'Imbeciles') in Workhouse Wards, or boarded out, if kept to the satisfaction of the Commissioners in Lunacy: this has been done in Scotland since 1874."

Dr. NEWINGTON seconded.

Dr. OSCAR WOODS asked them not to pass it in a hurry. The Government had given a certain sum as a contribution for lunatics, and he took it that if that resolution was passed the paupers in the asylums would not get the 4s. per head. If distributed over the asylums they would have got 3s. 6d.

Dr. J. A. CAMPBELL—It only refers to England and Wales.

Dr. CLOUSTON—In Scotland the rule applies. At the present time every pauper lunatic receives a certain proportion to help for his board, from the Government. I can speak for every Scotch member, and say it is a great boon.

Dr. WHITCOMBE suggested to Dr. Campbell the advisability of bringing the matter up at the next quarterly meeting.

Dr. J. A. CAMPBELL—The committee has sent out notice to every committee in England, to Boards of Guardians, to the Local Government Board, and also to the Commissioners in Lunacy. This was the time to act if they were to act at all. The Lancashire Boards were also taking steps in the same direction. That was his reason for specially bringing the matter before them that day.

Dr. SPENCE—I should regret if this Association should pass the resolution that has been presented by Dr. Campbell.

Dr. FOX doubted whether the Guardians would understand it as they understood it.

Dr. WHITCOMBE—It has been sprung upon us without notice.

Dr. CAMPBELL—It has not. The matter was before the Council this morning.

Dr. OSCAR WOODS seconded the motion.

The PRESIDENT then put it to the meeting whether the subject should be deferred to the next quarterly meeting, and declared it carried "nearly unanimously" that it should be so.

THE AFTERNOON MEETING.

HONOURS.

The PRESIDENT, on the meeting reassembling, announced that Dr. Campbell, Assistant Medical Officer Rainhill Asylum, Lancashire, had been awarded the bronze medal and prize of ten guineas of the Association (applause), and the second essay was so good and so near the first that the Council recommended that a prize of five guineas be awarded to Dr. Goodall, of the West Riding Asylum, Wakefield. (Applause.)

GENERAL INDEX.

The PRESIDENT next announced the presentation to the Association of a continuation of Dr. Blandford's Index to the "Journal of Mental Science," kindly prepared by Dr. Rayner.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Rayner, on the motion of Dr. CLOUSTON, seconded by Dr. J. A. CAMPBELL.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Votes of thanks were then passed to the President, Secretaries, the Editors, Auditors, Treasurer, and Registrar.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT informed the meeting that the only business that remained was for him to deliver his Address. (See Original Articles.)

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Dr. BAKER proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his very interesting and instructive Address.

