Before the conclusion of the meeting the CHAIRMAN proposed that the best wishes of the meeting be sent to Dr. Mills for his speedy recovery.

MIDLAND MENTAL PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE third meeting of the Midland Mental Pathological Society was held at the Birmingham University on Thursday, October 24, 1935. W. E. Le Gros Clark, D.Sc., F.R.C.S., F.Z.S., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Oxford, gave a lecture on "Functional Localization in the Thalamus and Hypothalamus", profusely illustrated by some excellent lantern-slides, showing the localization of thalamic and hypothalamic nuclei and their relations to the cerebral cortex, cerebellum, pituitary and retina. He also replied to several questions put by members. A vote of thanks was proposed by Sir GILBERT BARLING and seconded by Prof. LOCKHART, and the keen interest in, and appreciation of, the lecture was shown by the enthusiasm with which the vote of thanks was carried. Thirty-eight members and 49 visitors were present. [It is proposed to publish this paper in our next issue.—EDS.]

OBITUARY.

LAWRENCE GAVIN.

Dr. Lawrence Gavin died at the Mental Hospital, Mullingar, on October 15, 1935. He was born in 1875 at West House, Rochfortbridge, co. Westmeath. He received his early education at the local school and at Castleknock College, and graduated in medicine at Edinburgh University. His whole professional life was spent in the mental service. He was Senior Assistant at Inverness Mental Hospital, and afterwards worked at Horton L.C.C. Mental Hospital. In 1912 he returned to Ireland as Medical Superintendent of Mullingar Mental Hospital.

All who had the privilege of knowing Dr. Gavin mourn the loss of a singularly striking and lovable personality. His high sense of honour, his breadth of vision, his wide culture, his real kindness of heart, his unostentatious simplicity of manner, his fine abilities and his great love of his native land mark Dr. Gavin as outstanding among his fellow men. In truth we may quote Thomas Moore, and say that there was in him "a union of all the affections and powers by which life is exalted, embellished and refined". He had a keen appreciation of nature in all its aspects, and he revelled in every phase of country life. His love of nature and his absorbing interest in life enabled him to derive singular pleasure and profit from his holidays spent in walking expeditions. He knew and loved his native county, and it was a pleasure to hear him unfold its charms. He travelled extensively; Scotland—which he loved since his student days in Edinburgh—Switzerland and Brittany were his favourite resorts, and he was rich in the lore of the countrysides through which he walked.

Since he entered the Irish Mental Service he had been one of the most prominent and energetic members of the Irish Division, and he took a most lively interest in all its activities, particularly those connected with the reform and improvement of public mental hospitals. He was Chairman of the Irish Division from 1933 to 1935, and served for several years on the Education Committee. He was the first Examination Area Secretary for the area comprising the Irish Division, and his tact and consideration enabled him to ensure the smooth working of the new regulations from the beginning.

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