

It was well attended, and among those present was Lord Sandhurst, one of the Lord Chancellor's Visitors-in-Lunacy.

The members were shown round the hospital and grounds, and were then entertained to lunch, at the conclusion of which Lord Sandhurst proposed the health of Dr. Turnbull, to which the latter replied.

The meeting was held at 2.45 p.m.

Dr. Percy Smith took the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting, having appeared in the Journal, were taken as read and confirmed.

Drs. Noel Sergeant, A. Helen Boyle, A. A. W. Petrie, R. C. Turnbull and H. Wolseley-Lewis were elected Representative Members of the Council for the year 1925-26, and Dr. Noel Sergeant Honorary Divisional Secretary.

Drs. J. D. Burke, R. C. Turnbull and Isabel G. H. Wilson were elected members of the Divisional Committee of Management.

Drs. B. F. Home and E. Lincoln Williams were elected members of the Association.

It was left to the Secretary to arrange the Autumn Meeting. (It has since been arranged to hold the Autumn Meeting at "Swaylands," Penshurst, Kent, the precise date in October to be decided upon later.)

Dr. GORDON MASEFIELD read his paper entitled "Observations on a Mental Hospital Death-Rate," which was followed by a discussion in which Drs. BARHAM, DIXON, G. W. SMITH, R. PERCY SMITH and NOEL SERGEANT took part. Dr. MASEFIELD replied.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Turnbull, and the members were then entertained to tea by Dr. and Mrs. Turnbull.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held, by the courtesy of Mrs. Fox and Dr. J. M. Rutherford, at Brislington House, Bristol, on Thursday, April 30, 1925.

Twenty-four members were present and four visitors.

Dr. J. G. SOUTAR was voted to the Chair and the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

The SECRETARY read apologies for absence from the President, ex-President, Dr. Nelis and others.

Dr. W. Starkey was elected Hon. Div. Secretary, and Drs. R. Eager and Soutar Representative Members of Council. Dr. S. Cole and Dr. S. E. Martin were elected as members of the Committee of Management in place of Drs. Barton White and G. E. Peachell, who retire in rotation.

The following candidate, after ballot, was unanimously elected an ordinary member of the Association:

FRANCIS ELLIOT FOX, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Brislington House, Bristol.

Proposed by Drs. J. M. Rutherford, H. B. Wilkinson and W. Starkey.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that Dr. A. Townsend had kindly invited the Division to hold its Autumn Meeting at Barnwood House, Gloucester, and it was so fixed for Thursday, October 29, 1925.

A letter from Dr. Nelis, on the question of the new regulation of the Education Committee appointing a nurse coadjutor at the Final Examination for the Nursing Certificate, was read. Considerable discussion ensued, and it was proposed by Dr. MCGARVEY, seconded by Dr. S. E. MARTIN and passed, that in future six months' notice should be given by the Association of any alterations in the Examinations.

The following resolution, proposed by Dr. BLACHFORD and seconded by Dr. EAGER, was passed unanimously: "That this meeting protests against the stipulation that the nurse coadjutor at the Final Examination for the Nursing Certificate must be doubly trained, and considers that the first essential should be that she hold the M.P.A. Certificate in Mental Nursing."

Dr. S. GROSSMAN, of Cardiff Mental Hospital, then read a short paper entitled "The Value of Simple Laboratory Tests in the Diagnosis of Neuro-Syphilis as compared with the Wassermann Reaction." He dealt with the methods of

Nonne-Apelt, with the Ross-Jones modification, Weichbrodt and Boltz. Of the last method he gave a successful demonstration.

A discussion ensued, in which Drs. J. G. SOUTAR, BARTON WHITE, EAGER, REID and MCGARVEY took part, and Dr. GROSSMAN briefly replied.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Fox and Dr. J. M. Rutherford for their hospitality concluded a very successful meeting.

During the forenoon members had the opportunity of inspecting the Institution and its gardens, and were most hospitably entertained to lunch by Mrs. Fox, who also provided tea at the close of the meeting.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held, by the courtesy of Dr. R. C. Stewart, at the Leicestershire and Rutland Mental Hospital, Narborough, on Thursday, April 23, 1925.

There was an attendance of 23 members.

Dr. Stewart showed the members round the Hospital in the forenoon, explaining many of the interesting features of its construction. Afterwards he entertained them to lunch, at the conclusion of which a vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. T. C. Adair and carried with acclamation.

The meeting was held at 2.30 p.m., when Dr. R. C. Stewart took the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Dr. J. R. Gilmour was re-elected Secretary of the Division, and Drs. E. S. Simpson, W. H. Coupland and H. Dove Cormac were elected Representative Members of Council for the ensuing year.

The two following candidates were, after ballot, elected ordinary members of the Association:

ELEANOR MILDRED CREAK, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Assistant Physician, The Retreat, York.

Proposed by Drs. H. Yellowlees, N. Macleod and J. R. Gilmour.

SAMUEL MAXWELL STEEL, M.B., Ch.B.Glasg., Assistant Medical Officer, Monyhull Colony, King's Heath, Birmingham.

Proposed by Drs. A. M. McCutcheon, J. R. Gilmour and E. S. Simpson.

Dr. F. H. STEWART, Cheddleton, Staffs, then read his paper, "The Occurrence of *B. enteritidis* (Gärtner) in Cases of Relapsing Confusional Insanity: A Possible Cause of the Disease."

Dr. F. H. STEWART described a variation in the bacterial flora observed in eight cases of relapsing confusional and manic-depressive insanity. It consisted in the substitution of non-lactose fermenting bacilli for the normal *B. coli*. This substitution commenced with the onset of the disease, became more complete as the symptoms increased, less complete as the symptoms diminished, and ceased at convalescence. The abnormal bacilli are Gram-negative coccobacilli, which can be divided into nine races by their sugar reactions. The central race resembles the *Salmonella* (food-poisoning) group. On the one side of these are races which do not ferment dulcitate, and one race which gives the reactions of Shiga. On the other side are two races which ferment saccharose. Some do not produce indol, others do. None are virulent on injection into mice. None are agglutinated by standard sera against the coli-typhoid group. The serum of three patients agglutinated their autogenous bacilli in dilutions of 1/50. Two patients agglutinated *B. enteritidis*, Gärtner, although there was no evidence of food-poisoning.

Drs. R. C. STEWART, B. H. SHAW, T. C. GRAVES and D. YELLOWLEES took part in the discussion which followed.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced a discussion on the revised Rules of the Commissioners. This led to a lively criticism of the Rules, nearly every member taking part. The following resolution was carried and ordered to be submitted to the Council: "That it is expedient and advisable that the words 'to the best of my knowledge and belief' be retained on the statement of death."

The places of meeting for the Autumn and Spring Meetings were left to the Secretary to arrange.