

the most they were likely to get, and he would propose the resolution which he had read.

Dr. MACDONALD seconded the resolution. He hoped the Government would stick to their guns, and carry the Bill through.

Dr. BOWER—Is it clear that the allowance will be granted without any contribution?

Dr. BENHAM—Certainly. That was one reason why we were so unanimous in supporting the Bill.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE NEXT MEETING.

The HON. SECRETARY said the date of the next meeting, according to the present arrangement, would be Tuesday, October 18th. As to the place of meeting, he would suggest that it be referred to the Committee of Management.

The suggestion was adopted.

PAPERS READ.

Dr. NOOTT read a paper on "Points of Similarity between Epileptic and Alcoholic Insanity" (see p. 492), and Dr. BLACHFORD communicated an "Analysis of the Causes of Insanity in One thousand Patients" (see p. 500).

VOTE OF THANKS.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sankey for his kindness to the members of the division that day. (Applause.) To him it was especially gratifying to meet Mr. Sankey after so many years, and to find him in such excellent health and spirits. He was sure it was as much a pleasure to Mr. Sankey to meet his colleagues of the specialty that day as it was in the days of long ago. This was an anniversary season with Mr. Sankey, for on the following day it would be forty-four years since he was appointed to this important institution. They were also very much indebted to Mr. Sankey for his presentation to the Association library of the *Journal of Mental Science* from the beginning, and now accessible to all the members. (Applause.)

The proposition was carried by acclamation.

Mr. SANKEY, in acknowledging the compliment, said it was exactly forty-three years ago since the last meeting of the Association at Littlemore, and the only gentleman living that he could call to recollection who was present beside himself was their late consulting surgeon, Mr. Hussey, who was now in his eighty-third year. In conclusion he proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Urquhart for presiding. (Applause.)

The proposition was carried *unâ voce*, and duly acknowledged.

In the evening the members and several visitors dined together at the Mitre Hotel, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of the South-Eastern Division of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at the Middlesex County Asylum, Wandsworth, S.W., on April 20th. From 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. members were shown round the main asylum, annexe and grounds by Drs. Hill, Rolleston, Ewbank, and Worth. From 1.30 to 2.30 p.m. members partook of light refreshments, at 2.30 p.m. the Divisional Committee of Management met, and at 3 p.m. the General Meeting took place. Present: Drs. Fletcher Beach, J. M. Moody, C. H. Bond, E. W. White, H. Gardiner Hill, C. Rolleston, G. E. Mould, A. Maclean, A. F. Stocker, H. Rayner, W. J. H. Hasted, F. H. Edwards, G. E. Shuttleworth, J. S. Tuke, A. G. Ewbank, A. S. Newington, D. Bower, D. J. Thomson, H. A. Kidd, A. N. Boycott, and Stilwell. Dr. Hill was voted to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said the next duty was the nomination of Honorary Divisional Secretary for the year 1898-9. It was proposed that Dr. White be re-elected, and reference was made to the fact that this branch of the Association had been most prosperous during his tenure of office, and also to the admirable way in which he had performed his work. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Dr. WHITE thanked the members for re-electing him, and promised that he would do his duty in the future as he had endeavoured to do it in the past.

The question of retiring members of the Divisional Committee was next considered.

Dr. RAYNER expressed his wish to be permitted to retire.

An election took place by ballot, and Drs. Moody and Beach were appointed scrutineers.

The result of the election was that the following members of committee continued in office: Drs. Bower, Boycott, Newington, Moody, Swain, and Thomson; while the retiring members were Mr. Bayley, and Drs. Rayner and Turner.

ELECTION OF THREE MEMBERS OF DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

The election of three members of Divisional Committee to fill the vacancies created by ballot then took place.

The HON. SEC. said it was necessary to replace those members who left, by electing members with similar interests. With regard to registered hospitals, Dr. Percy Smith would be very pleased to succeed Mr. Bayley. As regards the other vacancies he had no suggestions to make, as he had not heard the wishes of members.

Dr. BOWER proposed, in the place of Dr. Rayner, Dr. Outterson Wood, who had taken great interest in the Association.

Dr. BEACH seconded.

The HON. SEC. explained that the third must be an assistant medical officer.

Dr. MOODY proposed, and Dr. TUKE seconded, Dr. Bond of Banstead Asylum. As no other names were suggested for election, the chairman put these to the meeting, and they were carried unanimously.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL.

