

College Hospital, Denmark Hill. The Council of King's College (University of London) has now conferred upon him the title of Emeritus Professor of Psychological Medicine.

A TRIBUTE TO PROF. E. KRAEPELIN, OF MÜNCHEN.

PROF. E. KRAEPELIN, the great master of psychiatry, celebrates his seventieth birthday on the 15th of February, 1926. The number of those who wish to express their admiration of him on this day. Prof. Kraepelin has never valued social distinctions or wished for such; on the contrary he would be little pleased to receive them. But there exists a form which would enable us to show him our gratitude, which would give him the greatest satisfaction and at the same time would be a help to science. Kraepelin's life-work, the "Deutsche Forschungsanstalt für Psychiatrie in München" (German Institute for Psychiatric Research) is threatened with disaster owing to the fact that the foundation capital has become valueless. Our intention is to collect the capital to ensure the existence of the Institute, and to enable the Institute to erect its own house, a house in which Kraepelin and his co-workers can follow their aims, and which shall be carried on in days to come in the spirit of Kraepelin. We therefore invite you to co-operate with us, to subscribe a sum for the good work, and to induce men of the profession and relatives of mental defectives to follow your example. As it is intended to present the house as a birthday-gift and to open it on Kraepelin's seventieth birthday, we beg you to lose no time.

MÜNCHEN;

January, 1924.

Committee: E. BLEULER (Zürich), L. BOUMAN (Amsterdam-Valeriusplein), RAMON Y CAJAL (Madrid), SMITH ELY JELLIFFE (New York), C. U. ARIENS KAPPERS (Amsterdam), SHUZO KURE (Tokio), HENRY MARCUS (Stockholm), L. MERZBACHER (Buenos Aires), AD. MEYER (Baltimore), G. MINGAZZINI (Rome), SIR FREDERICK W. MOTT (London), F. PLAUT (München), E. RÜDIN (München), W. SPIELMEYER (München).

Donations to be forwarded to Sir F. W. Mott, F.R.S., 25, Nottingham Place, or to c/o Editors, *Journal of Mental Science*, Horton House, Epsom:

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY.

THE Library Committee are grateful to Dr. R. H. Cole for the presentation of his text-book on *Mental Diseases*.

The following books have been purchased and can now be obtained:

Problems in Dynamic Psychology. John T. MacCurdy. 1923.

Remembering and Forgetting. T. H. Pear.

Conflict and Dream. W. H. R. Rivers.

Benign Stupors. August Hoch.

Psychopathology. Edward J. Kempf.

Internal Secretions. Panton.

Functions of the Frontal Lobes. Bianchi.

Lunacy. Archbold.

Psychological Types. Jung.

Endocrine Diseases. William Falta.

February 22, 1924.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of THE JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE.

CHRONIC SEPSIS AND EPILEPSY.

GENTLEMEN,—With reference to Dr. Henry A. Cotton's paper published in October last, may I respectfully beg to point out that in the majority of epileptic cases as well as those of the so-called functional mental disorders a state of chronic sepsis is found. Invariably there is chronic muco-membranous colitis, the

faeces (from observation of specimens after irrigation) only passing through a small centre channel in the colon with complete stagnation at the bowel wall. This residue becomes the foci of coli poisoning affecting not only the solitary follicles and Peyer's patches, but also the splanchnic nerves, so that matters are made worse by decreased peristalsis.

Granted that there is an "explosive" type of cell in the brain cortex, I have concluded that the chronic sepsis may be the actual stimulus of an epileptic seizure. Therefore will colotomy or an equivalent operation to wash out the colon thoroughly not only greatly improve the mental condition of the patient, but practically eliminate the seizures also?

Personally I have found great improvement and very good results obtained by systematic irrigation of the colon—starting with single irrigations daily for the first week of saline fluid (1 drm. to a pint at a temperature of 100° F.), 3½ to 4 pints, after double irrigation at an interval of half-an-hour between—together with colon vaccines, thyroid extract, abdominal massage, and suitable dieting, "no red wines or red meat, etc.," at the same time with similar attention to the teeth and stomach outlined by Dr. Henry A. Cotton.

St. Ann's Asylum,
Trinidad;
March 24, 1924.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
HENRY WEATON.

OBITUARY.

CHARLES KIRK CLARKE, M.D.

Formerly Superintendent of the Toronto General Hospital, and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

We regret to report that Dr. C. K. Clarke passed away on January 20, 1924. Admittedly one of the greatest authorities on the therapeutics of insanity, he was a scholar from whose wells of knowledge it was the privilege of thousands to drink, and his death will create a loss in the medical and scientific world that will be mourned, not only in Canada, but in other countries, where his name was well known.

He had been ill with heart trouble since October and his death had been expected. The end came suddenly at 10.30 in the morning at his home.

No name stands out more illustriously in the history of the therapeutics of insanity in Canada than that of Dr. C. K. Clarke, who at the time of his death was Consultant in Psychiatry at the Toronto General Hospital. A man of many-sided activities, who vigorously pursued many lines of science and culture, he was specially recognized as one of the leading psychiatrists of the world. As a Medical Director of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene since June, 1918, Dr. Clarke visited every province in the Dominion for the purpose of improving conditions for the treatment and control of patients suffering from mental diseases. His works on insanity were accepted as standards.

Dr. Clarke was also well known as an expert alienist, an educational reformer, a naturalist, a musical amateur, a versifier, and an apostle of the outdoor. He was an authority on birds, and was President of the Bird Society of Ontario. As an authority on early Canadian literature or Canadiana, he made one of the finest collections in the country. He was a musician all his life. For many years he was a member of a string quartet of distinguished artists in Toronto, who played once a week, year in and year out. He was a keen participant in, and a follower of athletics throughout his life, and two of his sons were the most outstanding hockey players of the day.

When young Clarke entered the "Provincial Lunatic Asylum" as Clinical Assistant to Dr. Workman in 1874, psychiatry was practically an untrodden field. Dr. Workman, Superintendent at that time, was himself a pioneer in psychiatry, and had initiated radical reforms in the management and treatment of the insane. In order to appreciate the advance which has taken place in psychiatry since that date, the traditional function, both of asylums for the insane and their superintendents, must be recalled. Restraint of the insane was generally practised.