doubtful. At the beginning of his psychiatric career he had done many measurements under the guidance of Dr. Edwin Goodall, at Carmarthen, chiefly as regards the palate. He continued this work at Hanwell, and took a cast of the mouth in literally hundreds of patients. He found no relationship between the palate and mental state of any real value in diagnosis. Perhaps he had expected too much, and his time would have been more wisely spent in comparing these measurements with temperaments.

However, the matter was settled for him not long afterwards by the publication of Goring's *English Convict*, which put an end to the theory of the hereditary and constitutional criminal associated with a distinct physical type, and the Lombroso School practically died out.

It did seem ridiculous, this so-called criminal type, when one came to look back on it. Thieves had small and murderers large hands. Other characteristics of the criminal were: heavy lower jaw, abundant dark hair, scanty beard, stooping shoulders and a flat chest. It was to the credit of anthropometrists, that they did try to substitute accurate measurements for such vagaries.

Mankind had been classified in many ways by many people, but Lombroso was the first to attempt scientifically to correlate physical and mental characteristics. Constitutional and temperamental classifications had existed since the beginning of medical science. But classifications of real clinical value were late products, such as introverts and extroverts, vagotonics and sympathicotonics, cyclothymics and schizophrenics, etc. Whether this return to the anthropometric classification was likely to be fruitful in clinical psychiatry required careful consideration. Should they recommend it as a line of research for medical officers? He, the speaker, was not prepared to do this. There were other matters more urgently in need of intensive study. Anthropometric observations were only of value under identical conditions, and perhaps 50,000 observations on one point were none too few if the results were to be of any value.

There were so many cross-currents in the formation of character which confused the issue as regards constitutional and temperamental trends, such as accidents at birth, early toxæmias, upbringing and education, social status, etc.

The speaker went on to describe Clouston's variation of Galton's and Charles Booth's classification, which was (1) average man, (2) marked talent all round, (3) the lesser genius, (4) the genius, (5) the crank and markedly eccentric and the anarchist, (6) the markedly under-averaged—the tramp, vagrant, the submerged tenth, the natural pauper, (7) those liable to curable mental disorders, (8) the adolescent, the dementia præcox, (9) the epileptic, (10) the feeble-minded, (11) the imbecile and idiot. What practical value had such a sociological classification for them?

The best literature on the subject in recent times was Auden's paper "On Endogenous and Exogenous Factors in Character Formation" (*Journal of Mental Science*, January, 1926), and Hutchison's "Physiological Personality" (*Lancet*, March 31, 1928), and these he advised members to read.

Kretschmer's *Physique and Character* would become a classic, it could be obtained from Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Ltd., London (15s.). A good digest of Kretschmer's teaching would be found in the Miniature Series of the same publishers, *i.e.*, *Types of Mind and Body*, by Dr. E. Miller (2s. 6d.).

A final word of thanks to Dr. Petrie for a very instructive and enjoyable day concluded the meeting.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held, by kind invitation of Drs. Bertha and Annie Mules, at Cliffden, Teignmouth, on Friday, April 26, 1929. Fifteen members and nine visitors were present.

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

Dr. W. Starkey was re-elected Honorary Divisional Secretary, and Drs. J. G. Soutar and J. McGarvey were elected representative members of Council for 1929–30.

Dr. J. G. Soutar was elected Divisional Chairman for 1929–30.

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Drs. Bertha Mules and J. L. Jackson were elected members of the Committee of Management, in place of Drs. Dudley and Thomas, who retire in rotation.

The following was elected an ordinary member of the Association:

GEORGE WISHART WILL, M.B., Ch.B.(N.Z.), M.P.C., Major R.A.M.C., "D" Block, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley Abbey, Hants.

Proposed by Major H. Gall, R.A.M.C., and Drs. J. L. Jackson and C. E. A. Shepherd.

The Autumn Meeting of the Division was fixed for Thursday, October 24, 1929, the place to be arranged by the Hon. Divisional Secretary.

Dr. RICHARD EAGER, *O.B.E.*, then introduced a discussion on "The Out-patient Treatment of Mental Cases," basing his remarks on the experience of the Exeter Clinic. He stressed the importance of staffing such clinics with experienced psychiatrists, and urged that they should form a department of a general hospital, with in-patient accommodation provided if possible for observation cases.

Dr. MARY BARKAS followed, and in a most interesting speech discussed the functions of such clinics, dealing in particular with their value as sorting stations, and pointing out the importance of having an almoner's department associated.

Drs. MCKINLEY REID, H. W. EDDISON, W. F. NELIS and W. STARKEY also took part in the discussion, and the Divisional Chairman (Dr. J. G. SOUTAR) summed up in a most interesting and able speech.

During the morning, and after the meeting, the members and visitors were conducted round the House and its beautiful gardens, with their superb views of sea and coast. They were entertained to lunch and tea, and spent a most enjoyable day under ideal conditions.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Drs. B. and A. Mules for their generous hospitality.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Northern and Midland Division was held by the kind invitation of Dr. G. Hamilton Grills, at the County Mental Hospital, Chester, on Thursday, April 25, 1929.

There were present twenty-four members and seven guests.

During the forenoon the members were shown over the hospital by Dr. Grills, who subsequently entertained them to lunch. Dr. W. F. MENZIES proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Grills for his kindness and hospitality, and this was carried by acclamation.

On the proposal of Dr. H. DOVE CORMAC, seconded by Dr. MENZIES, Dr. Grills was elected Chairman of the meeting.

The minutes of the Autumn Meeting were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The report of the Divisional Committee was read. The names of the following members were then added to this Committee: Dr. H. J. Drake-Brockman, Dr. W. F. Menzies and Dr. B. H. Shaw.

Dr. J. Ivison Russell was appointed Secretary to the Division, and Drs. Archdale, H. Dove Cormac and J. R. Gilmour were elected Representative Members of the Council for 1929–30.

Dr. J. R. Gilmour was elected Chairman of the Division for 1929–30.

The three following candidates for ordinary membership were duly balloted for and unanimously elected:

DAVID HENDERSON, M.D., Ch.B.Glasg., Assistant Medical Officer and Pathologist, Cheddleton Mental Hospital, Staffs.

Proposed by Drs. W. F. Menzies, W. D. Wilkins and E. A. Chennell.

DAVID RUSSELL, M.B., Ch.B.Glasg., Assistant Medical Officer, City Mental Hospital, Mapperley Hill, Nottingham.

Proposed by Drs. A. M. Dryden, G. L. Brunton and G. W. J. Mackay.

ROLF STRÖM-OLSEN, B.Sc., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., Assistant Medical Officer, Mental Hospital, Rowditch, Derby.

Proposed by Drs. J. Bain, G. L. Brunton and G. N. Bartlett.

Dr. A. W. H. SMITH then read a paper, "Dermographia in the Insane," which was followed by a short discussion (*vide* p. 458).

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