Dr. Rorie, Medical Superintendent, Westgreen Asylum, stated that Meechan had been quite insane ever since he came into the institution. He was suffering from delusions that people were working an infernal machine upon him. He appeared to improve a little, and the doctor was hopeful that the delusions were leaving him, but unfortunately they returned. He had examined accused on several occasions, including that day, and he was still suffering from these delusions.

The Procurator Fiscal.—He is not a fit subject for an ordinary lunatic asylum?

Dr. Rorie.—No, he is exceptionally dangerous, and not at all suitable for treatment in an ordinary asylum.

In answer to the Sheriff, accused said he had got witnesses in Lochee and the asylum attendants. He wished them to be examined against these doctors. He must get justice as well as other people.

The Sheriff.—Did I torment you as well as the doctors?

Meechan.—I never mentioned your name to them.

The Sheriff said he had no doubt that Meechan was not a fit subject to be at large, and the best thing for him and for others was that he should be taken care of. He would grant the ordinary interlocutor.

Meechan, as he was leaving the dock, exclaimed, I am entitled to get protection as well as other people.

His Lordship.—You will get protection.

Meechan was then ordered to be confined in Perth Penitentiary during His Majesty's pleasure.—*Dundee Advertiser*, August 8th, 1902.

REVISION OF THE RULES.

The following communication has been sent by the Honorary General Secretary to the Divisional Secretaries:

DEAR SIR,—The Rules of the Medico-Psychological Association being out of print, it has been thought desirable before a reprint is issued to consider any suggestions which might be made for the better working of the Society, and a committee—Drs. Carlyle Johnstone, Mercier, Hayes Newington, Conolly Norman, Urquhart, Weatherly, and the Honorary General Secretary—was appointed at the last Annual Meeting in Liverpool to report upon the Rules to the next Annual Meeting. It was also referred to the various Divisions to consider the Rules at their next Autumn Meetings, and I write to request that you will kindly bring the matter forward for consideration, and that you will also kindly let me know what suggestions—if any—may be made by your Division, so that I can report to the Rules Committee.

The following is a record of action taken by the Council and Annual Meeting in regard to the Rules:

May 23rd, 1901.—A committee, consisting of Drs. Whitcombe, Mercier, Weatherly, Newington, and the Secretary, was appointed to consider the printing of the new Rules, and to report to the next Council.

July 25th, 1901 (*Annual Meeting in Cork*).—It was resolved, on the motion of Dr. Hayes Newington, seconded by Dr. Urquhart—"That it be further remitted to the Rules Committee to report to the Council showing what rules have been passed by the Association since last printing, what rules have been passed by the Council, and what suggestions they would submit for the better working of the Association."

July 24th, 1902 (*Annual Meeting in Liverpool*).—The following was proposed by Dr. Whitcombe, and seconded by Dr. Morrison:—"That a committee be appointed to consider and revise the Rules, to add such amendments as have been made from time to time, and to report to the next Annual Meeting." This was rejected, and the following amendment to this motion, proposed by Dr. Urquhart, seconded by Dr. Conolly Norman, was carried as a substantive motion, viz.:—"That the Rules Committee appointed by the Council be thanked for their report, but that it be not adopted. That this meeting do appoint a Committee to con-

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tinue the work done by the Committee now dissolved, by submitting the amended Articles of the Association to the Divisions of the Association for consideration at their autumn meetings of the current year. That the reports of the Divisions be sent to the Committee to-day appointed, who are hereby granted freedom to deal with the whole question of Articles, Rules, and Bye-laws, with the instruction to prepare a report for the Annual Meeting of 1903. That this Committee be constituted as follows:—Drs. Hayes Newington, Mercier, Urquhart, Conolly Norman, Carlyle Johnstone, Whitcombe, Weatherly, and Robert Jones (Honorary Secretary)." Dr. Whitcombe declined to act.

A copy of the Rules, with proposed amendments, was forwarded by post to every member of the Association before the last Annual Meeting. Further copies may be obtained from the printers of the JOURNAL.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT JONES,
Honorary General Secretary.

COMMITTEE FOR THE REVISION OF THE STATISTICAL TABLES OF THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The Committee on Statistical Tables appointed at the last Annual Meeting (1902) are anxious to ascertain the views of asylum physicians as to the twelve tables that are now in use, some of which were adopted nearly forty years ago. The Committee have before them the labour involved in the compilation of these tables, and the advantage of retaining simplicity of form as far as is consistent with accuracy and utility. They earnestly ask the co-operation of their fellow-members, and that replies to the following questions be sent before November 1st to the Secretary of the Committee, Dr. Bond, London County Asylum, Bexley, Kent.

1. Do you think that the present series of tables requires modification or addition?
2. If so, what tables require alteration, and in what respect?
3. What additions do you suggest?

N.B.—The form of the official tables as originally recommended by the Association is set forth in vols. xi and xiii of the *Journal of Mental Science*.

Suggestions of Possible Amendments.

1. The points of information afforded by the tables in their present form number rather more than fifty. Several occur in more than one table. By avoiding this repetition, space may be found for many of the additional points already supplied by some asylums.
2. Several of the items of information are read and interpreted diversely. This lack of definition has been recognised by many asylums, and attempts to correct it have been made by the addition of explanatory foot-notes. Particularly is there often confusion as to the interpretation of the word "admissions," and as to whether or not transfers have been included in the figures.
3. The advantage of greater correlation between the tables.
   - (*a*) The age at death, with the cause of death (Table V); and
   - (*b*) The duration of insanity on admission with the existence of any prior attack (Table VII), are examples of existing attempts at this by the present tables.
   - (*c*) The recording of more than one cause of death (where more than one was in operation), with a cross-index to associate them, *e. g.* enabling it to be seen into how many deaths from general paralysis, phthisis entered;
   - (*d*) The association of the duration of the mental disease with the cause of death;
   - (*e*) The inclusion of the ages in a similar manner with the form of mental disorder (Table XI); and

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