

that in certain well-defined cases it shall be compulsory on Justices to allow time in which to pay fines. In cases of fraud, theft, and embezzlement, magistrates should more often order compensation to be paid by the offender, by instalments, as in the case of civil debt. This course would supply the element of deterrence, now often felt to be lacking in the system of probation. Copies of the Statement of Policy of the Howard Association may be obtained on application to the Secretary at 43, Devonshire Chambers, Bishopsgate, E.C. 2.

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 OBITUARY.

JOSEPH WIGLESWORTH, M.D., F.R.C.P.,  
*Former Medical Superintendent, County Asylum, Rainhill, Liverpool.*

By GEO. H. SAVAGE.

One by one our senior fellows and former leaders are dropping off, and it is our duty to note and record the work they have done. Time passes so quickly that the milestones of progress are not noticed by the hurrying workers of to-day.

First I will refer to the official position of Dr. Wiglesworth.

After a distinguished studentship at Liverpool and St. Thomas's Hospital he was for a time House-Surgeon at the Royal Infirmary at Liverpool. He was then appointed Assistant Medical Officer, under Dr. Rogers, at the County Asylum, Rainhill, Lancashire. After some years he succeeded Dr. Rogers as head of the asylum, and was appointed Lecturer on Insanity at the Liverpool School of Medicine. He was President of the Association 1902-1903, and Member of the Neurological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. He contributed to Tuke's *Dictionary of Psychological Medicine* and to our Journal. He also wrote an article in *Brain* and contributed to the *Liverpool Medical Journal*. He was a regular attendant at the meetings and spoke occasionally at them.

Next I must refer to his original work. This was both pathological and clinical. He studied very carefully the histology of general paralysis of the insane, and described very accurately the vascular and other changes present in that disease. The relationship of it to syphilis had not been established, but Wiglesworth with some diffidence traced a connection between the two. Probably he will remain known as the first to point out that pachymeningitis is not an inflammatory disease, and all authorities now recognise his work on subdural hæmorrhages. He contributed several articles on the subject which appeared in the *Journal of Mental Science*. Another very important contribution by him was on adolescent insanity and the relationship of delusions and hallucinations to the mental disorders. He recognised the teaching of Hughlings Jackson showing that defect in the highest centres of control led to over-action of the lower centres, and he inferred that maniacal conditions depended on disorder in the highest centres. On the other hand, the mental affections chiefly marked by sensory disorders he believed to originate in disease of the organs of sense and their representative centres. This is certainly supported by the fact that there may be persistent hallucinations of all kinds without any apparent defect of memory or intellect apart from the delusions depending on the sensory disorders.

Wiglesworth contributed to the Journal various clinical records of interest. He supplied elaborate tables in reference to uterine disease and insanity—tables which are still of value. His observations and records are models of careful work whatever he did he did thoroughly.

As President of the Association he took for the subject of his address "Hereditarity and Evolution"—he was, at the time, a firm believer or follower of Weismann—but the most valuable part of the address was the special reference to the influence of the male and female parent on the neurotic tendency of the offspring. He confirmed the general belief that the mother passed on the neurotic taint to the female children more than to the males, and though the father did to some degree pass on a greater tendency to nervous disorders to sons than to daughters, yet the daughters run a great risk even from fathers.

He was not able to establish a special tendency to develop similar symptoms—that is, similar forms of disorder in parent and offspring.

He very distinctly believed in the transmission of certain acquired habits such as alcoholism, but I think he has hardly established his point, though I agree with him in believing that a general poisoning by alcohol or syphilis must affect the germ-plasm and thus the next generation.

Here, then, we have a brief outline of the work done for our branch of the profession, but for a complete knowledge I must refer to Tuke's *Dictionary*, to the index of our Journal, and to the index of *Brain*.

Wiglesworth proved himself to be a good administrator as well as a scientific worker.

He wrote on homicidal impulse apart from active symptoms of insanity, and by fate he nearly provided an example in himself. He was attacked by a patient who had prepared a sharp puncturing weapon. A wound in the neck was made dividing the external carotid. With great calmness he recognised the injury and compressed the vessels, and with the help of his colleagues controlled the hæmorrhage till a Liverpool surgeon came, who had to tie the common carotid. Wiglesworth recovered from the severe shock, but it seemed to leave him an older and altered man, and he retired on a pension.

Having discussed him medically it remains to describe the man and his other aspects. He was a shy, retiring man, and apparently rather weak of physical power, but in reality he had a great reserve of force, and he could undertake long and arduous walks and excursions in pursuit of his natural history hobbies.

He was not given either to sport or to general social pleasures. Married to a lady with similar tastes his home sufficed for him.

When at Rainhill he developed a very complete garden of British plants which were arranged according to their natural orders, and he made ingenious plans to suit each to its natural habitat. After retiring from active medical work he devoted himself to bird study, and became an authority on the birds of Somersetshire. He made an adventurous expedition to St. Kilda and wrote a book on its birds.

Thus life passed placidly till his only son was killed in the war. This was a crushing blow.

His end was characteristic of the man, as I have heard he was in pursuit of a kestrel's nest on the cliffs and fell, and his dead body was found at their base.

So ended almost as he would have wished it the active life of a scientific recluse.

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#### APPOINTMENTS.

Simpson, E. S., M.C., M.D.Edin., Medical Superintendent, East Riding Asylum, Beverley, Yorks, *vice* Dr. Archdale, resigned.

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#### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

*N.B.*—The Editors will be glad to receive contributions of interest, clinical records, etc., from any members who can find time to write (whether these have been read at meetings or not) for publication in the Journal. They will also feel obliged if contributors will send in their papers at as early a date in each quarter as possible.

Writers are requested kindly to bear in mind that, according to LIX(a) of the Articles of Association, "all papers read at the Annual, General, or Divisional Meetings of the Association shall be the property of the Association, unless the author shall have previously obtained the written consent of the Editors to the contrary."

*Papers read at Association Meetings should, therefore, not be published in other Journals without such sanction having been previously granted.*