

The following were elected as ordinary members :

JOHN KENNETH CRAWFORD LIDDELL, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Barnwood House, Gloucester.

Proposed by Drs. Arthur Townsend, J. G. Soutar and F. C. Logan.

DONALD JOHN MACDOUGALL, M.B., Ch.B., Major R.A.M.C., Officer i/c D Block, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

Proposed by Major G. W. Will, R.A.M.C., Drs. J. P. Westrup and S. E. Martin.

The place of the Autumn Meeting, 1931, was discussed, and it was mentioned that Dr. Elizabeth Casson would be pleased to have the meeting at Dorset House, Clifton Down, Bristol. It was also suggested that Dr. Bedford had expressed a wish to have the meeting at Dorset County Mental Hospital. The decision as to the place of the Autumn Meeting was left in the hands of the Hon. Divisional Secretary.

Dr. F. M. STEWART, Medical Officer at Littlemore, showed several cases which had been treated for general paralysis of the insane with malaria. A discussion then took place as to the present treatment of general paralysis of the insane.

Dr. STEWART also showed a case of gummatous fibromata of the arm which had been treated with malaria and cured. In connection with this case Dr. Stewart handed round photographs which, in addition, exhibited hyperkeratosis of the feet.

Dr. C. W. S. DAVIES-JONES, Medical Officer at Littlemore, showed a case, and initiated a discussion on phantasy. His patient demonstrated, among other things, a new game called "Chevy Chase," which he had invented. This was a form of draughts and chess, and the rules were of a most complicated nature.

Dr. NEWMAN gave an account of his researches into the pathological findings in dementia præcox, and members had an opportunity of inspecting some of the microscopic slides which he had on view.

Dr. T. SAXTY GOOD exhibited a case for diagnosis. An interesting discussion ensued, in which Drs. BARTON WHITE, McCOWAN and others participated.

During the morning members and visitors were conducted over the Hospital and had an opportunity of inspecting the various departments of the Institution, and were most hospitably entertained to lunch, presided over by Dr. Saxty Good.

Dr. BARTON WHITE proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. T. Saxty Good and the Committee of Visitors for their kind hospitality.

SCOTTISH DIVISION.

SPECIAL MEETING.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Scottish Division was held in the Central Station Hotel, Glasgow, on Friday, February 20, 1931.

Present : Drs. Douglas McRae, T. C. Mackenzie, W. McAlister, R. D. Clarkson, John R. Robb, John McDougall, John C. Anderson, J. A. Jenkins, W. Boyd, W. Tuach Mackenzie, Henry Carre, A. M. Dryden, J. S. Annandale, J. H. C. Orr, Patrick Steele, J. H. MacDonald, Donald Ross, H. Ferguson Watson, R. D. Hotchkis, L. C. Bruce, R. B. Campbell, C. C. Easterbrook, Neil T. Kerr, R. Bailey, W. D. Chambers, Ivy McKenzie, C. G. A. Chislett and W. M. Buchanan.

Dr. Neil T. Kerr, Divisional Chairman, presided.

The minutes of last Divisional Meeting were read, approved, and signed by the Chairman.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Drs. John Keay, D. K. Henderson, J. H. Skeen, Prof. Robertson and Dr. R. Mary Barclay.

The SECRETARY explained that the meeting had been called, after consultation with the Chairman, to give members an opportunity of discussing the "Memorandum as to Duties of Medical Officer in Charge of Mental Health Services," issued by the Public Health Committee of the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh, and to take any action that might be decided upon in connection therewith.

The Memorandum is in the following terms :

" CITY AND ROYAL BURGH OF EDINBURGH.

" Memorandum as to Terms of Appointment and Duties of Medical Officer in Charge of Mental Health Services under the Public Health Department.

" 1. The Medical Officer to be appointed (hereinafter called ' the Medical Officer ') shall, under the Medical Officer of Health, have charge of the Mental Health Services of the Corporation. The Mental Health Services shall, in addition to Lunacy, include Mental Deficiency as defined in the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act, 1913.

" 2. Subject to what is stated in paragraph 1 hereof, the Medical Officer shall act as Medical Superintendent of the Mental Hospital of the Corporation known as Bangour Village.