The HON. SECRETARY said the two names submitted to the Council last year for nomination to fill vacancies upon that body at the Annual Meeting were Dr. Moody and Mr. Bayley, with the result that Dr. Moody had been elected on the Council.

Dr. THOMSON proposed that the names of Mr. Bayley and Dr. Chambers be submitted at the next Annual Meeting to fill vacancies on the Council.

Dr. TUKE seconded, and it was carried.

REGULATIONS FOR NURSING CERTIFICATE.

The HON. SECRETARY said with regard to the proposed amended regulations for the Nursing Certificate, the principal alterations were the extension of the time of service from two to three years, and the increase of fee from 2s. 6d. to 5s.; and it was for the meeting to decide whether to discuss them in detail or to appoint a sub-committee.

Dr. BOWER stated that the South-Western Division, and also the Scottish Division, had come to a definite conclusion, and thought it desirable that the South-Eastern Division should do so.

The HON. SECRETARY then read to the meeting the Schedule of proposed new regulations.

After some discussion the Chairman said, in order to clear the way, it would be best to decide whether to discuss the matter now, or to refer it to a sub-committee.

It was proposed by Dr. MOULD, and seconded by Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH, that the matter be discussed at the present time.

An amendment was moved by Dr. HAZLETT, and seconded by Dr. S. STILWELL, that the matter be referred to a sub-committee, with power to act.

The amendment was lost, and the discussion took place.

The HON. SECRETARY said that with regard to the two or three years, he was in favour of three years, and he could speak with experience, as his asylum was one of the first to take up training, to hold examinations, and to issue certificates of its own before the Association started its certificate. He thought two years an insufficient time. Nurses and attendants who obtained the certificates and medals received extra pay, in many asylums as much as £2 a year extra. They could get employment in public work, and in private cases, and as these certificates were so valuable, it was desirable that the examination should be of a high standard, and he would speak in the strongest terms possible in favour of three years.

It was proposed by Dr. BEACH, and seconded by Dr. THOMSON, that the time be extended to three years.

An amendment that it be two years was moved by Dr. RAYNER, and seconded by Dr. BOWER, and lost.

The members voted as follows:

In favour of time being increased from two to three years, 10; against, 6; the resolution being carried.

The CHAIRMAN said the next point was whether examiners should be appointed by the Council for the special purpose.

Some discussion arose as to whether two examiners would be sufficient for the whole of England.

Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH explained that the desire of appointing two examiners was to obtain a standard of uniformity.

After further discussion the HON. SECRETARY spoke of the varying standards of excellence which existed under the present system, where those who prepared the candidates provided their own examiner. If two General Examiners were appointed by the Association their fees would have to be paid.

After further discussion it was proposed by Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH, and seconded by Dr. WHITE, that the suggested amended regulation on this point be approved and submitted to the Council.

Dr. BOWER moved and Dr. HALSTED seconded an amendment that the Division approves of the present regulations, with the exception that the assessors be in future appointed by the Council, instead of by the Medical Superintendent presenting candidates.

The amendment was lost, and the resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

The next point considered was the proposed increase of the fee for examination to 5s.

Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH proposed and Dr. BOWER seconded that the fee be increased from 2s. 6d. to 5s.

Dr. MOULD moved an amendment that it stand as at present, but there being no seconder the amendment was not put.

The HON. SECRETARY said the fee should be commensurate with the labour involved, and he thought it should be increased to 5s.

The motion was put and carried.

The HON. SECRETARY asked the Chairman to put the whole of the resolutions with regard to the Nursing Certificate to the meeting *en bloc*.

It was then proposed by Dr. GARDINER HILL that these drafted amended regulations be approved *en bloc*, and submitted to Council.

Dr. TUKE seconded, and the motion was carried.

Dr. TUKE said he understood that this would all be again discussed in July, when the opinions of the other divisions had been given.

THE LUNACY BILL, 1898.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the consideration of the Lunacy Bill, 1898, and the Pensions question.

The HON. SECRETARY said the Bill had now appeared as the Lunacy Bill, 1898,

and was introduced by the Lord Chancellor. It was for them to consider whether it was necessary to send any report on the matter, but anything they wished to do must be done to-day.

Dr. BOWER asked for the conclusions of the Parliamentary Committee.

