Dr. Aveline and Dr. Norman Lavers were elected as Representative Members of Council.

Dr. MacBryan and Dr. Nelis were elected as members of the Committee of Management.

The following dates were fixed for the Autumn and Spring Meetings respectively: October 26th, 1917, and April 26th, 1918, the place of the meeting for the former being left in the hands of the Hon. Secretary.

The members present made a sympathetic allusion to the loss sustained by the Division in the recent decease of Dr. F. St. John Bullen, and it was proposed that the Hon. Secretary be requested to convey their sympathies to Mrs. Bullen.

The decease of Dr. Smyth, Medical Superintendent of the County Asylum, Gloucester, was recorded with regret.

The Hon Secretary was requested to express the thanks of the members to Dr. Starkey for his kind invitation to entertain the Division at the Plymouth Borough Asylum.

THE MENTAL AFTER-CARE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association was held, by the kindness of Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones, M.D., at 9, Bramham Gardens, Kensington, on March 1st, the Lord Mayor presiding.

Sir ROBERT ARMSTRONG-JONES, in welcoming the Lord Mayor, said the City of London was noted for the more than kind solicitude which it extended to the distressed and those who suffered. Whether these were individuals, or families, or social groups, or nations, the charity of the Mansion House was so well known that no words of elaboration were needed. Judging by the numerous reports in the daily Press of the meetings held at that civic centre, the Corporation of London realised the supreme importance of sound mental and physical health, and that was an asset upon which, especially at the present time, no limitation could be placed. As Treasurer of the Crippled Children's Homes the Lord Mayor's time must be fully occupied, but his heart was large enough and his sympathies deep enough to allow him to extend his beneficent help to other charities. The greatest pleasure a person could have was the full realisation and use of his mental equipment, and to lose that was a very sad event. He was glad to know that the nurses engaged in the large mental hospitals had a three years' training, and the forty examination papers he had been looking through, the work of mental nurses, compared very favourably with that of budding medical students.

The LORD MAYOR said it was in 1912 that he first had the privilege of addressing the Association, and it was a great pleasure to him to know that it was receiving such unqualified support. He was so impressed years ago with its good work that he became a life-subscriber, and he hoped others in the room would do the same. When people recovered from physical illness they required rest, change, and support; and when convalescent from mental disease surely the need for this was even greater. This Association gave that care. Some people who came out of asylums found that there was an unwillingness to associate with them, so that they felt they had no place to turn to. As there was no other body which carried on this very useful work there need be no fear of overlapping. When people came from asylums they were cured, but were not mentally strong; they required people to come along and be props to them. He commended the charity to his hearers, and felt grateful that he was allowed to participate in a small way in such a useful work.

Dr. RAYNER (for Miss Vickers, the Secretary) submitted the annual report, which showed that the work of the Association had progressed most satisfactorily during the past year, in spite of the war. The number of patients dealt with had increased, and encouraging financial support had been forthcoming. The cases were very sad, and often specially difficult. That the work was highly appreciated was shown by the efforts made by the subjects of help to repay some of their indebtedness when their progress enabled them to do so. Special thanks were tendered by the Council to Miss Lucy Wills, who had contributed two separate £100 gifts. During the year under review applications were made on behalf of 508 persons (377 women, 131 men), or 33 *per cent.* more than last year; 984 inter-

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views were held at the office, 630 visits paid, 154 situations found, and 6000 letters were written about the cases. A number of typical examples were quoted. The Guild of Help had sent some splendid articles of clothing from time to time. An account was also given of the work at the affiliated branch at Birmingham.

Sir WILLIAM COLLINS, M.P., proposed the adoption of the report in an eloquent speech. He said that Mrs. Tuke's death reminded one of the enormous amelioration of the lot of the mentally afflicted which the last century had witnessed. To realise that, one had only to look back upon the satire which Hogarth put upon canvas in that memorable picture in the series called "The Rake's Progress," in which he showed at a glance the panorama of London's intellectual refuse and the way in which it was treated in the latter part of the eighteenth century. In that new philanthropy reforms had succeeded each other quickly; Wilberforce, Howard, Samuel Romilly, and others had that humanitarian spirit which flamed to-day, and which found its expression in such an agency as this After-care Association. Their own Tuke, of "The Retreat" at York—a member of that body, not too popular to-day, which was associated with many of the greatest reforms in this country, the Quakers—had done very much, as had Conolly at Hanwell, to ameliorate the lot of the mentally afflicted. Perhaps at the present time our reforms ran more in the direction of doing something more for the beginnings and endings of mental affliction; and this Association stood for that most important phase when the mentally afflicted returned again to participate in the affairs of the world at large, when they stood so much in need of a guide, philosopher, and friend. There was a form of mental alienation which was spoken of by experts as agoraphobia: the fear of the market-place, a fear which led them to seek in desperation for something or somebody to hold on to. But the mentally afflicted had a highly-developed individualism or egoism, though he hoped it would not be maintained that highly individualistic persons were necessarily insane. Most people knew the feeling experienced when recovering from physical illness, and he imagined this must be so intensified as to raise it to the N^{th} degree in those who were emerging from mental disease and were seeking again to pass into publicity. There were still persons who believed that the mentally afflicted were demoniacally possessed; but the work which this Association was carrying on appealed to the highest ideals and the most practical benevolence. He remembered seeing, in Florence, a picture which impressed him greatly, and which seemed to carry a lesson for such occasions as this. The mediæval artist endeavoured to put on one small canvas the Mount of Transfiguration, and, in the corner of the picture, the epileptic boy who, according to the Evangelist, was so faithfully described as gnashing his teeth and pining away. Was not the highest idealism needed to minister to the mentally sick? Some of the humblest ministrations were to those who were most to be pitied, and they rose to the highest ideals, ideals which transfigured and transformed our lives. And if we desired to realise our ideal we could hardly do it better than in endeavouring to idealise the work as it lay at our doors, and assist in the common kindly work which this Association was endeavouring to do.