" 3. The Medical Officer shall, under the Medical Officer of Health, have general direction of the institution for Mental Defectives at Gogarburn.

" 4. In the case of Bangour Village and Gogarburn Institution, the duties of the Medical Superintendent will be exercised subject to technical duties other than medical being carried out by the appropriate officials of the Corporation. In particular, the City Architect will have charge and supervision of all matters relating to maintenance, repair and alteration of buildings. Subject to provision being made for utilizing the services of patients as part of their treatment, the City Superintendent of Parks shall have charge of the maintenance and upkeep of the gardens and grounds, and a Farm Manager appointed by the Corporation shall have charge of the farms.

" 5. The Medical Officer shall also, under the Medical Officer of Health, have charge and control of any other Institutions or clinics provided by the Corporation as part of their Mental Health Services.

" 6. Generally, the Medical Officer shall carry out any other duties within the line of his profession which the Corporation or the Public Health Committee shall impose upon him.

" 7. The Medical Officer must be a fully qualified registered Medical Practitioner, with special experience in Mental Diseases and Institutional Administration."

" 8. The salary for the appointment shall be from £1,000 to £1,250 (with free house, coal and light and a non-pensionable allowance of £100 per annum for a motor car).

" 9. The Medical Officer will be subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909, or the Corporation Superannuation Scheme, as may be arranged.

" 10. The appointment of the Medical Officer will be terminable by three months' written notice on either side.

" 11. The Medical Officer shall give his whole time to the duties of his office. He shall not engage in any other business or accept any other appointment without the sanction of the Public Health Committee, but he may, with the consent of the Committee, accept any appointment as Professor or Lecturer in connection with the instruction of students, provided that such subsidiary appointment shall not in any way interfere with the carrying out of his primary duties as Medical Officer aforesaid.

" CITY CHAMBERS,
" EDINBURGH,
5th February, 1931."

" A. GRIERSON,
" Town Clerk.

At the Chairman's suggestion the Memorandum was discussed paragraph by paragraph, and the following opinions were unanimously expressed :

Paras. 1 and 2 : That the Medical Superintendent is the responsible official under the Lunacy Acts, and that the Medical Officer of Health has no status under these Acts. That Rule 2 of the General Rules for the Management of the Edinburgh District Asylum, made under 20 and 21, cap. 71, sec. 9, and approved by the General Board of Control and the Secretary for Scotland, lays down that the Medical Superintendent " shall be the responsible head of the Institution and shall act under the direction of the Board." That the General Board of Control is still the central authority.

Para. 3 : That a medical superintendent has already been appointed at Gogarburn,

and that, according to the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act (General Board's) Regulations, 1914, section 56, 1 (b), "The superintendent shall have paramount authority in the Institution, subject to that of the District Board."

Para. 4 : That this paragraph is at variance with Rule 3 for the Medical Superintendent of Bangour, which states, "He shall have the entire control of the whole establishment, and shall be responsible for the proper treatment and condition of the patients : for the state of the wards, buildings, and grounds." In general, that there can be only one head in an institution, and in particular, that the usefulness of the farm and garden as remedial agents and branches of the occupational therapy department would be imperilled if they were managed by outside officials, and that the work of the artisan staff has to be arranged to suit the general convenience of the institution.

Paras. 5, 6, 7 and 8 : No comment.

Para. 9 : That the Medical Officer of a rate-aided Asylum is compulsorily subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.

Paras. 10 and 11 : No comment.

It was unanimously agreed that the opinions expressed should be embodied in a letter, and placed before the General Board for Scotland, together with a copy of the Memorandum. The Secretary was instructed to draft such a letter, and after consultation with the Scottish members of Council attending the Quarterly Meeting in London, transmit it to the General Board at once.

The Secretary called attention to the report in the *Scotsman* of February 19 of the remarks of the Principal of Edinburgh University at the opening of the University Psychological Clinic for Children and Juveniles, at which, among other misstatements, he said that "our Asylums are no more use to us than our graveyards." The Secretary was instructed to write the Editor of the *Scotsman* pointing out that the statements were untrue, and that they would cause pain and offence to a large number of people.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the business of the meeting.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at Rosslynlee Mental Hospital, Rosslynlee, Rosslyn Castle, on Friday, June 5, 1931.

