The proposal contained in the Report that the General Nursing Council and the Royal Medico-Psychological Association should resume negotiations and endeavour to remedy the anomalous position of their examinations was fully discussed.

Eventually Dr. McDONALD, seconded by Dr. HOTCHKIS, moved—

> "That the Division should approach the Royal Medico-Psychological Association with a view to obtaining authority to resume negotiations with the General Nursing Council of Scotland on the lines suggested by the Departmental Committee's Report."

Prof. HENDERSON, seconded by Dr. CHAMBERS, moved the following amendment:

> "That the Division recommend the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to abolish its examination in view of the advantages pertaining to a unified system of examination and certification under the ægis of the State."

On a vote being taken the amendment was adopted.

Approval was expressed of the remaining proposals affecting the training of mental nurses contained in the Departmental Committee's Report, viz., (1) that a general nurse should be required to undergo a further period of two years, special training before being allowed to qualify as a mental nurse; and (2) that mental nursing should be one of the six-month courses of special training required from the general nurse as part of her general training. In the case of the latter proposal the Division, while approving of it in principle, considered there might be serious practical difficulties in giving effect to it.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN QUARTERLY MEETING of the Irish Division was held at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows, on Saturday, November 7, 1936.

The following members were present: Dr. J. C. Martin in the Chair; Drs. Dora E. Allman, P. J. Aird, W. J. Coyne, P. J. Cassin, L. Clifford, Kathleen Dillon, F. J. Deane, J. Dunne, W. N. Eustace, H. J. Eustace, J. Fitzgerald, Dorothy Gardner, P. Grace, B. F. Honan, D. Hegarty, J. V. Kelly, R. R. Leeper, D. B. M. Lothian, C. B. Molony, C. J. McCarthy, M. J. Nolan, E. N. M. O'Sullivan, D. J. O'Sullivan, J. C. Osborne, Eveleen O'Brien, A. Sheridan, H. StG. Smith, and Dr. R. Thompson (Hon. Sec.).

An apology for unavoidable absence was received from Dr. T. A. Greene.

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

The following nominated members were, after ballot, unanimously elected members of the Association:

DICKSON, ROBERT F. G., L.R.C.P.&S.I., D.P.H., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Down County Mental Hospital, Downpatrick.

Proposed by Drs. D. B. Lothian, F. J. Deane and P. Grace.

ROBSON, MARY M., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.Belf., D.P.H., Assistant Medical Officer, Mental Hospital, Antrim.

Proposed by Drs. A. R. Boyd, R. R. Leeper and R. Thompson.

Nominations were received for the posts of Divisional Secretary and Representative Members of Council for election at the Spring Meeting, 1937.

Dr. HONAN submitted to the meeting correspondence regarding the setting-up of a Free State Branch of the International League against Epilepsy. After some discussion it was decided to postpone this matter for further consideration.

The meeting then considered the R.M.P.A. Revision of the Classification of Mental Disorders. After some discussion it was decided to ask the Secretary to

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furnish copies of this revised classification to all the members, and to put the question on the agenda for discussion at the Spring Meeting.

Dr. MORAN then opened a discussion on the training of personnel for the higher posts on the nursing staffs of mental hospitals. He stressed the importance, in his opinion, of a mental training prior to a general training for mental nurses, and that mental nursing could only be learned from below upwards and not from above downwards. He also stressed the necessity of giving facilities and encouragement to selected mental nurses to obtain general training, so that a supply of the right type of candidate would be provided for the higher executive posts.

The subject was discussed in detail by many of the members present, and very varying opinions were expressed. At the conclusion of the discussion the following two resolutions were drawn up by Dr. MORAN, put to the meeting, and adopted :

(*a*) " That facilities be provided in our mental hospitals for general nurses to get mental training, and that selected members of our mental nursing staffs be provided with facilities for getting general training."

(*b*) " That in selecting persons for executive posts in mental hospitals due regard should be paid to the previous record and performance of candidates in the service."

The Secretary was directed to send copies of the first resolution to the Local Government Department and Mental Hospital Committees, and copies of the second resolution to the Local Government Department and Local Appointments Commissioners.

The meeting accepted with pleasure an invitation from Dr. W. N. Eustace to hold the Spring Meeting at Hampstead and Highfield, Glasnevin, Dublin, at a date to be arranged later.

Dr. C. B. MOLONY, Assistant Medical Officer, Limerick Mental Hospital, then read a most interesting communication on **" Some of the Administrative, Nursing and Research Problems Created by the Extensions to the Irish Mental Hospitals ".**

Dr. MOLONY described in detail the many problems to which the extensive additions to the Irish mental hospitals were now giving rise. He discussed in detail the problems of staffing, supervision, cooking, lay-out of grounds, upkeep, etc. Dr. Molony's paper gave rise to a lengthy discussion, to which Drs. GARDNER, FITZGERALD, SHERIDAN, CASSIN, LEEPER, LOTHIAN, DUNNE and GRACE contributed. Dr. MOLONY replied to the many points raised by the speakers.

MIDLAND MENTAL PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Midland Mental Pathological Society held its Fifth General Meeting in the Birmingham University on Thursday, October 1. Mr. F. A. R. Stammers, F.R.C.S., B.Sc., M.B., Ch.M., gave an address on " Intra-cranial Surgery ", illustrated by charts, X-ray photographs and a number of cases. The cases also successfully illustrated his own method of rib-grafting into large skull deficiencies. He remarked upon the uselessness of waiting for the classical signs of brain tumour (vomiting, headache and papilloedema), which really indicated impending death, emphasizing the importance of earlier diagnosis.

Sir Gilbert Barling, Bart., C.B., C.B.E., F.R.C.S., then gave an interesting account of his own pioneer work in brain surgery. He showed a large brain tumour successfully removed over forty years ago, and a tumour containing pieces of shrapnel which, even after three years, were surrounded by beads of pus. He also demonstrated a case he had successfully operated upon for brain tumour twenty-six years previously.

There was an appreciative audience of 25 members and 9 visitors.

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