

The resolution of thanks was then put, and cordially carried.

The PRESIDENT thanked the meeting for the way in which his paper had been received. There was probably much in it which could not be fully accepted, but a little difference of opinion on matters under discussion was not unwholesome.

JOHN FREDERICK BRISCOE, M.R.C.S., "Appendicitis in Asylums" (see p. 622). The paper was discussed by the PRESIDENT, Sir GEORGE SAVAGE, Mr. BUCKELL, Dr. PERCY SMITH, Dr. BLAIR, Mr. WALLACE, Mr. HOWELL, and Dr. MENZIES. Dr. BRISCOE replied.

Dr. MCKINLEY REID, M.B., "Bacteriology of Forty Cases of Diarrhœa, with Special Reference to Asylum Dysentery." The paper was discussed by Dr. MENZIES, Dr. POPE, and Dr. GOODALL. Dr. MCKINLEY REID replied.

SECOND DAY.

The PRESIDENT, Dr. SOUTAR, was in the Chair.

Dr. THEO B. HYSLOP read a paper on "The Mental Deficiency Bill, 1912" (see p. 548). This led to a very valuable discussion on the legislative proposals for the care and control of the mentally defective, in which the following took part:—The PRESIDENT, Dr. SPENCE, Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH, Dr. LANGDON DOWN, Dr. DOUGLAS TURNER, Mr. C. H. DEAVIN, Dr. BOWER, Dr. AUDEN, Dr. GILL, Dr. WOLSELEY LEWIS, Dr. WILLIAM R. DAWSON, Dr. DRAPES, Dr. NEEDHAM, Dr. HAYES NEWINGTON, Dr. HARRY CORNER, Dr. MIDDLEMASS, and Dr. MCRAE. Dr. HYSLOP replied.

During the course of the discussion the two following resolutions were carried unanimously.

(1) "That we, the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, cordially endorse the action of our Irish Division in endeavouring to have the provisions of the Mental Deficiency Bill extended to Ireland, and we would urge upon the Government the necessity of introducing into the Bill the modifications necessary for that purpose."—Proposed by Dr. DAWSON and seconded by Dr. DRAPES.

(2) "That a deputation to be chosen by the President, past President, and President-elect, be appointed to wait on the Home Secretary and any other Government official whom it is thought desirable to interview, to lay before them the views of this Association, so far as they have been expressed, respecting the Mental Deficiency Bill."—Proposed by Dr. MIDDLEMASS and seconded by Dr. MCRAE.

THANKS.

Dr. HAYES NEWINGTON said he knew that the meeting would wish to pass a hearty vote of thanks to their hosts for their kindness in permitting the Association to hold its meetings in the Guildhall. Nobody knew the amount of good which was done by the cordial receptions which the Association experienced at the hands of high authorities. Such things made the work easier, and he believed it improved the status and quality of the work. It was also usual to congratulate the President on a successful meeting. He could personally congratulate Dr. Soutar on his address, and he would add to that an appreciation of his kindness in making such preparations for the meeting as he had done.

Dr. DAWSON seconded the vote of thanks with much pleasure and it was carried by acclamation.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE Summer meeting of the Irish Division was held at Londonderry District Asylum on July 2nd, 1912, by the kind invitation of Dr. Hetherington.

Dr. W. R. Dawson, President, occupied the Chair, and there were also present Drs. Hetherington, Nolan, Greene, Oakshott, O'Doherty, Plummer, and Leeper, Hon. Sec. Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were read from Drs. Drapes, William Graham, Lawless, Courtenay, Moore (Letterkenny), O'Mara (Ennis), and F. E. Rainsford.

The minutes of the previous meeting and of the special meeting were read and

signed. A letter from Mrs. Cullinan acknowledging the resolution of sympathy in her bereavement was read. Letters were read from the Chief Secretary for Ireland and from members of Parliament in reply to the communications addressed to them enclosing resolutions passed at the previous meeting relative to the Asylum Officers Pensions and Employment Bill. Dr. Hetherington, having been duly nominated, was elected representative member of Council to succeed Dr. Drapes, who had been elected co-editor of *The Journal of Mental Science*.

Dr. Gervase Scroope, Resident Assistant Medical Officer, Central Asylum, Dundrum, having been proposed and seconded and balloted for, was declared unanimously elected an ordinary member of the Association.

The meeting next proceeded to consider the possible extension of the Mental Deficiency Bill to Ireland, and the Hon. Secretary submitted an explanatory statement which had been drawn up by the sub-committee appointed at the Special Meeting to consider the matter, and read replies from the Chief Secretary for Ireland, members of Parliament, and the secretaries of the Philanthropic Reform Association and of the county councils, all of whom were favourable to the extension of the Bill to Ireland.

Copies of resolutions from Downpatrick, Londonderry, and Carlow District Asylum Committees were read, and it was noticed with pleasure that these were strongly in favour of proposed extension. It was reported that similar resolutions were passed at Londonderry, Enniscorthy and Richmond Asylums, whilst other asylum committees were at present considering the subject, and were favourable to the Bill's extension to Ireland.

