

## Part IV.—Notes and News.

### THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

#### QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the Association took place at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, on Wednesday, May 17th, 1933, the President, Dr. R. B. Campbell, occupying the chair.

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

#### OBITUARY.

The PRESIDENT said that he had to intimate, with great regret, the deaths of Dr. Edward N. Brush, an Honorary Member, and of Dr. Percy Hughes.

Sir HUBERT BOND said that Dr. Percy Hughes was almost his closest friend. They were not exactly contemporary at Edinburgh, he, Dr. Bond, being two years senior. It was through the speaker's brother's close friendship with Dr. Hughes that they became so well acquainted. Dr. Hughes' desire to join the medical staff at Bexley at its opening reflected the enthusiasm which dominated those years of his life, and many succeeding years too. He knew that at Bexley there were likely to be all sorts of new ideas, and that kind of thing suited him. He became a very able member of the staff there. One heard a good deal to-day about the occupation of patients, about "occupational therapy"; without attaching to it particularly the meaning usually carried by the phrase, Dr. Hughes threw himself most heartily, at Bexley, into the occupation of the patients, and much of the credit—and perhaps a little fame—which in those days attached to Bexley Mental Hospital was due to him. His ideas brought all sorts of new occupations into being. Then he was translated to Barnsley Hall in Worcestershire, and did his best to develop that Hospital along progressive lines. Until the end it was his earnest wish to maintain progress. To the very end, too, he was beloved by his patients and by his staff. As a member of the Board of Control Departmental Committee on Dietary, he showed great enthusiasm on behalf of the patients, and himself proved of great use to that Committee. His death was quite unexpected, and he, Dr. Bond, felt sure it was a very real loss to the specialty and the Association.

Dr. HAMBLIN SMITH, speaking of the late Dr. E. N. Brush, recalled that the latter had been an Honorary Member of our Association since 1902. Dr. Brush had made a great name for himself at the Department of the Insane of the University of Pennsylvania, and when the new hospital was opened at Baltimore he was appointed its first Superintendent. He worked up that hospital to be one of the leading hospitals in America. Possibly he was best known to members on account of his literary activities, for he joined the editorial board of the *American Journal of Insanity*—now the *American Journal of Psychiatry*—and for more than thirty years he was editor-in-chief; he only resigned his active connection with it two or three years ago. He remained in active work until the end of a long life; he had practically completed his eightieth year, and could be truly said to have died in harness, having been seeing patients until the last week of his life.

In him the Association had lost a valued Honorary Member and American psychiatry one of its prominent exponents; and American psychiatric literature had lost one who has probably done more for it than any living man.

Members present showed their sympathy by rising in their places.

The President requested the General Secretary to send a letter to the relatives of Dr. Hughes and Dr. Brush, expressing the Association's sympathy and condolence.

#### COUNCIL BUSINESS.

The President said that at the meeting that morning the Council had discussed a number of matters. The date of the Annual Meeting has been fixed for July 4th to 7th, to be held

at Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea. The President-Elect had made good progress with the arrangements, a preliminary notification of which had been issued.

Dr. W. J. Kimber was appointed the Association's representative on the Child Guidance Council.

The Council regretted that Dr. Charpentier had found it impossible to accept the Council's invitation to be present as the Association's guest at the Annual Meeting.

The Council considered a letter which had been received from the British Medical Association asking for a statement of the reasons which led the Association to express the opinion it did regarding the British Medical Association's Report. The Council gave full consideration to this matter, and it was finally decided to instruct the Secretary to reply to the British Medical Association stating that this Association's views had already been given at the meetings of the B.M.A. Committee which drafted the Report, and at the B.M.A. Annual Representative Meeting; and that if the British Medical Association wished to discuss the matter further, they might nominate a small number of representatives to meet and discuss the question with representatives of this Association. This was unanimously agreed to.

The Council agreed that a recommendation should be made to all Divisions to endeavour to have elections for membership considered at Divisional Meetings, instead of having them dealt with at the Quarterly Meetings of the Association. This would save a great deal of time at the General Meetings. This was agreed to.

The question of providing badges for Divisional Chairmen was also considered. Members would remember that this proposal was brought forward by the late Dr. Lord, and sanctioned by the Association in July, 1929. The Council now recommended that the Treasurer should be instructed to procure a suitable design—somewhat similar to the handsome ornament which decorated the neck of the President of the Association, but smaller, and with a distinctive ribbon, the colour suggested being crimson. This was agreed to.

#### ELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The PRESIDENT nominated Dr. McRae and Dr. Walk as scrutineers for the ballot. At first the ballot was taken *en bloc*, but as one black ball appeared, each candidate was voted for separately, with the result that the following were elected:

STEPHENSON, GEORGE VAUGHAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, The Priory, Roehampton, S.W. 15.

*Proposed by* Drs. J. Chambers, E. Mapother and B. W. Brown.

BUNBURY, DORIS ELIZABETH, M.B., B.S.Lond., Temporary Assistant Medical Officer Maudsley Hospital, London; 25, St. James's Square, Bath.

