

The justification, if one were needed, for invoking the assistance of the Board in the matter is the fact that, as the result of their action, a considerable number of men have been set free for the Army, admittedly not without somewhat increasing the anxieties of the Visiting Committees and their Medical Officers, but so far without untoward events.

The Council of the Association are in error in thinking (as is suggested by your letter) that the Local Tribunals have any power of exercising discretion outside the recommendations of the Board in dealing with asylum attendants as persons in a certified occupation, and, wherever it has come to the knowledge of the Board that any Tribunal has attempted to exercise any such discretion, the fact has not been allowed to pass unnoticed.

The inability of the Council to concur in the Board's opinion as to the principles of asylum management which should be followed in the present national crisis is, the Board think, to be regretted. It will be the duty of the Board, as well as of asylum authorities, firmly to exert their influence at the conclusion of the War to bring about a return to a proper standard, and in this they feel sure the co-operation of the Medico-Psychological Association may be counted upon.

I am to add that the Board of Control cannot accept the position which the Council of the Association take up, in attempting to express an opinion as regards the ability or willingness of Asylum Visiting Committees to place responsibility upon the Board in this matter. As a matter of fact, the Board are in possession of letters from a considerable number of Committees, in which the latter either invite the Board to assume such responsibility or express their satisfaction at the offer of the Board to do so.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

O. E. DICKINSON,
Secretary.

The Acting Hon. General Secretary,
Medico-Psychological Association
of Great Britain and Ireland.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the South Eastern Division was held at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, April 28th, 1916. Among those present were Drs. Baird, Bower, Ralph Brown, Earls, Haynes, J. M. Murray, Norman, Stewart, Watson, and J. N. Sergeant (Hon. Sec.).

The minutes of the last meeting, having been published in the Journal, were taken as read and confirmed.

Drs. R. Armstrong-Jones, Hubert J. Norman, T. E. K. Stansfield, and W. H. B. Stoddart were elected Representative Members of the Council, and Dr. J. Noel Sergeant Hon. Divisional Secretary for the year 1916-1917. Drs. Fuller, Higson, and F. Watson were elected members of the Divisional Committee of Management.

It was decided to hold the Autumn Meeting at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., on Wednesday, October 4th, 1916.

Dr. Hubert J. Norman then read his paper on "The Cerebral Complications of Raynaud's Disease."

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks to Dr. Norman for his interesting paper was carried by acclamation.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the above Division was held, by kind permission of Dr. MacBryan, at 17, Belmont, Bath, on Friday, April 28th, 1916.

The following Members were present: Drs. Bartlett, Norman Lavers, Legge, MacBryan, and Aveline, who acted as Hon. Divisional Secretary.

Dr. MacBryan was voted to the Chair.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Drs. Eager, Macdonald, and Soutar.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. G. N. Bartlett was appointed Hon. Divisional Secretary.

Drs. Norman Lavers and G. S. Pope were elected as Representative Members of Council.

Drs. Aveline and J. M. Rutherford were elected as Members of the Committee of Management.

The Autumn Meeting was fixed for Friday, October 27th, 1916, the place of meeting being left to the Hon. Secretary, and the Spring Meeting for Friday, April 27th, 1917.

The members present alluded to the loss sustained by the Division in the recent death of Dr. C. S. Morrison, and it was proposed that the Hon. Secretary be requested to convey their sympathies to Mrs. Morrison.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Northern and Midland Division was held, at the kind invitation of Dr. Hamilton Grills, at the County Asylum, Chester, on Thursday, April 27th, 1916. Dr. Hamilton Grills presided.

The following seven members were present: Drs. H. Dove Cormac, Graeme Dickson, G. Hamilton Grills, C. H. Gwynn, R. W. Dale Hewson, S. Rutherford Macphail, T. Stewart Adair.

Apologies were received from various members who were unable to be present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. T. Stewart Adair was unanimously re-elected Secretary for the ensuing twelve months.

Owing to the membership of the Division having fallen below 150, two Representative Members only can be elected to the Council. Dr. J. R. Gilmour and Dr. D. Hunter were unanimously re-elected, Dr. J. W. Geddes having withdrawn his name.

The kind invitations of Col. Vincent, to hold the Autumn Meeting, 1916, at the Wharnccliffe War Hospital (Wadsley Asylum), Sheffield, and of Dr. H. Dove Cormac, to hold the Spring Meeting, 1917, at the Cheshire County Asylum, Macclesfield, were cordially accepted. The dates were left to the Secretary to arrange.

Dr. Power, Senior Medical Officer, County Asylum, Chester, was proposed by Dr. Cormac as a Member, and duly seconded. The Secretary stated that this would be put through the Association in the usual way.

An interesting display of various articles of restraint used in the asylum, apparently prior to 1840, was made by Dr. Grills, who gave a short description of them. They included leather appliances for securing various parts of the body, leather gloves with and without handcuffs, iron belts, etc. An informal chat followed on the present difficulty of obtaining male staff, on the employment of female staff in male wards, and other subjects of administrative interest.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Grills for his kind hospitality.

ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of the Asylum Workers' Association was held on May 17th at the rooms of the Medical Society of London, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, the President (Sir John Jardine, Bart., M.P.) in the chair.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1915 (Abridged).

The Central Executive Committee, in submitting their Annual Report for 1915, are proud to be able to record the fact that the response of members of asylum staffs to the call of King and Country has been such as to have been unexcelled in numerical proportion by that of bodies of workers in any other professions or occupations. It was estimated in May last that considerably more than 2,000 attendants in asylums in England and Wales had joined the colours, as well as numerous clerks, artisans, etc. Since that time the numbers have been added to continually, and in many instances practically all the remaining workers of military