A lengthy discussion followed, in which the President, Dr. Nolan and Dr. Greene took part.

Dr. Nolan proposed to endeavour to estimate the amount of money which would be requisite in order to include Ireland in the Bill, and as the sum of £150,000 was named for England and Scotland it might be expedient to name a sum for Ireland to enable the Bill to be applied efficiently to this country.

Dr. Greene considered it more expedient to leave the matter in an indefinite way for the present, and this was finally agreed to.

A further report of the sub-committee was submitted with suggestions for the modification of the clauses of the Bill so as to render it applicable to Irish procedure and the existing state of the law in this country.

This statement was read and carefully considered by the members, and a resolution was proposed by Dr. HETHERINGTON and seconded by Dr. OAKSHOTT and passed unanimously: "That these amendments to the Mental Deficiency Bill, adapting the Bill to Irish conditions, drawn up by the Sub-Committee, be approved of."

The PRESIDENT kindly gave most valuable information as regards the Bill and its chance of passing into law.

Dr. O'DOHERTY read a paper on "Some Features of the Recent Enteric Epidemic in Omagh," which was fully discussed by the members present.

Dr. HETHERINGTON gave his experience of a similar but more virulent epidemic which occurred at Londonderry Asylum some years ago, and which was caused by a defective system of drainage. He said that the appearance of rats in an asylum was very serious and nearly always indicated that the drain-pipes were improperly jointed; the drainage in his asylum had been relaid in consequence of the epidemic and there had not been any cases of enteric fever or serious attacks of erysipelas amongst the patients for many years.

Dr. GREENE spoke of his experiences of an epidemic of typhoid fever at Ennis Asylum. In this epidemic no typhoid bacilli were found in the water supply; the possibility of a typhoid carrier being in the asylum at the time was suggested.

The various tests used in the diagnosis of enteric were discussed. Dr. LEPPER said that in his limited experience much faith could not be placed in the Widal reaction. As the early recognition of the presence of enteric in an asylum community was all-important, these various pathological tests for enteric fever were most interesting and an important study.

Dr. O'DOHERTY had noticed several cases of marked improvement in the mental symptoms and even recovery in these enteric cases, as the apparent result of the febrile states produced in the patient. The treatment of insanity by the exhibition of thyroid extract was considered in connection with these recoveries.

Dr. NOLAN thanked Dr. O'Doherty for his paper and said that he considered patients in the Omagh Asylum were particularly fortunate in having such a careful observer and skilful physician to attend them.

The PRESIDENT paid a warm tribute to the efficient manner in which this severe epidemic had been dealt with by the staff of Omagh Asylum.

Dr. O'DOHERTY thanked the members for their reception of his paper and replied to the various points raised in the discussion. He stated that he set great value on the Widal reaction when confirmed by other tests. The drains at Omagh Asylum had been recently laid but jointed with Portland cement, which had cracked, causing leakage. Medina cement was now considered better than Portland for this purpose.

Dr. PLUMMER exhibited scissors which he had designed for possible use in asylums. The points were blunt, and by a blocking arrangement at the joint the scissors could only be opened sufficiently to allow of thin material being cut. Dr. Plummer stated that he was engaged upon the construction of a better working model.

Dr. HETHERINGTON hospitably entertained the Division at luncheon.

The PRESIDENT proposed the health of Dr. Hetherington, and thanked him for the hospitable manner in which he had entertained the Division at Londonderry; the toast was most cordially received by the members present, and Dr. Hetherington returned thanks in a kindly appreciated speech.

After luncheon, the members, under the guidance of Dr. Hetherington and his staff, visited the New Branch Asylum and spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner was held on Thursday evening, in the Guildhall, and there were about seventy present. Dr. SOUTAR presided. Among the guests were the High Sheriff of Gloucestershire (Mr. Jenner Fust), the Deputy-Mayor of Gloucester (Mr. Bruton), Mr. Hyett (Chairman of Quarter Sessions), Mr. Colchester-Wemys (Chairman, County Council), Mr. E. S. Hartland, and Mr. Sheffield Blakeway.

THE TOASTS.

THE KING.

The PRESIDENT, in submitting this toast, stated that wherever Britons were gathered together it was sure, without a word from the proposer, of being received with acclamation.

THE QUEEN, QUEEN ALEXANDRA, THE PRINCE OF WALES, AND THE REST OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The PRESIDENT next proposed this toast, pointing out how their Royal Highnesses had added dignity to their high estate by the interest they always took in the joys and sorrows of the people, by which means they had won for themselves the love of the nation. The toast was musically honoured.

THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The HIGH SHERIFF OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE (Mr. JENNER FUST) said that when he was invited to be present at this gathering he esteemed it a very high honour, and he did not think there was an honour still higher in store for him, namely, to propose success to the Association. The history of the Association was well known to those who were connected with it, but for the benefit of those who were not members of it, but were partaking of its hospitality, he might observe that, like many other great things, it had its origin in small beginnings. About seventy years ago a few gentlemen met together occasionally, at each other's houses, in order to discuss points of interest in respect to the care and treatment of the insane. They derived considerable benefit from that interchange of opinion, and they were