Dr. BEACH said the Committee had come to the conclusion that they would approve the Pension clause, and that with reference to injury. They did not agree that the urgency order should be reduced from seven days to four, because in the country there was great difficulty in getting magistrates to sign petitions. Two ways that might obviate the difficulty, if the Bill were introduced, were for all Justices to sign orders, or for a list of the authorised Justices to be kept at the Commissioners' office, but they strongly objected to the time being reduced. As to the paying of patients, he had sent out to all asylums questions as to the opinion of superintendents on the matter, and of the replies already received far more were against paying than in favour of it. He said the Act also stipulated that no superintendent of an asylum should be permitted to move patients from one part of the asylum to another without the permission of the Commissioners in Lunacy. This he characterised as absurd, as, in the event of an epidemic breaking out, the patients could not be removed to the infirmary.

The HON. SECRETARY, in reply to question, said payment for work done was optional in the Bill, but it would create great difficulty with patients who at present work well if the money were granted to those who do but little. Working patients are now remunerated by luncheons, tobacco, picnics, and other privileges.

Dr. RAYNER spoke of the difficulty of scheduling the work done.

The HON. SECRETARY said he had spoken very strongly against the clause, as the only member from this Division of the County and Borough Asylums on the Parliamentary Committee. Dr. Benham and he stood very firmly against it, and believed in doing so they were representing the opinion of medical superintendents throughout the country.

Dr. RAYNER said the proposal of payment should be approached from a wide point of view, and thought members should be very careful before giving it a direct negative.

The HON. SECRETARY thought it very desirable that the meeting should express an opinion on the matter. He himself was in favour of remuneration by going out to picnics, luncheons, tobacco, &c., as more suitable than money payments, which would cause dissatisfaction and jealousy amongst patients generally, and even aid escapes.

Dr. MOODY was opposed to remuneration, as, on account of the size of his asylum, the matter would have to be trusted to subordinates, which he did not consider desirable.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he agreed with Dr. Moody, but thought it would be very desirable that the Parliamentary Committee should recommend an amendment to the clause to enable the Visiting Committee to be empowered to remunerate patients on discharge out of the County Maintenance Fund on the recommendation of the Medical Superintendent. This he said would not be ignoring the liberal tendency that the Bill indicated, but would be making some use of it. He mentioned that the Middlesex County Asylum had the advantage of a large benevolent fund called the Queen Adelaide Fund, which had been of great benefit to patients on discharge.

The HON. SECRETARY seconded this proposal, and spoke of the benefit rendered to patients by a benevolent fund at his asylum.

The resolution that the Visiting Committee be empowered to remunerate patients for their labour on discharge, on the recommendation of the Medical Superintendent, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The HON. SECRETARY said it is taken that the present clause be not agreeable to the division. This was carried.

A discussion took place with regard to the clause of the Bill shortening the period of an urgency order from seven to four days, and several members drew attention to the great inconvenience it would cause.

The HON. SECRETARY stated that he was led to believe the Lord Chancellor was very decided on this matter, as he thought the urgency order had been used in some cases where it should not have been, and his idea seemed to be to reduce the number of urgency orders.

Dr. BOWER thought the action of the Lord Chancellor need not prejudice the meeting expressing its opinion. He drew attention to the difference between English and Scottish law, and thought that what might work well in Scotland might work very badly in England.

Dr. NEWINGTON described the difficulty that often existed in a country district in finding a magistrate, it frequently being necessary to come into a London district to secure one. Dr. Bower proposed and Dr. Rayner seconded, that the Parliamentary Committee be informed that the opinion of this division is against the reduction of the urgency order from seven to four days. The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN asked if any gentleman had anything to say about any other clause save that dealing with the pensions. No other point was brought forward.

The HON. SEC. then spoke of the Pension scheme in the Bill. He drew attention to the similarity of the clause to a proposal of his made ten years ago. He stated that it fixes the minimum, leaves a sliding scale for merit in the hands of committees, does not interfere with vested interests in county and borough asylums like his own, and stated he was very strongly in favour of it. He added that it remained for the meeting to discuss the matter, and for him to report upon it to the Parliamentary Committee. He further stated that no deduction would be made from salaries, and that pensions would not be calculated from aggregate service, as is the case under the Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Act, 1896.

