real work of the meeting had fallen upon Dr. Jones, and he felt sure that everybody would be satisfied that enough had been heard of insanity within the last forty-eight hours to consider for some time to come.

Dr. Jones having also expressed his thanks, Dr. URQUHART said, I beg to propose a vote of thanks to our President for his services in the chair, and must add a hearty word of thanks to the gentlemen who have read papers. We know that Dr. Jones has had a great deal of correspondence and a very great deal of trouble, but the meeting would hardly have been a complete success without the active co-operation of those whom he has induced to oblige us on this occasion. Another point I would specially notice is that a great deal of the work has been done by younger members of the Association, and those of us who have been in attendance here for some years have every confidence in their carrying on the business and the scientific interests of our Society just as well as in the past, and, perhaps, with increasingly greater effect. There is difficulty in adequately discussing some of the papers which have been read; for instance, when we have had an opportunity of quietly perusing Dr. Edridge-Green's paper in the JOURNAL no doubt we shall be more competent to appreciate it. The authors, who have given us of their best, must be content to let what they have said fructify in our minds until we have an opportunity of expressing our ideas. We are under deep obligations to our President, and we are very glad, after all he has done in various capacities for this Association, to see him in the position he now holds.

The PRESIDENT.—I am much obliged to Dr. Urquhart for proposing a vote of thanks to myself, and for the kind manner in which you have expressed yourselves to-day. The papers have been of such interest that one's mind has been constantly occupied with thoughts which will fructify later on. I do hope that during my presidency the younger members will come to the front. We have now a large number of them who are working hard, and it is only right and proper that they should give us the result of their researches. I can assure them of a hearty welcome at this Association.

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES.

In connection with the Annual Meeting there were meetings of the Educational, Parliamentary, Editorial, and Tuberculosis Committees. The Council met on the 26th July, the following members being present: J. B. Spence (President), Fletcher Beach (President elect), R. Percy Smith, J. Carlyle Johnstone, A. R. Turnbull, H. Hayes Newington (Treasurer), Conolly Norman, Crochley Clapham, James Chambers, T. Steele Sheldon, W. R. Dawson, G. Stanley Elliot, C. A. Mercier, Oscar T. Woods, A. R. Urquhart, H. Rayner, Harry A. Benham, David Bower, Arthur D. O'C. Finegan, A. W. Campbell, James M. Moody, P. W. Macdonald, and T. Outterson Wood.

Letters of apology were received from Drs. D. M. Cassidy and J. G. Soutar.

It was reported that the Gaskell Prize had been gained by Dr. Maurice Craig, and that the Bronze Medal had been awarded to Dr. C. C. Easterbrook for his essay on "Organotherapy."

It was resolved that the Tuberculosis Committee should have permission to replace any members by others thought suitable by the Committee; that the Committee should have power to add to its numbers to the extent of three; and that Mr. Clifford Smith be invited to assist the Committee in an advisory capacity.

The Registrar reported that 521 candidates entered for the May examination for the Nursing Certificate, 438 having been successful.

There were three candidates for the Certificate in Psychological Medicine, and all were successful.

IRISH MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the members of the Irish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at the Second Asylum for the Richmond District, Portrane, Co. Dublin, on Thursday, June 28th. The following were in attendance: Dr. Patton (in the chair), Dr. Conolly Norman, Dr. Rambaut,

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Dr. J. O'C. Donelan, Dr. Henry Eustace, Dr. Leeper, Dr. Nolan, Dr. Lawless, Dr. Dawson, and Dr. Arthur Finegan (Hon. Secretary).

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Dr. B. Harvey, Dr. Strangman, Dr. Hetherington, Dr. O'Neill, Dr. Graham, Dr. Bernard, Dr. Revington, Dr. Fitzgerald, Dr. O'Meara.

A paper, "Notes to serve for the study of Fracture of the Ribs," by Drs. Conolly Norman and Rambaut, was read by the former.

Dr. RICHARD LEEPER read a communication entitled "Remarks on our usual Methods of Investigating Cerebral Disease, with some Suggestions for future Original Research."

Dr. CONOLLY NORMAN moved that the paper on "A Case of Sensory Aphasia," by Dr. Rambaut, be taken as read, as he and Dr. Rambaut had already occupied a good deal of the time of the meeting, and there was an interesting paper to be read by Dr. Donelan. Dr. DAWSON seconded the proposition, which was passed.

Dr. DONELAN then read his paper: "Some Notes on Portrane."

At the conclusion of the meeting the members were entertained by Dr. Donelan.

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING, IPSWICH, 1900.

SECTION OF PSYCHOLOGY.

Reported by J. R. WHITWELL, M.B.

President: R. PERCY SMITH, M.D. Vice-Presidents: E. L. ROWE, L.R.C.P.; W. ALDREN TURNER, M.D. Honorary Secretaries: CECIL A. P. OSBOURNE, F.R.C.S.Ed.; J. R. WHITWELL, M.B.

The section was well attended, and the papers read were fully discussed.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Dr. PERCY SMITH, in his address on the subject of the Prevention of Insanity, referred to the increase in the number of the insane (as shown by the Commissioners' Report of last year), and the continued burden thus caused to the rate-payers. Speaking of the enormous importance of hereditary defect as an element in causation, he pointed out that little or no effort was made in the human species to guard against the breeding from bad stock, and detailed glaring instances from his own experience of bad results from this cause. Alcoholic excess in the individual and its results in offspring were referred to, and attention was called to the further need for legislation for the non-criminal inebriate, and the inefficacy of the present Inebriates Act. Syphilis, both acquired and hereditary, as a potent element in the production of general paralysis he recognised as absolutely established, and supported the view that syphilis should be a notifiable disease, reviewing the beneficial effect of this action in Finland and other countries.

SEXUAL FUNCTIONS AND INSANITY.

Dr. MACNAUGHTON JONES opened a discussion on "The Bearing of Sexual Function and Disease of the Sexual Organs on Insanity and Crime."

The following were the conclusions that the speaker placed before the section:

1. Functional disorders of ovulation are frequently attended by mental aberration, and in a proportion of cases originate the mental disturbance.

2. The same remark applies to disorders of ovulation which have a pathological cause.

3. In the great majority of such cases the nervous disturbance is of the neurasthenic character, and is associated with various visceral or other neuroses. In only a small proportion does the alienation assume so grave a type as melancholia, mania, or dementia.

4. Where in an insane person ovulation and its external manifestation, the menstrual discharge, are absent or erratic, the erraticism or absence may be a consequence of the general and insane condition, and not a causal factor in its production; but under any circumstances such abnormal menstruation appears to have an aggravating effect on the insanity, and there is sufficient evidence to

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