1. That the written paper should be divided into two parts, namely, the Medical Examiner's part to consist of questions on Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Council's Syllabus, and the Nurse Examiner's part to consist of questions on Sections 1, 3, 5, 11 and 12 of the Syllabus.

2. That a nurse who fails in one part be required to re-sit only in that part.

3. That each part of the written paper be set by a Board of not less than two examiners, and that in order to ensure that the same question is not set by both the Medical and Nurse Examiners, both papers be scrutinized before final approval by the Chairman of the Board of Examiners, this to be arranged for through the Secretary of the Advisory Committee.

4. That the written paper be corrected by the Examiners who set same.

5. That each part of the written paper consist of six questions, of which the nurse must answer five, including one essential question, which will be specially starred as such. That the time allowed for each part of the paper be three hours, and that 20 marks be allotted to each question.

6. That only two final examinations be held each year, namely, May and October.

The Meeting approved the action of the Advisory Committee.

The SECRETARY reported that the Amending Bill to the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Act had been introduced into the House of Commons as a private member's Bill, and had been refused a second reading.

Dr. CAMPBELL renewed his invitation to the Division to meet at the Stirling District Mental Hospital, Larbert. Regret was expressed that this meeting, owing first of all to the general strike, and latterly to the restricted train services, had to be called for Edinburgh instead of as originally arranged for Larbert. Dr. Campbell was thanked for his invitation, and it was left to the Secretary to arrange for either the Autumn or Spring Meeting at Larbert, as might be most convenient for members.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the business of the Meeting.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

Tavistock Clinic for Functional Nerve Cases, 51, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.—A course of five lectures for practitioners and students on "The Neurosis: its causes, its treatment; its prevention," will be given at the Tavistock Clinic, 51, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1, on Monday, November 8, to Friday, November 12, 1926, at 8.30 p.m., by Dr. ALFRED ADLER (Vienna), author of *The Theory and Practice of Individual Psychology*. Fee for the course: Medical practitioners, £1 1s.; medical students (*i.e.*, unqualified), 10s. 6d.

A course of five lectures (open to the general public) on "The Soul of the Child: its development; its diseases; its education," will be given at the House of the British Medical Association, 19B, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1, on Monday, November 8, to Friday, November 12, 1926, at 5.30 p.m., by Dr. ALFRED ADLER (Vienna). Fee for the course, £1 1s. Tickets must be obtained in advance from the Hon. Lecture Secretary, The Tavistock Clinic, 51, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.

SCOTTISH ASYLUMS' PATHOLOGICAL SCHEME.

Twenty-ninth Annual Report for the Year 1925.

[ABSTRACT.]

THE Board of the Scottish Asylums' Pathological Scheme record their appreciation of the research work carried out by Dr. Reynolds in the Laboratory during the year.

In addition to examining specimens sent to the Laboratory of the Board by the various contributing mental hospitals, he has been occupied in prosecuting his special research in connection with the paths of infection to the brain and nervous system. The Medical Research Council has given a further grant of £200 towards the expenses of this important research work.

Dr. Reynolds has given a course of lectures and demonstrations in Neuropathology, now required for the University Diploma in Psychiatry, and he has also taken part in post-graduate teaching.

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.72.299.715-a Published online by Cambridge University Press

The Board would emphasize the importance of Dr. Reynolds's visits to the contributing mental hospitals from time to time, as it is felt that by this means the medical officers' interest in pathological work can be kept active and a fuller use made of Dr. Reynolds's experience and advice.

The Board have to report that the University authorities have kindly granted the use of two rooms in the University Buildings for the Laboratory. The new accommodation is, perhaps, rather limited in size, but its position is central and will prove convenient. It has been decided to relinquish the lease of the present rooms in Frederick Street whenever the new rooms at the University are ready for occupation.

The accounts show that the revenue for 1925 amounted to £1,465 19*s.* 4½*d.*, and a balance carried forward from last year amounting to £309 2*s.* 9½*d.* The expenditure for the year was £998 3*s.* 8*d.*, leaving a credit balance at the end of the year amounting to £467 15*s.* 8½*d.*, or a surplus of £158 12*s.* 11*d.* on the year's working.

At the Annual Meeting of the Board, Dr. G. Douglas McRae was reappointed Chairman for another year, and the Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Dr. McRae, *Chairman*; Dr. R. B. Campbell, *Honorary Secretary and Treasurer*; Drs. Kerr, Keay, Bruce, Ex-Provost Stark, Prof. G. M. Robertson and Prof. Lorrain Smith.

Dr. Reynolds reports that he has devoted the greater part of his time to research work in collaboration with Dr. Logan Turner. Their first study on "The Paths of Infection to the Brain, Meninges and Venous Blood Sinuses from Neighbouring Peripheral Foci of Inflammation" was read at the Royal Society of Medicine, London, on June 5, 1925, and was published in *The Journal of Laryngology and Otology*, vol. xli, in February, 1926.

Their second study on the same subject appeared in *The Journal of Largngology and Otology* for July, 1926.

Three further studies are in manuscript. These are being revised and will shortly be ready for publication.

JOINT BOARD OF RESEARCH FOR MENTAL DISEASE OF BIRMINGHAM.

Annual Report of the Laboratory, 1926.

[*Abstract.*]

Bacteriological.—The typhoid outbreak has necessitated the examination of a very large number of specimens of fæces and blood. An investigation into the results shows that there must have been in the past history of the patients a large amount of intestinal infection and bacterial invasion from the intestine (as evidenced by positive agglutinations to organisms of the paratyphoid class). In a large number of cases the fæces show organisms of the paratyphoid group, including many true to type and agglutinating in very high dilutions, but of which the most show a difference from virulent types by reason of their not agglutinating known strains of these organisms. One patient died of an intestinal infection with an organism resembling Flexner Y, but which did not agglutinate with Flexner Y serum even after repeated culture. This lends support to the probability of a deleterious effect upon the health of the individual by these undesirable organisms which at least is a highly important factor in hindering any recovery.

The number of specimens showing the ubiquitous B Friedlander must attract notice. The incidence of this organism showed a distinct rise in September-October; the ratio calculated upon all specimens received for the year shows the monthly rate of these organisms for this period against the remaining months of the year to be 2 to 1; and 54 % of the patients at Rubery whose fæces were examined at one time or another showed this organism.

Over 200 gynæcological swabs have been examined and results obtained confirming our last year's finding, *i.e.*, that there is present in a large proportion diphtheroid organisms and streptococci often within the cervical canal.

Brain material is mostly sterile as far as our present anaërobic and aërobic methods have demonstrated; occasionally streptococci in pure culture have been found, in each case of the *Streptococcus mitis* class. *Streptococcus mitis* may be regarded

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.72.299.715-a Published online by Cambridge University Press