Present: Drs. W. McAlister, J. H. MacDonald, George Gibson, Wm. McWilliam, J. A. Jenkins, M. E. McLaren, T. R. C. Spence, W. J. Raitt, D. J. Forbes, J. H. Skeen, W. Boyd, R. Mary Barclay, Douglas McRae, R. Bailey, R. B. Campbell, F. E. Reynolds, J. H. C. Orr, Neil T. Kerr, W. M. Ogilvie and W. M. Buchanan.

Drs. J. K. Slater and J. M. Elliot were present as guests.

Dr. Neil T. Kerr, Divisional Chairman, presided.

Before taking up the ordinary business of the Meeting, the CHAIRMAN feelingly referred to the death of Dr. Hugh de Maine Alexander, who, as assistant to Prof. G. M. Robertson at Perth County Mental Hospital, Murthly, assistant to the late Dr. Reid at Aberdeen Royal Mental Hospital, and since 1906, shortly after the opening of the institution, as Medical Superintendent of the Aberdeen District Mental Hospital, Newmachar, had rendered valuable services to the care and treatment of the insane in Scotland. Dr. Alexander had been a member of the Association for thirty-two years, and took a keen interest in the affairs of the Scottish Division. Dr. DOUGLAS McRAE also paid tribute to the memory of Dr. Alexander, and spoke of his personal charm and character, and of the immense amount of undemonstrative work he had done for the Association in reviewing and abstracting books and articles for the *Journal of Mental Science*. It was unanimously resolved that it be recorded in the Minutes that the Members of the Scottish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association desire to express their deep sense of loss sustained by the death of Dr. H. de M. Alexander, and their sympathy with the members of his family in their bereavement, and the Secretary was instructed to send an excerpt of the minute to Mrs. Alexander.

The minutes of the last Divisional Meeting were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Apologies for absence were read from Drs. D. K. Henderson, C. G. A. Chislett and Donald Ross.

The Secretary reported that, as instructed at last meeting, he had written to the General Board of Control for Scotland in the following terms :

" KIRKLANDS MENTAL HOSPITAL,
" BOTHWELL,
" LANARKSHIRE ;
" 26th February, 1931.

" THE SECRETARY,
" GENERAL BOARD OF CONTROL FOR SCOTLAND,
" 25, PALMERSTON PLACE, EDINBURGH.

" SIR,

" I am instructed by the Scottish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to bring to your notice the enclosed ' Memorandum as to the Terms of Appointment and Duties of Medical Officer in Charge of Mental Health Services under the Public Health Department of the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh,' and to transmit the following observations thereon.

" With regard to Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Memorandum the Division would respectfully point out that under the Lunacy Acts the Medical Superintendent is the responsible official of an Asylum, and that there is no reference in the Acts to the Medical Officer of Health having any official status. In this connection the Division desires to refer to pages 8, 9 and 10 of the General Rules for the Management of the Edinburgh District Asylum (dated 22nd February, 1908) drawn up under 20 and 21 Vic., cap. 71, sec. ix, and approved by your Board and by the Secretary for Scotland, and also to the Mental Deficiency and Lunacy (Scotland) Act (General Board's) Regulations, 1914, para. 56, sec. 1 (b), and to point out that these paragraphs of the Memorandum appear to be at variance with the above quoted Rules and Regulations.

" Further, the conditions laid down in paragraph 4 of the Memorandum are, in the opinion of my Division, calculated to lead to difficulties in administration, as there can only be one responsible head in an Institution. It is greatly feared that the transfer of the management and supervision of the Farm and Garden from the Medical Superintendent to Corporation Officials would seriously imperil the scope and usefulness as remedial agents of these important branches of asylum occupational therapy, the importance and value of which has been long recognized and is specially referred to in the Sixteenth Annual Report of your Board.

" With regard to paragraph 9, the Division would be glad to know if it is not the case that the Medical Officer of a rate-aided Asylum is compulsorily subject to the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909.

" I am, Sir,

" Your obedient Servant,
" WM. M. BUCHANAN,
" *Divisional Secretary.*"

The following reply had been received :

" GENERAL BOARD OF CONTROL FOR SCOTLAND,
" EDINBURGH;
" 5th March, 1931.

