patients to see their doctors thoroughly sat upon over the attempts they made at dancing! Nurses, too, in learning dancing gained an accomplishment they could use to advantage. The hospital that did not go in for occupying patients with recreation was a very bad one.

Dr. D. M. MacMillan said that it had been very refreshing to hear their friends from Scotland. He himself still retained a great deal of the Scottish love for dancing; country dancing and Scottish folk dancing had been taught in his institution near Walsall, and so popular had it become that quite a lot of people who wanted to come to the dance had to be refused. The value of the country dance was that everybody could be got on to the floor. In formal dancing there were always a number of " wall-flowers ", but in country dancing everybody could be brought in. Formal dancing also made large demands on concentration. It was said that normal people became demented if they had too much formal dancing. On the other hand there were such dances as the haymakers' jig, Sir Roger de Coverley, the petronelle, and quite a number of others which were suitable dances for patients. With regard to games, he had solved a particular problem by having five-a-side football competitions throughout the whole of the summer, which kept alive the interest of the boys in sports during the summer when they could not get cricket.

The President (Dr. Gilmour) said that from his point of view he was accustomed to look upon the weekly dance as offering one of the greatest opportunities of acquiring a more intimate knowledge of the patients. If one was doubtful whether a case was one of schizophrenia or not, very often the reactions of the dance were of the greatest value in coming to a diagnostic decision. If that was so, then undoubtedly from the therapeutic point of view for that patient the recreational therapy had an immense value. If it was of use in producing something which was of value to the medical observer, then it was capable of some value to the patient. It induced reactions not usually seen in a consultation.

He added that he was almost sorry that this discussion had been restricted to recreational therapy. He had hoped that Dr. McCowan, with the great tradition of the Crichton behind him, would have referred to the therapeutic methods of his great predecessor Dr. Brown. There was a group of patients to whom the mere physical and muscular reactions did not appeal, and Dr. Brown nearly a century ago had French, German and Italian classes and arrangements of that description to interest his patients, and to produce a therapy which had not quite been acquired in occupational therapy of the ordinary sort. One point that he did not wish to stress was the effect which the entrance of mentally defective teams into recreational competitions might have upon the normal person. Would the fact that mental defectives were doing folk-dancing prevent the entrance of more normal teams, from a disinclination to be associated with teams from mental deficiency institutions?

Dr. Curran, in reply to the President's last remark, said that he had not found a disinclination on the part of normal persons to enter teams against teams of mental defectives. They had visiting teams and troops, and as a rule the people from the institution were up to the standard of the others if not better.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Runwell Hospital, Wickford, Essex, on Thursday, April 27, 1939.

In the forenoon members and their guests inspected the Hospital and Grounds.

The Meeting of the Divisional Committee of Management took place at 1.15 p.m.

Members and their guests were entertained to lunch.

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After the loyal toast Dr. Cedric Bower, Chairman of the South-Eastern Division, proposed a vote of thanks to the Visiting Committee and to Dr. Ström-Olsen. Councillor Harper, O.B.E., J.P., and Dr. Ström-Olsen replied.

The Meeting then took place. Dr. Cedric Bower took the Chair. The following members were present: Drs. W. R. Ashby, P. Banbury, H. E. Bonnell, Edith Booth, Cedric W. Bower, A. Helen Boyle, M. B. Brody, W. Brooks Keith, D. Bunbury, R. H. Burns, M. J. Brooks, E. A. Chennell, C. J. C. Earl, E. Edel, E. J. FitzGerald, Gwenvron Griffiths, F. P. Haldane, C. R. Harris, H. G. L. Haynes, L. T. Hilliard, J. Kirkland, S. L. Last, A. G. Maccallum, R. M. Macfarlane, W. Gordon Masefield, W. Mayer-Gross, T. A. Munro, G. S. Nightingale, N. Oliver, K. Paddle, T. Paton, D. E. Sands, H. A. Schölberg, R. Ström-Olsen, G. R. Tattersall, F. Douglas Turner and Prof. Plaut (visitor).

The Minutes of the previous Meeting having been published in the Supplement to the Journal were taken as read and confirmed.

The following candidates were unanimously elected Ordinary Members of the Association:

FORSYTHE, THOMAS RONALD, M.B., Ch.B.Sheff., D.P.M., Deputy Medical Superintendent, Kent County Mental Hospital, Barming Heath, Maidstone, Kent.

Proposed by Drs. Allen Hancock, W. Gordon Masefield and A. A. W. Petrie.

PILKINGTON, FRANCIS EDWARD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.P.I., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. 5.

Proposed by Drs. A. J. Lewis, E. Guttmann and M. A. Walsh.

NUTHALL, ROBERT NUTHALL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., The Homestead, Orpington, Kent.

Proposed by Drs. F. H. Edwards, H. J. Norman and R. M. Macfarlane.

The following were elected Members of the Divisional Committee of Management: Drs. Cedric W. Bower, H. G. L. Haynes, Thomas Lindsay, T. P. Rees, J. A. Small, R. M. Stewart and R. Ström-Olsen.

Dr. R. M. Macfarlane was elected Secretary of the Division.

The following Representative Members of Council were elected: Drs. B. W. F. Armitage, Cedric W. Bower, C. J. C. Earl, J. G. Hamilton, E. J. C. Hewitt, T. Lindsay and R. M. Stewart.

The fixing of the date and place of the Autumn Meeting and of the Spring Meeting, 1940, was left in the hands of the Divisional Secretary.

Miss Titterington was nominated as Nurse Examiner.

Letters of apology for absence were received from Drs. H. Bax, S. W. Hardwick, W. J. T. Kimber, P. K. McCowan, Grant Pugh, W. D. Nicol, A. A. W. Petrie, J. A. Small, R. M. Stewart and Sir Hubert Bond.

Dr. Lindsay was elected Chairman of the Division for the ensuing year.

A short paper by Drs. R. STRÖM-OLSEN, E. DE C. KITE and Mr. T. C. HALL entitled **"The Influence of Cerebro-spinal Fluid on Sodium Chloride Crystallization"** was read by Dr. Ström-Olsen. The following took part in the discussion which ensued: Prof. PLAUT, Drs. MAYER-GROSS, MASEFIELD, FITZGERALD, MUNRO and ASHBY. Dr. STRÖM-OLSEN replied. A vote of thanks was moved by the CHAIRMAN.

A paper entitled **"A Study of Folie à deux"** by Drs. S. M. COLEMAN and S. L. LAST was read by Dr. LAST. Drs. MUNRO, FITZGERALD and EARL took part in the discussion and Dr. LAST replied. A vote of thanks was proposed by the CHAIRMAN.

Members and their guests were then entertained to tea.

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