*Proposed by* Drs. T. Tennent, L. Minski and J. T. Harris.

DRUMMOND, PETER, M.B., Ch.B., Medical Superintendent, Mid-Wales Counties Mental Hospital, Talgarth, Breconshire.

*Proposed by* Drs. Ian Skottowe, M. R. Mackay and G. W. T. H. Fleming.

LEWIS, AUBREY JULIAN, M.D. Adelaide, M.R.C.P.Lond., First Assistant Medical Officer, Maudsley Hospital, S.E. 5.

*Proposed by* Drs. E. Mapother, T. Tennent and L. Minski.

TURNER, CYRIL EDWARD HEDGMAN, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Medical Officer, Leavesden Mental Hospital, Watford, Herts.

*Proposed by* Drs. R. M. Stewart, W. R. Ashby and R. B. Marsh.

CURRAN, DESMOND, M.B.Camb., M.R.C.P.Lond., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Maudsley Hospital, London, S.E. 5.

*Proposed by* Drs. T. Tennent, L. Minski and E. Mapother.

BENJACAR, EDGAR, M.D. Malta, Assistant Medical Officer, Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester.

*Proposed by* Drs. F. Douglas Turner, F. C. Osgood and A. G. Duncan.

PENROSE, LIONEL SHARPLES, M.A., M.D.Camb., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Research Medical Officer, Royal Eastern Counties' Institution, Colchester.

*Proposed by* Drs. E. O. Lewis, E. S. Litteljohn and F. Douglas Turner.

#### The Maudsley Lecture.

Members then adjourned to the Barnes Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, to hear the 14th Maudsley Lecture, delivered by Dr. Adolf Meyer, Chief of the Phipps Psychiatric Clinic, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, U.S.A., on "**British Influences in Psychiatry and Mental Hygiene**" (*vide* p. 435.)

Sir HUBERT BOND, K.B.E., proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer. After expressing the thanks of the audience to Dr. Meyer, first for a most memorable lecture, and second for his great kindness in taking the long journey from Baltimore in order to deliver it, he went on to say: We are glad, too, to recognize the fact that Dr. Meyer is no stranger in this country. Although an alumnus of the University of Zurich, which is his *Alma Mater*, and of which he is a Doctor of Medicine, he studied in both London and Edinburgh, and holds an honorary degree from the University of Glasgow. Whatever the length of his stay with us, we hope he will enjoy every moment of it.

Though this lecture, like a president's address, is not usually discussed—it is contrary to custom—I may perhaps be permitted a few remarks in support of my proposal. One of our Maudsley Lecturers, whose removal from our midst we still deplore, reverently, and in no spirit of jest, repeated Pilate's question, "What is Truth?" and he paused to find reply, and then proceeded to deal with the question in a really philosophic and beguiling fashion. To those of us whose work brings us into contact with nervous and mental illness, a question which has often been put is, "What is mental hygiene?" It is a profound question, and the more one gives heed to the matter the less easy is it to find a reply that comes near to satisfying one's sense of truth. First, it is not easy to assess either what health is or to determine what ought to be considered as departures from it; and we can add to it the difficulty that the noun is qualified by an adjective whose derivation—whether it be mind, or *the* mind, and quite apart from the Maudsleyan polemics waged half a century ago round the word "the"—involves considerations the most abstruse in all philosophy. Yet we thoroughly believe in mental hygiene as an entity to be attained and maintained, and as a subject for study. Hence our gratitude that someone has come forward and has provided us with a reason concerning the hope that is within us. There are those who, while interested in the subject, do not in reality appreciate its difficulties, and their interest, though genuine and active, is superficial, and mainly concerned with the borderland between what they consider to be normality and clearly recognizable mental illness.

Certainly we have been singularly fortunate in our orator and in his lecture. Prof. Adolf Meyer is acclaimed both as a psychiatrist and a neurologist, and the value of his contributions in both these spheres is everywhere acknowledged. It may not be generally known that the professor was, in his earlier years, Pathologist to the Illinois Eastern Hospital for the Insane at Kankakee, was later Director of Clinical and Laboratory Work at the Worcester Hospital for the Insane in Massachusetts, and, still later, was Director of the Institute of Psychiatric Pathology of the New York State Hospitals. Undeniably the experience of those twenty years must have been a grand foundation from which to develop the insight and skill required for the Directorship of the Henry Phipps Psychiatric Clinic. Could the grip that such basic experience affords be better put than in these four lines:

"If you would be famous  
And rich in splendid fruits,  
Leave to bloom the flower of things,  
And dig about the roots"?

To my mind, the lesson which this little quatrain contains, and which so often fails to get observance, but of which Prof. Meyer is so brilliant an example, is of the utmost importance to psychological medicine, and to the training of a psychiatrist; and, if I may add, to the exponent of mental hygiene.

Forgive me if, in now formally putting this resolution of thanks to you, which I know will be carried with acclamation, I express my deep regret that in this country our university and other medical schools are, with the exception of the Maudsley Hospital and perhaps Edinburgh, so completely lacking in institutes comparable with that associated with the name of Henry Phipps. Let us hope that this inspiring lecture will do something to remove this reproach.

