age the parents could apply for a prosecution. The Germans had decreed that a girl of 14 was free to do as she liked, and that no parent could take any action if she had intercourse with a German soldier. Though most of the older girls turned their backs on the Germans, it was not unusual to see very young girls being courted by the German soldiers, or courting them publicly, because it gave them a feeling of being grown-up. Some older women also behaved badly, but, on the whole, the idea gained ground that mating might be started at an early age. Following the liberation there was much wantonness in the way in which the girls expressed their gratitude towards the Allied soldiers. Now that several areas of Holland had become leave centres for the Canadians, venereal disease was increasing, and the number of illegitimate children also. Indeed, the problem had become one of great national importance. It was not merely a problem arising out of the present war, for sexual morals had been changing during the last decades; common measures of conduct were lacking in that domain more than in any other. Indeed, it was one of the first problems with which those concerned with mental and moral hygiene had to deal, for it was becoming a social menace.

A difficulty in remedying the existing state of affairs lay in the decline of governmental authority. So far as the Dutch were concerned German authority was no authority; the officials and the population had all conspired in deceiving the Germans. That was not a favourable attitude on which to build a normal state of affairs once more. The habit of doing things in the wrong way and in a spirit of disobedience was by no means easily got rid of. As an illustration of this, a Dutch minister who had during the occupation carried on much underground work arrived at The Hague after the liberation, and when he was told by the military authorities that he could not be granted a permit to return to his home, looking at the permit for his outward journey he asked his secretary, "Cannot we forge the stamp?" Thus what he had been previously doing had become a normal habit and attitude of mind. Such an attitude on the part of the general public meant that authority could only gradually be restored. The Government had to persuade the people that it was worth while to respect the law of the land and to obey it.

The speaker felt that the details he had given showed that, however heavy the material losses the Dutch had suffered, the psychological disturbances caused by the war were even more severe. Only by long and patient effort could the social structure be rebuilt on a healthy basis. The foundation of the Dutch mentality was still strong enough to overcome the shock it had suffered, so that there was no reason for despair. He hoped his audience would agree that the social illness was external in origin. The nation as a whole had suffered a bad shock, and needed time to regain confidence and to be restored to health. It would be of great help to find understanding on the part of others, and it was hoped that that would be the case so far as the British were concerned, for to them the Dutch owed so very much—and that was why he had tried to explain in some detail the problems which had arisen as a result of the German occupation of the Netherlands.

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The Session terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to all the visitors for the intensely interesting details they had recorded.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the Association was held on Friday, November 30, 1945, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W. 1, and the Barnes Hall, Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W. 1, under the Presidency of Lt.-Col. A. A. W. Petrie, *C.B.E.*, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.Edin., D.P.M.

The PRESIDENT gave a résumé of the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held in Birmingham on Thursday, May 31, 1945, which would be published in the Journal shortly, which was approved.

OBITUARY.

The PRESIDENT said that the first in the obituary list was an ex-President, Thomas Saxty Good, *O.B.E.*, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lecturer on Psychology,

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University of Oxford, President, 1930–31, and Ordinary Member since 1897. Dr. Saxty Good did an immense amount of work for the Association ; he was one of the pioneers in organizing an out-patient department in his area, now almost a universal practice, and the Association owed him a great debt of gratitude for all the work he had carried out.

Secondly there was Frederick Ryott Percival Taylor, M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Ordinary Member, 1897–1934, Chairman, Education Committee, 1927–33, Chairman, South-Eastern Division 1930–32. Dr. Taylor was well known to the older members, and did a great deal of work for the Association as Chairman of the Education Committee.

Thirdly, Robert Dick Gillespie, M.D., Ch.B., F.R.C.P., D.P.M., Physician and Lecturer on Psychological Medicine, Guy's Hospital, Ordinary Member since 1921. Dr. Gillespie's recent death at the early age of 48 would be regretted by all the members of the Association. The principal monument to his work was the York Clinic at Guy's Hospital, the first to be organized within one of the great voluntary teaching hospitals in England, although similar arrangements had already been made in Scotland. His death had caused a great loss to the Association.

Fourthly, Eric Randal Hull, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., Medical Superintendent, Royal Eastern Counties Institution, Colchester, Ordinary Member since 1932.

And fifthly, Archibald Munn McCutcheon, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.F.P.S., of Selly Hill, Birmingham, Ordinary Member since 1921.

The members stood for a few moments in silent tribute to the memory of these members.

The PRESIDENT reminded the Association of a predecessor of his at Banstead, Dr. Johnston Jones, one of the oldest members of the Association, although not recently a member. He had died at the age of 91, having lived for many years in Rhyl since his retirement. His services went back to the 'seventies, and he was a member of the Association at that time.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

Lt.-Col. LODGE PATCH and Dr. COOK were appointed to act as scrutineers, and on a ballot being taken the following were declared elected Members of the Association :

BATT, JOHN CHILD, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Acting Deputy Medical Superintendent, St. Ebba's Hospital, Epsom.

Proposed by Drs. L. H. Wootton, J. R. A. Madgwick and H. H. Steadman.

BETT, WALTER REGINALD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.R.S.L., F.R.S.A., Research Librarian, Tuberculosis Educational Institute ; 11, The Avenue, Bedford Park, London, W. 4.

Proposed by Drs. Emanuel Miller, H. J. Norman and N. Oliver.

BUCK, ALICE EMILY, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer, Crichton Royal Hospital, Dumfries.

Proposed by Drs. W. Mayer-Gross, P. K. McCowan and J. N. P. Moore.

FOSKETT, WALTER, *M.C.*, M.D., B.S.Durham, Sq.-Ldr., Senior Medical Officer, R.A.F.V.R.; Lyndhurst, Kewstoke, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

Proposed by Drs. T. Crowley, K. K. Drury and G. A. van Someren.

SMITH, JOHN ALEXANDER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer, City Mental Hospital, Humberstone, Leicester.

Proposed by Drs. T. Wishart Davidson, C. E. H. Turner and K. K. Drury.

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

The HON. GENERAL SECRETARY (Dr. K. K. Drury) gave the report of Council as follows :

The Council has approved of the following resolutions :

(1) " That the R.M.P.A. strongly deprecates the permanent use of Nursing Assistants, and the proposed introduction of a new class of Assistant Nurse in Mental Hospitals and Mental Deficiency Institutions recognized as training schools."

(2) " That this Association deplores the fact that there is no representation of psychiatrists on the Curtis Committee on Children in Homes."

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