" SIR,

" I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, enclosing Memorandum as to the Terms of Appointment and Duties of Medical Officer in Charge of Mental Health Services under the Public Health Department of the City and Royal Burgh of Edinburgh, and to inform you that the matter is receiving the careful attention of the Board.

" I am, Sir,

" Your obedient Servant,
" K. M. MACGREGOR,
" *For the Secretary.*"

Dr. McRAE considered that the details in connection with the Memorandum should be in the possession of every member, and the Secretary agreed to send to each member of the Division a copy of the relevant parts of the minute.

Dr. MACDONALD considered the reply of the General Board of Control unsatisfactory and suggested that the Board be pressed for a considered reply. Dr. CAMPBELL supported this view, and the Secretary was instructed to write the General Board asking for a considered reply to the points raised.

The SECRETARY further reported that Section 194 of the Draft Provisional Order dated April, 1931, promoted by the Corporation of Edinburgh, sought to exclude the Medical Superintendent of Bangour Village from the provisions of the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act (1909); that he had brought this matter to the notice of the Secretary of the Association's Parliamentary Committee; and that that Committee was arranging to oppose the Order in respect of this Section.

Dr. Douglas McRae and Dr. T. C. Mackenzie were unanimously elected Representative Members of Council for the year 1931-1932, and Dr. Wm. M. Buchanan was unanimously elected Divisional Secretary.

Dr. Douglas McRae was unanimously elected Chairman of the Division.

The following were unanimously nominated as members of the Mental Nursing Advisory Committee to the General Nursing Council: Prof. G. M. Robertson, Drs. Douglas McRae, T. C. Mackenzie, Donald Ross and W. M. Buchanan.

The Secretary submitted a letter from the Secretary of the Educational Committee dated May 26, 1931, intimating that that Committee had resolved to refer the question of the nomination of Examination Inspectors to the Divisions of the Association, and to ask for an expression of opinion regarding the number of inspectors required. After a discussion, in which the recent regulations for the Nursing Certificate were again criticized, the members present were unanimously of opinion that the appointment of an Examination Inspector was unnecessary in the Scottish Division, and none of those present were willing to accept nomination.

Members were kindly entertained to lunch, after which Mr. CHARLES BUCHANAN, Chairman of the Board of the Midlothian and Peebles Mental Hospital, welcomed the Division to Rosslynlee, and Dr. KERR thanked the Board and Dr. Orr and his staff for their hospitality, and for the arrangements made in connection with the meeting.

After lunch members were shown over the hospital by Dr. Orr and his assistant.

On the meeting reassembling, Dr. J. H. SKEEN showed an interesting case of encephalitis lethargica from New Saughton Hall. This patient had been originally looked upon as suffering from locomotor ataxia, but the absence of Argyll-Robertson pupils, the presence of the abdominal reflex, and negative specific serological findings, raised the question of encephalitis, and the remarkable mental and physical improvement on treatment by dry extract of stramonium confirmed that diagnosis. After Dr. SLATER had given the history and physical signs in detail the case was discussed by Drs. MCWILLIAM, BAILEY, McRAE and MACDONALD.

Dr. J. M. ELLIOT, the visiting dental surgeon, opened a discussion on "Focal Infection," in which Drs. McALISTER, McRAE, R. MARY BARCLAY, BUCHANAN and SPENCE took part.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the business of the meeting, after which members were kindly entertained to tea.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE.

A Complimentary Dinner was given to Sir James Crichton-Browne, F.R.S. Lond. and Edin., at the Langham Hotel, London, on Thursday, May 21, 1931. The chair was occupied by the President of the Association, Dr. T. SAXTY GOOD, O.B.E., M.A., who was supported by, among others, Lady Crichton-Browne, Dr. Percy Smith, Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones, Prof. George M. Robertson, Dr. Bedford Pierce, Dr. Menzies, Dr. J. R. Lord, Sir Hubert Bond, Sir William Job Collins, Dr. Gordon Holmes, Dr. Reginald Worth (General Secretary of the Association), and Dr. Nathan Raw, C.M.G. (Lord Chancellor's Visitor).

THE SPEECHES.

The PRESIDENT: Ladies and Gentlemen,—You are all aware why we have met together here this evening; it is to welcome and wish all prosperity to Sir James