Prof. D. K. HENDERSON, in seconding the vote, said: I consider it a very great privilege to be asked to second this vote of thanks; I say so because, standing here, I feel very much like a small boy standing in the presence of the headmaster. I started working with Prof. Meyer in 1908, and I had the pleasure of being associated with him during a period of six years—three in New York, three years later on at the Phipps Clinic, Baltimore—and I value this opportunity of expressing publicly the great debt I owe him personally, and the debt I feel that British psychiatry owes him. Because if one man more than any other—I am not comparing him with Kraepelin, Freud and others—in recent years has helped to bring a working conception of mental disorders into actual practical life, that man is Prof. Adolf Meyer. (Applause.) He has himself told you regarding his training, and he has expressed his gratitude to those teachers in this country with whom he worked as a colleague. I would like, on behalf of those British graduates who have had the privilege of working at the Phipps Clinic with Prof. Meyer and the wonderful organization which exists there, to express our thanks

to him, not merely for the work which we have had the opportunity of doing while there, but for the extraordinary hospitality which has been showered upon us while we have been in America. (Applause.) It is one thing to have the opportunity to work; it is quite another thing having the opportunity to work under the almost exceptional conditions that exist in the United States and especially under Prof. Meyer at the Phipps Clinic at Baltimore.

There is only one further point that I would like to mention. My response to hearing this lecture to-day is that I should like to hear not one, but a series of lectures developing the very wide perspective which Prof. Meyer has attempted, in his writings, to put before us. I do not think one can get that into a lecture, or even into a series of lectures; one has to work with the man to realize his bigness. But, failing that, one would wish that many of the extraordinarily interesting points which he has dwelt on this afternoon could be further elaborated and expanded. I shall merely mention some of the important clinical things. I would mention Prof. Meyer's work on the dynamic psycho-biological conceptions of mental disorders, which were formulated first in connection with the problem of the elucidation of dementia præcox and schizophrenia. And I would mention his work on personality studies, and his whole-hearted interest in social work, on psychiatry in relation to delinquency, and even in such practical matters as the development of occupational therapy, of drug therapy, and all the various isolated and detailed work which goes on, not merely in a psychiatric clinic, but in a mental hospital.

I do feel a debt of heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Meyer for everything he has done for psychiatry, and greatly privileged indeed to second this vote of thanks. (Applause.)

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

Prof. ADOLF MEYER, in reply, said: I prize this opportunity to say an additional word of thanks to Sir Hubert Bond and to my friend and pupil Dr. Henderson, and to say that while perhaps I have lingered a great deal on the memories of the past, there has been with me to-day very strongly a feeling of being together again with a great many of my younger friends. This friendly environment is probably the greatest opportunity and privilege of any worker. I refer to the group who do not come to one merely for opinions, but for discussion, and for the stirring of discussion, for keeping alive a something that is a communion of spirit and work. It is in that spirit I feel this occasion is one of those opportunities of getting together in which the ocean and accidents of time and space can be obliterated when one receives such an overwhelmingly warm welcome as you have given me to-day. And through the request to give the Maudsley Lecture there came to me that something, activating my mind, which wanted to express that unity of striving and that unity of satisfactions that constitutes our life. Thank you very much for your kind attention. (Applause.)

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#### SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the South-Eastern Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at Leavesden Mental Hospital, Abbots Langley, Watford, on May 12, 1933, by courtesy of the Visiting Committee and of Dr. R. M. Stewart.

Members and their guests inspected the hospital and grounds during the forenoon, and were afterwards entertained to lunch.

The following members were present at the meeting: Drs. F. Douglas Turner, G. W. B. James, R. M. Stewart, Daniel F. Rambaut, Thomas Lindsay, Norman Oliver, G. W. Smith, T. P. Rees, Cedric W. Bower, N. H. M. Burke, O. P. Napier Pearn, K. Paddle, A. C. Sinclair, P. M. Turnbull, H. G. L. Haynes, A. Walk, David Rice, E. D. T. Roberts, Noel Sergeant, M. A. Collins and R. M. Macfarlane.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.

It was agreed that the fixing of the date and place of the Autumn Meeting, 1933, and of the Spring Meeting, 1934, be left in the hands of the Divisional Secretary.

The following were elected members of the Divisional Committee of Management: Drs. Bower, E. D. T. Roberts, Robinson, Paddle, Haynes, Sinclair and Macfarlane.

The following Representative Members of Council were elected: Drs. Stewart, Roberts, Collins, Robinson and Rambaut.

Dr. Rambaut was elected Divisional Chairman.

Dr. Noel Sergeant was re-elected Secretary of the Division.

Dr. Sinclair was elected Examiner for the Preliminary Examination of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and Dr. Norman Phillips Examiner for the Final Examination.

It was agreed that the Division should entertain the Association to a Reception and Dance during the Annual Meeting at Clacton-on-Sea. The following Sub-Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements: Drs. Haynes, Bower, Robinson, Sinclair and Macfarlane.