corroborated and extended the earlier researches of Krause, Semon, and Horsley. He has not only extirpated the centres to find that the operation had no effect whatever on the mobility of the vocal cords, but even after induced infection of the centres by the injection of typhus bacilli cultures (evoking thus an acute septic irritation) he has found that there was no implication of function whatever. Quite recently, at the last annual meeting of the British Medical Association, Risien Russell contributed a paper in which he demonstrates the actual existence of centres for ab- and adduction of the cords, though he, too, had not been able to produce isolated movements of the opposite vocal cord by stimulation of the corresponding areas in the opposite hemisphere.

Prisons-Asiles in Holland.

The report of a committee appointed at the general meeting of the Dutch Medical Association (July, 1893) to consider the question of the desirability of establishing separate institutions for insane criminals and the criminal insane in Holland, was issued on April 29th last (Ned. Tijdschr. v. Geneesk, May 18th, 1895). The committee was called upon to consider in addition whether sufficiently satisfactory measures were at present being adopted in Holland to check by the supervision and treatment of young mentally unstable subjects their disposition towards the development of an insane criminal habit. The report deals, however, only with the first question, the committee on investigation finding it of sufficient scope fully to occupy a prolonged period of inquiry. A set of questions drawn up by this committee was sent to each asylum superintendent in the country, and with the view of a statistical computation of the probable number of criminals of unsound mind and of insane likely to develop criminal propensities, they inquired—1. As to the actual number of insane in each institution on a certain day (May 1st, 1894). 2. As to the possibility of obtaining a trustworthy previous life-history of each patient. 3. As to the number out of these who (*a*) have prior to their confinement in the asylum been convicted of any criminal offence; (*b*) have subsequent to judicial sentence been confined in each asylum; (*c*) have developed insanity while undergoing imprisonment, and have then been removed to the asylum. 4. As to the number of patients in each asylum who, on account of uncontrollable dangerous proclivities or other propensities, would be considered by reason of the baneful effect of their association with others insane to be fit subjects for transference to a "prison-asile" if such existed. 5. As to the patients considered in sec. 4; (*a*) how many of these have been placed in the asylum with such proclivities? (*b*) how many have developed such proclivities during their confinement? 6. As to the propriety of drafting such patients (secs. 4 and 5) into "prisons-asiles." The committee also made a request to the Minister of Justice for leave to visit certain prisons, State reformatories, and State penitentiaries to investigate the mental condition of the inmates, and such leave with

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certain reservations was readily given. Though some disappointment was experienced as to the statistical outcome of these inquiries the committee's investigation yielded some fruitful results. Space does not permit of a detailed account of these, but the conclusions arrived at, summarized under the following five headings, may be of interest: —1. That the mental status of all criminals should be more fully investigated, preferably by a commission which could advise as to the removal of all mentally afflicted prisoners to suitable asylums for harmful or dangerous insane. 2. That near to some large asylum, preferably the State Criminal Asylum at Medemblik, an institution should be erected for harmful and dangerous insane, to which other asylums might draft their patients of this class, and to which at the same time inmates of prisons requiring medical supervision on mental grounds could be sent. 3 and 4. That the supervision on discharge of all insane who have undergone trial, wherever they may have been confined, and of dangerous or harmful insane who may have been under treatment in a special institution such as above recommended, should be strictly exercised by the introduction of "casiers judiciaires." 5. That an "observation station" for inquiry into the mental condition of all persons undergoing prosecution whose mental soundness may be in question, should also be attached to such special institution, and that the establishment of similar stations in connection with other asylums should be encouraged as far as possible. A copy of this report was sent to the Ministers of Justice and Internal Affairs.

PART IV.—NOTES AND NEWS.

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland was held on July 25th and 26th in the Rooms of the Association, 11, Chandos Street, London. In the morning, at 9.30, a Council Meeting was held, followed at 11 o'clock by the General Meeting for the transaction of the business of the Association. The outgoing President, Dr. Conolly Norman, occupied the chair. Among those present were—Drs. W. Orange, J. G. Soutar, W. F. Farquharson, J. Merson. D. Bower, T. S. Clouston, J. G. M. Finch, Jas. Chambers, F. S. Gramshaw, J. F. G. Pietersen, Bonville Fox, E. Swain, W. F. Robertson, W. R. Dawson, H. H. Newington, G. E. Shuttleworth, H. Rayner, A. R. Urquhart, O. Jepson, D. Nicolson, D. Yellowlees, T. Drapes, E. W. White, R. Percy Smith, E. M. Cooke, L. A. Weatherly, H. Stilwell, H. C. Farquharson, J. P. Richards, T. S. Tuke J. G. McDowall, J. Mills, S. R. Philipps, H. C. MacBryan, J. S. Grubb, H. Corner, H. J. Macevoy, P. W. MacDonald, H. G. Hill, W. J. Mickle, F. Schofield, J. H. Paul, B. Pierce, W. S. Kay, W. H. R. Rivers, E. H. Ezard, G. F. Blandford, D. Brodie, F. C. Gayton, G. H. Savage, E. East, A. H. Stocker, C. T. Street, D. Mackintosh, Robert Jones, F. H. Walmsley, S. A. K. Strahan, W. G. Ellis, C. Mercier, H. E. Blandford, Oscar Woods, W. L. Andriezen, A. C. Suffern, T. Outterson Wood, J. F. Briscoe, Fletcher Beach, T. B. Hyslop, J. Rutherford, G. M. Robertson, C. S. Morrison, A. S. L. Newington, H. Hicks.

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been printed and circulated, were held as read, and were approved.

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