

SCOTTISH ASYLUMS PATHOLOGICAL SCHEME.

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.

[Abridged.]

During the year valuable work, both in routine examinations and in research, has continued to be performed in the Laboratory, and the Board again express their appreciations of Dr. Reynolds's services.

From the accounts it appears that the revenue for the year amounted to £1,865 14s. 1d. and the expenditure to £1,176 4s. 7d., leaving a credit balance of £689 9s. 6d., or a surplus of £38 18s. 9d. on the year's working. The Medical Research Council renewed their annual grant of £200 to defray the expenses of the Pathologist's special research work.

At the Annual Meeting Dr. C. J. Shaw was unanimously elected Chairman for the ensuing two years in place of Dr. Douglas McRae, whose term of office had expired, and the Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Dr. Shaw, *Chairman*, Dr. R. B. Campbell, *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*, Profs. G. M. Robertson and J. Lorrain Smith, Drs. W. D. Chambers, W. M. Buchanan, Douglas McRae, and Ex-Provost Stark.

Dr. Reynolds has continued to conduct his course on neuropathology at Edinburgh University. He hopes in the coming year not only to extend the scope of the course, but to bring it into closer touch with the clinical teaching of neurology and psychiatry than has been possible hitherto.

The routine work of the Laboratory has increased, and the number of specimens reported on was 204. Dr. Reynolds visited a number of the contributing mental hospitals, and the Board emphasizes the value of these visits in keeping up an active relationship between the hospitals and the Laboratory.

The researches carried out by Dr. Reynolds and Dr. Logan Turner on "Paths of Infection of the Central Nervous System" have been concluded. Three further individual studies have been published (*Journ. of Laryngol. and Otol.*, xlii, Nos. 3 and 8, and xliii, No. 1), and a monograph is in course of preparation.

Dr. James K. Slater and Dr. Reynolds have published a paper on "The Structure and Functions of the Interstitial Tissues of the Central Nervous System" (*Edin. Med. Journ.*, February, 1928). This was a preliminary study to experimental work on the healing of lesions of the central nervous system. They have begun the latter work, and the progressive changes in the neuroglia so far demonstrated have satisfied them that the research will be of great value in elucidating the method of healing of lesions.

Several individual cases of disease of the nervous system have been investigated, and some of these will be published in due course.

 MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION.

MEMORANDUM ON THE WORK OF MEDICAL WOMEN IN MENTAL HOSPITALS.

The Medical Women's Federation desires to draw the attention of the public, especially the Committees of Local Authorities, governing mental hospitals, to the great need for the appointment of more medical women on the staffs of mental hospitals.

These hospitals in England and Wales now treat 60,824 male and 77,469 female patients, the medical officers being in the proportion of 503 male to 42 female doctors; in Scotland, 7,998 male and 7,753 female patients, with 78 men and 5 women doctors.

Difficulties with regard to the appointment of women have been raised, but it has been found that these have resolved themselves when the authorities of the hospital have been convinced that for the sake of the patients medical women are needed.

Medical women hold posts in the mental hospital service, public and private, not only in Great Britain and Ireland, but also in America, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, South Africa and Switzerland.

In advancing this memorandum the Medical Women's Federation wishes to make it clear that they suggest that the appointments of women should be on an equal basis with those of medical men, with equality of pay and opportunities of