Dr. CONOLLY NORMAN seconded the proposition, and said that the Address had covered such an amount of ground that no one member could discuss the several points in the time at their disposal. But there were one or two points upon which he should like to say a word or two. The suggestions the President had made were very practical and suitable for them to consider and take action upon. He had spoken about the provincial members, who, in some degree, felt themselves excluded from the full working of the Association. With tact that did honour to his position as President, he mentioned the burning question of the supposed representative shortcomings of the Council in a merely casual manner. In Dr. Norman's opinion the difficulty about interesting provincial members in their Association was of more importance than their mere election on the Council. No Association could be ruled by people who did not take an interest in its work. So long as provincial members did not take a personal interest in their meetings they could not rise to official standing. Dr. Lindsay had spoken about what might be called the short service system in asylums, and undoubtedly the longer one looked at the question of asylum service—using the word in its larger sense—the greater did the difficulty become of seeing how something approaching a short service system could be avoided. Take the case of asylum attendants. He thought the feeling was very general that an attendant lost value when he had served longer than a certain time; if he exceeded that time he became useless for anything else. Therefore there was the dilemma of either doing a wrong to the institution by retaining persons who were no longer at their best, or of doing an injustice to attendants by dismissing them when they had overstood their market for obtaining other employment. It would be better, he thought, if attendants were engaged on the understanding that they were to remain a limited number of years, say three years if not promoted, five years if they got up a step, and seven years if they got up another step. Some such thing as that was bound to come eventually. Then as to the long hours. The President spoke sympathetically of their attendants. When an accident happened and a man stated that he had been fourteen hours on duty, he surely had reason on his side. This question was certain to be brought forward sooner or later by the attendants themselves, or by someone speaking for them; and he thought it would be a pity if the Association did not give an expression of their own opinion beforehand. It was their duty and privilege to try and lead public opinion in such matters as that, though their voice might long be as that of one crying in the wilderness. With regard to female assistants, it would be unkind to take up the time of the members after having spoken so much on this subject earlier in the day, but he had tried the experiment, and had satisfied himself that medical women could be of use in asylums, and could exercise a very beneficial effect upon the staff, and an effect that was not otherwise to be obtained upon female patients. The President had spoken of the very wonderful system that existed in this country —very wonderful to all of them who, like the speaker, were foreigners (laughter)—of having asylums visited by barristers, and by commissioners who hunted in couples. At the bottom of all that lay the imputation which the legal profession was so fond of making against the medical profession, if not directly, by insinuation, that they were all rogues. The medical commissioner could not, forsooth, visit an asylum without a lawyer to look after him; one official could not be trusted to visit an asylum unless another accompanied him to see that he did his work! They were wanting to themselves in not protesting against all this. Again, it was a monstrous provision that when lunacy certificates were signed by two medical men each must see the patient alone. Yet where is consultation more desirable than when two general practitioners consign a patient to an asylum or what better safeguard agains error than free

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consultation? What does the provision mean? That the lawyers cannot trust our profession. Is it possible that two respectable professional men, be they doctors or lawyers even, cannot meet and consult without perpetrating a fraud? The President had also referred to the action of the London County Council in several other matters, but he did not think that he spoke of their action in regard to the advancement of pathological study. It must be said that the action of the London County Council in this respect was in the highest degree generous and enlightened. As they were talking about their Association and its shortcomings, and what it could do, it was, he said, a reproach to them that this kind of thing was not more forcibly advocated by the Association. Individual members had done a great work in pathology, but he did not know that their Association had ever spoken collectively, and claimed as a right what the London County Council had done. Theirs was the body that ought to have initiated this movement. If they were to speak more courageously on such matters they would get listened to, perhaps, where they hardly now dared hope for a hearing. If they agitated vigorously and claimed as matters of right recognition of their position as scientific teachers and workers, encouragement and facilities for scientific work, high qualifications for their medical assistants, a suitable proportion of trained nurses among their staff, and if they urged the just claims of all workers among the insane to liberal pay and competent pension—they would not only perform their duty as an Association, but they would raise themselves immensely in the estimation of the public, and he firmly believed they would obtain such a success as would surprise them.

Mr. RICHARDS supported the resolution, and he had a special reason for doing so. Dr. Lindsay, who had given that most interesting and exhaustive Address, was his old master some 25 years ago. It was his good fortune to be his assistant, and he instilled into him the routine work as to ensure his future success. It was owing to that in a great measure that he got on so well with his committee and also the London County Council. It showed that the opinions he held then were well founded, and now they were still more matured. As regarded the London County Council he endorsed what the President had said. He believed it rested with the medical superintendents to get anything done that was reasonable and calculated to benefit the patients of an institution. Now was the time for them to strike.

The proposition was unanimously carried, and

The PRESIDENT, in reply, thanked them, and assured the members that whatever he could do for the Association he would gladly do.

Dr. J. A. CAMPBELL—You must suggest that we take some action with regard to what has been said about pensions. I think that it reads most judiciously and most candidly. I move that we thank the Commissioners for those remarks of two years ago.

Dr. MACDONALD seconded.

The business then concluded, and the members paid a visit to the Devonshire Hospital and the Baths.

In the evening the members and friends dined together at the Palace Hotel, Buxton.

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