Dr. BEACH, in reply to a question, said he understood from the general body of the Parliamentary Committee, that no deductions would be made.

The CHAIRMAN asked if it was the feeling of the meeting that they approved of Clause 20 referring to pensions. The feeling of the meeting was that it was approved of. Clause 21 referring to injuries was also considered, and approved with the following amendment.

Dr. MOODY drew attention to the word "may" in the injury clause of the Pension scheme, and asked whether it should not be "shall."

The CHAIRMAN thought that as it was a small remuneration they might ask for "shall," Dr. Moody then proposed and Dr. Bower seconded that the word "shall" be substituted for the word "may," the clause to read "The Visiting Committee shall grant out of the County and Borough Fund." The motion was carried.

NEXT MEETING.

The HON. SECRETARY said it was considered desirable by the Divisional Committee of Management that visits should be made north and south of the Thames alternately. It would be necessary to go north this time, and it was thought advisable if there was an offer, to visit a private asylum. Dr. Bower, acting on this suggestion, had invited the division to Bedford on the 10th October, the second Monday in the month. The day was changed from Wednesday to Monday, as some members had found the former inconvenient.

Dr. MOODY proposed and Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH seconded, that the division accept Dr. Bowers' kind invitation to Bedford. Carried.

Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH read a paper on "Industrial Training of Imbeciles" (see page 531).

Dr. ALLAN-MACLEAN's paper was postponed until the next meeting of the Division, from want of time.

Dr. THOMSON proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Hill, and spoke of the excellent condition of the Middlesex County Asylum.

Dr. BEACH seconded, and remarked that the present state of the building showed the effect of a good administrator who was always at work.

Dr. HILL thanked the members for their kind expression of feeling, and said that he considered it an honour to be visited by the South-Eastern Division of the Association. In the evening the members dined together at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of this division was held at the Lunatic Hospital, Cheadle, near Manchester, May 25th, 1898.

Members present: G. W. Mould, Henry J. Mackenzie, C. K. Hitchcock, C. H. Gwynn, W. H. B. Stoddart, David Nicolson, J. Sutcliffe, W. S. Kay, G. E. Mould, H. C. Halstead, P. G. Mould, Crochley Clapham, and two visitors—Frank A. Gill and D. C. M. Lunt.

Dr. G. W. Mould was voted to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, it was explained by the SECRETARY that owing to the late fixture of the present divisional meeting the Council of the Association had been obliged to proceed with the selection of members to represent the division on the Council, and of a member to act as Hon. Sec. to the Northern and Midland Division for the coming year, viz. T. S. Sheldon, M. Macclesfield, and A. W. Campbell, M.D., Rainhill, for the Council, and Crochley Clapham, M.D., Rotherham, as Hon. Sec. These selections were approved by the meeting.

Proposed by the HON. SEC., seconded by Dr. W. SMITH KAY, and carried unanimously, "that future Spring Meetings of the Division be held in April instead of May."

Lunch was kindly provided by Dr. Mould before the meeting, and afterwards members were shown round the hospital and associated residences by the staff. In the evening the members dined together, at Dr. Mould's invitation, in the ball-room of the hospital.

REGULATIONS FOR NURSING CERTIFICATE.

Dr. CLAPHAM having opened the discussion by a *résumé* of the alterations proposed—

Dr. GILBERT MOULD said that, so far as the appointment of two examiners for the papers for the whole of the country was concerned, it was an excellent alteration, for it insured uniformity of judgment. At present the papers were set by one set of examiners, and examined by persons of different systems, probably taking different views of what the questions meant, and to what standard they should conform. It was still proposed to leave the *virâ voce* examination in the same state,—that was to say, that the superintendent of the asylum, together with an assessor, should conduct it as heretofore. It was quite obvious that was also perfectly reasonable. They could not appoint two examiners to examine *virâ voce* all the candidates in the kingdom, but two could quite easily examine all the papers. He thought the number of candidates was greater than 600—that was only, he believed, for a single examination. He thought the number of candidates who passed during the year amounted to several thousands, but, however that might be, that was comparatively a small number. He thought that 2s. 6d. was quite sufficient for the fees. Five shillings was more than those people might care to pay. Of course the argument for the increase in the fees was that they would be necessary in order to remunerate the examiners for their time and labour. That might or might not be so. On the whole, he would say that 2s. 6d. was quite enough for the fee,