to the dying person of a relative or other friend long since dead. Was it a popular idea based upon a recognised pathological condition in the dying person?

Dr. STEEN, in reply, expressed the gratitude he felt for the kind reception of his paper.

The meeting had been very pleased to hear from Dr. Mercier, and would have been still more glad if he could have been present among them. He was sure the Association had always thought most highly, and with the greatest respect, of what Dr. Mercier put forward, and, as Sir George Savage said, many members agreed with him on the present subject, namely, that insanity and unsoundness of mind were not convertible terms. If a man was insane he was mentally unsound, but a man might be mentally unsound without being insane. Therefore Dr. Mercier's teaching had not fallen on the dry and stony ground which that authority considered it had.

The lateness of the hour precluded him from making any detailed reply to the criticisms of the paper. Sir George Savage's remarks had been most interesting, especially with regard to hypnogogic hallucinations. The cases described by Dr. Pasmore were of great value, and it was certainly very difficult in borderland cases to state the exact period when sanity changed to insanity. Dr. Carswell had brought out a very interesting point in that, although popular opinion was strong in the belief that the dying experienced hallucinations, the scientific literature was almost silent on the matter. He feared he could not quite agree with all Dr. Carswell had said about alcohol.

## NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the Northern and Midland Division was held at the kind invitation of Dr. H. Dove Cormac at the Cheshire County Asylum, Macclesfield, on Thursday, April 26th, 1917.

Dr. Cormac presided.

The following seven members were present: Drs. H. D. Cormac, R. Eager (Western Division), E. G. Grove, A. McDougall, S. R. Macphail, W. F. Menzies, T. S. Adair.

Apologies were received from several members for non-attendance.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

On the proposal of Dr. Macphail, seconded by Dr. McDougall, Dr. T. S. Adair was re-elected Secretary for the ensuing twelve months.

Drs. D. Hunter and J. Geddes were elected to represent the Division on the Council of the Association. This was proposed by Dr. McDougall and seconded by Dr. Macphail.

The kind invitation of Dr. Cribb to hold the Autumn Meeting, 1917, at the Durham County Asylum, and that of Dr. Cowen for the Spring Meeting, 1918, at Rainhill Asylum, near Liverpool, were cordially accepted. The dates and details were left to the Secretary to arrange.

As no papers had been obtainable for the meeting, the time was profitably spent in a consideration of various matters connected with present-day asylum administration, particularly the question of rationing the asylum and the use of suitable substitutes for bread, potatoes, etc.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Cormac for his kindness and hospitality.

## ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

(*Abridged Report.*)

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Asylum Workers' Association was held at the Mansion House, London, on May 14th, the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor (Col. Sir Wm. Dunn), Vice-President of the Association, in the chair. There was a distinguished company present, including Cardinal Bourne, Bishop Ryle (Dean of Westminster), Alderman Sir G. Wyatt Truscott, Bart. (Chairman, City of London Mental Hospital), Sir Fredk. Needham, M.D., and Dr. C. Hubert Bond (Commissioners of the Board of Control), Sir J. Crichton-Browne, M.D., F.R.S.

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