NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Northern and Midland Division was held on April 26, 1923, at the Cheshire County Mental Hospital, Parkside, Macclesfield, by the courtesy of Dr. H. Dove Cormac, who entertained the members to lunch.

Twenty-two members and two guests were present.

Dr. H. Dove Cormac occupied the Chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The following five candidates were balloted for as ordinary members and were duly elected.

AHERN, JOHN MAURICE, M.B., B.Ch., R.U.I., L.R.C.P. and S.Irel., Senior Medical Officer, H.M. Prison, Liverpool.
Proposed by Drs. Gilmour, Higson and M. H. Smith.

HENDERSON, NORMAN KEANE, B.A., LL.B.Edin., M.B., Ch.B.Camb., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer, County Medical Hospital, Lancaster.
Proposed by Drs. Blair, Cassidy and Coupland.

LYNCH, WILLIAM JOSEPH, M.B., B.Ch., N.U.I., Assistant Medical Officer, Cheshire County Mental Hospital Parkside, Macclesfield.
Proposed by Drs. Chevens, Dove Cormac and Parkin.

TATTERSALL, STANLEY ROY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.Lond., Pathologist to County Asylum, Lancaster.
Proposed by Drs. Blair, Cassidy and Coupland.

WADSWORTH, GEORGE REGINALD, M.B., B.Ch.Belf., Assistant Medical Officer, County Mental Hospital, Lancaster.
Proposed by Drs. Blair, Cassidy and Coupland.

Dr. J. R. Gilmour was elected Secretary of the Division and Drs. W. H. Coupland, E. S. Simpson and J. V. Tighe were elected Representative Members of Council.

It was arranged to hold the Autumn Meeting of the Division on October 25, at the East Riding Mental Hospital, Beverley, on the invitation of Dr. E. S. Simpson.

The Division considered the question of the period of service necessary before a candidate could enter for the preliminary examination for the Nursing Certificate and passed the following resolution:

"That the Council of the Association be asked to consider the question of whether fixed dates could not be arranged for the entrance to the preliminary examinations for the Nursing Certificate, with the suggestion that the dates be May 31 and November 30, so that any candidate completing twelve months' service on these dates should be eligible to sit for the May and November examinations."

Drs. P. B. MUNFORD and G. G. PARKIN then gave their paper on "Some Observations on the Blood Sugar in certain Mental States." (*see* p. 330).

Drs. B. H. SHAW, D. BLAIR and W. F. MENZIES discussed the paper.

Dr. F. W. MENZIES read a preliminary communication on "Postures," describing first the usual methods of investigation from the view-points of anatomy, neurology, biology, anthropology, and psychology. Postures were divided into three great classes: Lower neurone, upper neurone and mental. The development of the craniate limb was described as influencing the predominance of flexion over extension, and various examples were given. The evolution of the posterior longitudinal bundle and Dieter's nucleus was considered in relation to orthograde posture; the regressions therefrom in old age and illness, physical and mental, were mentioned as leading to the abducted, adducted and other attitudes. Mental postures also included emotional expression; the difficulties here encountered in connection with herd conventions and expressions were emphasised and the history of certain common human featural mechanisms as arising from primitive instincts in the lower phylæ was suggested. Postures occurring in the involuntary nervous system were left over for later consideration.

Dr. F. H. STEWART read "A Note on Vaccine Treatment in the Psychoses." This gave his observations on a series of cases treated by autogenous vaccines from cultures taken from the nose and also from the fæces. An interesting discussion followed.

The Divisional Secretary was asked to send out a circular arranging for a meeting of the members in the Manchester area to consider the formation of a course for the Diploma of Psychological Medicine at the University of Manchester.

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