possible, to start on a firm footing, I postponed the carrying out of the instruction conveyed in the minute of the Council for the following reason:

There are some eighty county and borough asylums, and about the same number of hospitals and licensed houses in the country. Now, unless I could make sure of the support of, at all events, a large proportion of the superintendents of these institutions, it would be a useless waste of time going on with the work, as the information I should have at my disposal would be only of a very incomplete character.