The Right Hon. Sir DAVID BRYNMÔR JONES, K.C., seconded the resolution. With the experience he had had in connection with lunacy he could say that the Association demanded almost universal sympathy; for under the existing Lunacy Laws it was doing a necessary work. Under the Lunacy Act of 1890, the mere fact that a patient was discharged from an asylum was not conclusive as to the discharge of an order about his property: that meant that though a patient was regaining his freedom it might not yet be expedient for him to resume control over his property. This Association was valuably supplementing the Lunacy legislation and administration of the country, and though this was not the time to ask for money, he hoped assistance for such a worthy object would continue to be forthcoming.

Sir JOHN JARDINE, M.P., and Sir RICHARD DOUGLAS POWELL, K.C.V.O., having supported the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The various officers who retire by rotation were re-elected, on the proposition of the Rev. Prebendary SWAYNE, seconded by Miss EVELYN FOX. Miss FOX, speaking as a member of the Visiting Committee at one of the large Metropolitan asylums, said she could not imagine anything which would be more difficult and

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make one feel more hopeless than dealing with these cases if one felt there was no one who could be appealed to for assistance. Women and girls who were leaving the asylums felt it was a turning-point in their lives; and it was distressing to think they might be returning to the conditions which had been answerable for their breakdown, but which might be prevented by such advice and help as the Association could give. She could not speak too highly of the sympathy and human understanding which was given to the work by the Secretary, Miss Vickers.

Dr. NICOLSON, C.B., supported the resolution and commended the fine work of the officials. Now that many families in the country were earning considerably more money, some of the relatives of mental patients could perhaps afford an enhanced sum if the claims of the Association were brought home to them. The Rev. J. C. MEAD ALLEN also spoke, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Sir GEORGE SAVAGE proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for his kindness in presiding. This was seconded by Dr. G. E. SHUTTLEWORTH, and carried with enthusiasm.

The LORD MAYOR, in acknowledging the compliment, said he took it as a tribute to his office rather than to himself. He would be pleased at any time to place the Mansion House at the disposal of this and any kindred Society. He referred to the fact that his personal acquaintanceship with Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones commenced forty years ago, and it was a great personal pleasure to him to see that he had been honoured by His Majesty.

Thanks having been also tendered to Sir Robert and Lady Armstrong-Jones, the meeting terminated.

KNIGHTHOOD FOR DR. ARMSTRONG-JONES.

IT is with sincere pleasure that we offer our congratulations to Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones on his having had recently conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, an honour which has been bestowed on him on account of his life-long labours in the interests of the insane, of psychiatric science, and, indirectly, of the public generally, who are at last beginning, as it were at the eleventh hour, to recognise the vast importance of this branch of medicine.

Dr. Robert Jones, as we knew him for the greater part of his life (he recently took the additional surname of his wife's family) is the eldest of five sons of the Rev. Thomas Jones, Eisteddfa, Tremadoc, who at the time of his death was the oldest Congregational minister in North Wales. He was educated at a private Grammar School at Portmadoc, and at Wrexham, and finally in the University College of Wales at Aberystwith. From there he entered St. Bartholomew's, on which occasion there was a record number of entrants, over 150, and while there was pro-sector to the Anatomy Lecturer. Among his fellow students who have achieved distinction were Sir Wilmot Herringham, Sir Anthony Bowlby, now Chief Surgeon to the Military Forces in France, and Sir William Collins, M.P. for Derby, to whom asylum workers are so greatly indebted for his labours on their behalf, and between whom and Sir Robert since their student days there has always existed a close mutual friendship and regard.

At "Bart.'s" Dr. Jones was a diligent student, and not merely of medical lore, as in his second year he took the Hichen's Prize for an examination in Butler's Analogy, also the Wix Prize Essay for the Life and Works of Sydenham. He completed his medical course by taking the degrees of M.B., M.D., of the London University, and, later, of F.R.C.S. and F.R.C.P.E. His first appointment was that of Junior Medical Officer of the Earlswood Asylum, of which subsequently he was made Superintendent. Finally, he was appointed Superintendent of the L.C.C. Asylum at Claybury, which office he filled with honour and distinction for nearly twenty-four years. His retirement from active asylum work was the subject of a notice in the October issue of the Journal.

Dr. Jones' medical work was not limited to his duties within the walls of an institution. He became Lecturer on Mental Diseases to Westminster Hospital, and later to St. Bartholomew's, and also to the West London Post-Graduate College. He has been examiner in Psychology and Mental Diseases for the University of London, on which subjects he contributed articles to Clifford

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