Medicine has come to be regarded as almost essential for holders of official posts in Sanitary Science at home or in our Colonies and Dependencies abroad.

But as regards the study of Mental Disease and the care of the Insane,—subjects which, together with Public Health and Tropical Medicine, may be regarded as forming the main branches of State Medicine,—no examination or diploma exists. The inadequacy of the ordinary medical curriculum for the training of those who intend to devote themselves to Psychological Medicine cannot now be disputed. At the present time the newly qualified physician enters upon asylum service with a very insufficient knowledge alike of psychology and the physiology of the nervous system, on which psychiatry and neurology depend, and of the modern methods of research in mental and nervous disorders. Once having engaged in asylum work he rarely has opportunity of learning more of these subjects.

The Board believe that an examination in Psychological Medicine and its cognate subjects, if established, could not fail to raise the present standard of efficiency in applicants for asylum posts; and that it would lead to the provision of appropriate courses for the training of those who wish to advance our knowledge of psychiatry. They believe that the Legislature would quickly come to recognise the diploma as a qualification which must necessarily be held by all medical officers of public institutions for the insane, and as desirable in candidates for medical appointments connected with Education, the Poor Law and the Prisons; and that thus, after a very few years, there would be a satisfactory number of candidates for the diploma.

That a general desire for the establishment of a Diploma in Psychological Medicine exists among those best qualified to form an opinion on the subject is shown by the fact that last year the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland—a body comprising about 700 members of the medical profession, nearly all of whom are engaged in this special department of medicine—addressed a letter through its President to the universities and other examining bodies of the United Kingdom, setting forth the advantages which a special examination and diploma would confer in stimulating research and in advancing our knowledge of the nature and treatment of mental and nervous disorders.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

Diploma in Psychiatry.

I. Education.

(1) Every candidate must be a legally qualified medical practitioner.

(2) He must have attended the following courses of instruction:

(*a*) Development and anatomy (advanced) of the nervous system, with practical dissection of the brain and spinal cord.
Ten meetings of two hours each.

(*b*) Physiology, histology, and chemistry of the nervous system.
The work will include:

Histology.—Methods of preparing and staining nervous tissues. The development and structure of nerve-cells and fibres. Degenerative and regenerative changes in the neuron. The various forms of nerve-endings. The arrangement of the cells and the course of the conducting tracts in the spinal cord, medulla, and pons. The structure of the cerebellum and cerebral cortex.

Chemistry.—The chemical composition of white and grey matter, and of the cerebro-spinal fluid.

Experimental Study.—The excitability and conductivity of nerve, and the response of the nerve to various forms of stimulus. The functions of the spinal cord, medulla, and cerebellum. Muscular sense, cutaneous sensations, reflex action and fatigue. The functions of the cerebrum.
Thirty meetings, each of two hours' duration.

(*c*) Pathology. *Post-mortem* technique; the removal of nervous tissues from the body for microscopical examination. Special methods of fixation and staining. Preparation of microscopical specimens by rapid freezing, celloidin, and paraffin methods. Examination of illustrative preparations of disease in the peripheral nerves, cord and brain, including vascular dis-

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turbances, inflammatory conditions, the infective granulomata, tumours, general paralysis of the insane and other types of insanity. Demonstrations of naked-eye appearances of recent specimens of disease in the central nervous system. Cytological examination of the blood and cerebro-spinal fluid.

Twenty meetings of two hours each.

(*d*) Bacteriology. The same course of instruction as for the degree of Bachelor of Hygiene.

(*e*) Psychology and experimental psychology. The work will include: A general description of normal states of consciousness. The relation between physical and mental processes. Conscious and subconscious states of mind, and the development of mental processes. The normal personality. Introspection and psychological analysis. Will, emotion, attention, habit, instinct, perception and ideation.

Methods of experimental psychology, their application and limitations.

Twenty-five to thirty hours instruction.

(*f*) Clinical neurology. Ten demonstrations of the rarer forms of nervous diseases, the special methods of their examination and treatment, including operative.

(*g*) Psychiatry, in a course of ten hours, supplemental to the course of mental diseases now required for the degree of M.B.

(*h*) Clinical psychiatry in a course of six months' duration in an asylum in which instruction is given on at least three days in each week; or a course of three months' duration along with a resident appointment for three months. The holding of six months of a resident appointment in an asylum, with attendance on clinical instruction, will be regarded as equivalent to either of the above requirements.

All the above course of instruction may be attended on the payment of a composition fee of twenty-five guineas.

The fees for these separate courses are given in the University Calendar.

II. Examination.

The examination will be held in June each year, and will consist of two parts—Part I embracing the subjects of anatomy, physiology, pathology and bacteriology, and Part II those of psychology and experimental psychology, clinical neurology and psychiatry, systematic and clinical.

Every candidate wishing to present himself must give at least twenty-eight days' notice to Professor Howden, Secretary of the University of Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and must at the same time send the examination fee and the necessary certificates.

The fee for the examination and diploma in psychiatry shall be ten guineas. Every candidate who fails in either part of the examination must pay a fee of two guineas each time he re-enters.

Candidates who have qualified as medical practitioners before January 1st, 1911, are eligible for examination without attendance on the courses of instruction above mentioned.

N.B.—Candidates may present themselves for either part of the examination, separately; or both together, at their option.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

Diploma in Psychiatry.

The Faculty of Medicine being of opinion that the study of Mental Diseases or Psychiatry has become during recent years a specialised branch of medicine, the University has decided to institute a Diploma in Psychiatry (Dipl. Psych. Edin.).

The Faculty of Medicine anticipate that the Diploma will fulfil the requirements of those who intend to devote themselves to this branch of medicine, and will promote the advance of scientific investigation.

By a recent medical ordinance the University has obtained power to confer

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