appointed Resident Physician at the Royal Earlswood Institution, and from there he was called to fill the highly important position of Medical Superintendent of the London County Asylum at Claybury at its opening, which post he held for a period of close on twenty-four years; a distinguished position which has involved no small expenditure of energy, physical and mental, in the fulfilment of the arduous and responsible duties, medical and administrative, connected with such a large institution. And it is not a matter of surprise that the health of any individual so circumstanced should eventually break down; an event which we greatly regret has occurred in the present instance.

Indications of the esteem in which Dr. Armstrong-Jones was held have been unmistakably shown on the occasion of his retirement. He was the recipient of an illuminated address from the Asylums Committee of the London County Council, which conveys in generous terms a well-deserved tribute to his services while in the asylum, along with an expression of sincere regret at the necessity for his retirement. He was also presented with a handsome tea and coffee service by the medical and lay staff of Claybury Asylum, and a number of the very numerous patients who are, or have been, under his care have expressed their regard for him by the gift of a silver inkstand.

Dr. Armstrong-Jones has had a long and intimate connection with the Medico-Psychological Association. He acted as General Secretary for nine years, 1897–1906, and in the latter year he was elected to the Presidential chair, being thus awarded the highest honour which it is in the power of the Association to bestow. He has contributed valuable and interesting papers to various periodicals, including our own Journal. While regretting his retirement from the asylum service, we hope that his health may in time be fully reinstated, and that he may yet be in a position to do useful work, and that his talents, his long experience, and his versatility will not be lost to psychiatry and social progress.

OBITUARY.

Dr. J. St. L. Kirwan.

The death of Dr. Kirwan, late Medical Superintendent of Ballinasloe Asylum, on August 8th, was as sudden as it was unexpected. He did not appear to have been suffering from ill-health in any way, although it was stated at a meeting of the Committee held subsequently to his death that for some time past his life was uninsurable. It was only in May last that he returned to the asylum after six months' service in connection with recruiting, having volunteered to assist with his motor car in that department in the autumn of last year. On the day of his death he was working in his office, and finding the heat there oppressive he went to the front door in search of coolness. When conversing there with his brother-in-law he complained of the sun being too hot, and withdrew into the house in the direction of his office. Very shortly afterwards he was heard to fall heavily, and when assistance arrived life was found to be extinct. His death was apparently due to heat apoplexy.

Dr. Kirwan had filled the office of Medical Superintendent of Ballinasloe Asylum for the preceding twelve years, having succeeded the late Dr. Fletcher after having served some years as second assistant there. He seems to have enjoyed the confidence of his Committee, the members of which, at a meeting held shortly after the sad event, spoke in high terms of his ability, honesty, and straightforwardness, and passed a resolution of sympathy with his bereaved relatives. He has left a widow and one child to mourn his loss. Dr. Kirwan had been a member of the Medico-Psychological Association since the year 1899.

ASYLUM ACCOMMODATION.

On August 21st Sir William Byles asked a question in the House as to the amount of overcrowding in asylums, whether any further reduction was proceeding or was in contemplation, and what was the present proportion of doctors to patients in the county asyulms which remained available for the care and treatment of their original inmates. Mr. Brace said that the amount of overcrowding varied in different asylums, but intimated that on an average it might be

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stated to be 17 *per cent.*—that was to say there were 117 patients in wards which were normally intended for 100. The number of beds by which the total accommodation of county and borough asylums in England and Wales had been reduced by the use of certain asylums as war hospitals was 15,750. No further reduction of accommodation was now proceeding or in contemplation. The present proportion of doctors to patients in the county and borough asylums was 1 to 390.

THE LIBRARY.

MEMBERS of the Association are reminded that the Library at 11, Chandos Street, W., is open daily for reading and for the purpose of borrowing books. Books may also be borrowed by post, provided that at the time of application threepence in stamps is forwarded to defray the cost of postage. Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Lewis to enable the Association to obtain books from the lending library belonging to that firm should any desired book not be in the Library. In addition, the Committee is willing to purchase copies of such books as will be of interest to members. Certain medical periodicals are circulated among such members as intimate their desire to be included in the list.

The Committee desire to acknowledge with thanks the donation by the author of *Organic to Human, Psychological, and Sociological*, by Henry Maudsley, M.D.

Applications for books should be addressed to the Resident Librarian, Medico-Psychological Association, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.

Other communications should be addressed to the undersigned at the City of London Mental Hospital, Dartford, Kent.

R. H. STEEN,
Hon. Secretary, Library Committee.

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

THE Acting General Secretary will be glad if Medical Superintendents and other members will advise him of any service news with regard to members. He wishes to keep a record of the names of members who have been wounded or killed, or to whom military honours have been given.

NOTICES BY THE REGISTRAR.

Dates of Nursing Examinations.

Preliminary	November 6th, 1916.
Final	November 13th, 1916.

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

Quarterly Meetings: Tuesday, November 21st, 1916, London; Thursday, February 15th, 1917; Tuesday, May 15th, 1917.

The Divisional Meetings are proposed as follows:

South-Eastern Division.—October 4th, 1916, at 11, Chandos Street, W.; and April , 1917.

South-Western Division.—October 27th, 1916; April 27th, 1917.

Northern and Midland Division.—October 26th, 1916, at Wharncliffe War Hospital, Sheffield; and April 26th, 1917, at the County Asylum, Macclesfield.

Scottish Division.—November 17th, 1916; March 16th, 1917.

Irish Division.—November 2nd, 1916; April 5th, 1917; July 5th, 1917.

APPOINTMENTS.

Starkey, William, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., R.U.I., Medical Superintendent of Plymouth Borough Asylum.

Mills, John, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., R.U.I., Medical Superintendent of Ballinasloe District Asylum, *vice* Dr. J. St. L. Kirwan, deceased.

English, Adeline, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., R.U.I., First Assistant Medical Officer of Ballinasloe Asylum.

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