NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held at the Gateshead Mental Hospital, Stannington, Northumberland, on Thursday, April 29, 1926, by the courtesy of Dr. J. B. Tighe, who entertained the members to lunch.

Dr. J. B. Tighe occupied the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

The following candidate was balloted for as an ordinary member of the Association, and was duly elected:

REGINALD ERNEST ILLINGWORTH, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Edin., Deputy Medical Superintendent, Northumberland County Mental Hospital, Morpeth.

Proposed by Drs. MacPhail, Gray and Gilmour.

Dr. J. R. Gilmour was re-elected Secretary to the Division.

Drs. H. Dove Cormac, J. B. Tighe and Neil Macleod were elected as Representative Members of Council.

Dr. M. A. ARCHDALE read a paper entitled "Some Remarks on Mental Treatment in Mental Hospitals." He said he had not used psycho-analysis much except in a superficial way, sufficient to afford information for suggestion and persuasion treatment.

He thought psycho-analysis had special value for prophylaxis after recovering from a psychotic attack.

Under the title of "Individual Suggestion" he discussed the merits of (1) hypnotism, (2) suggestion in the waking state, (3) methods of inducing relaxation of mind and body, (4) persuasion, and (5) auto-suggestion.

He said he had gradually come to combine heterosuggestion, persuasion and auto-suggestion, and he showed two printed lists of sentences containing suitable suggestions for certain mental states. Sentences from one list were repeated by a nurse to the patient according to direction, and those from the other list were repeated aloud by the patient under the supervision of the nurse.

Under the title of "General Suggestion" he discussed a number of details in mental hospital management, arranging his remarks under (1) the hospital atmosphere, (2) tone of the nurses, (3) points about the admission wards, (4) applied psychology for ward sisters and charge nurses, (5) discharge of patients, (6) attitude of whole staff, (7) occupation therapy.

Under the last heading he described the token payment and canteen system at Ryhope, and showed samples of the token, with suggestions printed in favour of the benefits of work, etc.

Dr. J. B. TIGHE then read "Notes on a Case of Epileptiform Seizures associated with Symptoms of Disease of the Pituitary Body."

The patient was a colliery driver, æt. 17, who was admitted to the hospital in May, 1925. There was no evidence of mental instability in the family history and nothing of note in the personal history. The lad was noisy, exalted and impulsive on his admission. There were signs of pituitary shortage. He developed a series of fits, associated with a low diastolic blood-pressure of 50 mm. Under treatment by whole pituitary gland, 6 grains *per diem*, there was steady improvement, and for a time cessation of fits.

The subsequent history of the patient showed a return of the epilepsy. The case led to an interesting discussion.

There was an informal discussion on the Board of Control's Circular 677.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Division was held, by the invitation of Dr. Richard R. Leeper, at St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin, on Thursday, April 22, 1926.

There were 19 members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

Correspondence was read from the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary of the Association *re* the new Charter and suggested amendment of the Bye-Laws of the Association. It was decided that in the event of a grant of arms being given to the Association, a suitable representation of Ireland be embodied by

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