discussed his paper. He would only say further that he fully agreed with Dr. Nugent in laying stress on the constitutional moral defect in this case, and which therefore made the term "insanity" less fitting than imbecility.

On the motion of Dr. CONOLLY NORMAN, a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the authorities of Queen's College for the use of the room, and the proceedings then terminated.

LOCKS FOR DOORS IN ASYLUMS.

During the visit made by the Medico-Psychological Association to the Cork District Asylum Dr. Eames took the opportunity of showing the members the "Eames Asylum Locks," with which the asylum was fitted. The locks possessed four distinct actions, and claimed the following advantages :—

1st.—The ordinary attendant's key turns the bolt once, opening the door, and, when the bolt is freed and the door opened, the bolt, on taking the key out, instead of keeping back springs forward and remains flush with the door, which cannot be shut without inserting the key and giving it a turn back. This prevents a patient from locking an attendant or himself in a cell.

2nd.—It prevents the slamming of doors, a most frequent and objectionable practice in Lunatic Asylums, as the key must be inserted again, when closing the door, to lock it.

3rd.—The bolt is turned a second time by another key, which is supplied only to the head attendant of a division and the night attendant; the object of this is, that when the patients are given over for the night to the night attendant he, in passing through, gives the second turn, driving the bolt still further in, thus preventing access to the patients by the day attendant, whose key cannot then turn the bolt back, and thereby fixing the responsibility of correct inspection and safe custody for the night with the officer on duty. In his (the night attendant's) first round afterwards, when all day attendants are in bed, he takes the second action off each lock. To anyone acquainted with the details of asylum discipline this will seem to be a most important arrangement.

4th.—The bolt of all locks leading to exterior of buildings, or from male to female divisions, or any other place thought necessary, is turned a third time by a master key, and cannot be unlocked by any other. The necessity for this action is obvious. The master key is only supplied to officers of the institution.

Thus each of the three keys will open the door by one turn; the second key gives a second turn, and the third key a third turn, the bolt being at each turn driven farther into the door plate.

Dr. Eames further pointed out another most important advantage in the locks, viz., that the face of the lock has a depression around the bolt which fits into a corresponding elevation on the striking plate, thus preventing the possibility of the bolt being shot by a knife, handle of a spoon, or by any other means.

The interior of the lock is made entirely of gun-metal, of the best and simplest workmanship. The striking-plate and face of lock are brass. The keys are very strong and made of case-hardened steel, and are constructed so as to render it impossible for one to be converted into another, *i.e.*, a first-action key could not be made into a second, or either of them into a master key. The makers are Young and Glover, Bell Street, Wolverhampton.

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