the staff to claim the full pre-war issue on this scale; (7) the comparison of the cost of the reduced rations with the full pre-war issue on which the value of emoluments for superannuation purposes was fixed; (8) the right of the staff to claim a diet, equivalent in value to the amount fixed as board emolument; (9) the grounds on which permanent increases in salary and war bonuses had been generally given, and to what extent the reduction in food was thereby compensated; (10) the payment of a weekly sum of money in lieu of the rations deducted, as at present conceded in some asylums, and the basis on which this sum is computed; (11) the making up of the deducted diet with available substitutes, and so forming an acceptable and variable diet, as already favoured by some asylums. It was generally agreed that if all waste could be stopped there would be little, if any, need for rationing. The principle of fixed allowances was not considered as conducive to economy. There was a concensus of opinion that the fresh difficulties created through forced changes in the administration of institutions have produced troubles of an unexpected character, and considerably added to the cares and anxieties in the successful administration of asylums. Further, the different methods of dealing with the difficulties associated with the introduction of rationing the staff have not tended towards a general or ready acceptance of the many earnest and well-intentioned endeavours to meet and cope with unforeseen troubles. Apart from any question of right (which could only be determined by a test case) it was thought that the all round increase of wages fairly met any reduction in the dietary, and, further, it had to be remembered that the question of rationing applied to everyone.

SCOTTISH DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Scottish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at the Edinburgh War Hospital, Bangour, on Friday, November 16th, 1917.

Present: Lieut.-Col. Keay, Major Hotchkis, Capt. Laurie, R.A.M.C.; Drs. Dods Brown, Crichlow, Carlyle Johnstone, Kerr, Mackenzie, G. M. Robertson, Ferguson Watson, and Dr. R. B. Campbell, Divisional Secretary.

Lieut.-Col. Keay occupied the chair.

Before taking up the ordinary business of the meeting the CHAIRMAN referred in appropriate terms to the loss which the Association and the Scottish Division had sustained since last meeting through the death of Dr. A. R. Urquhart, formerly Medical Superintendent of Murray's Royal Asylum, Perth. He stated that Dr. Urquhart had taken a very active part in the affairs of the Association, having been President in 1898, co-editor of the *Journal of Mental Science*, and Divisional Secretary for Scotland for several years.

It was unanimously resolved that it be recorded in the minutes that the members of the Scottish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association desire to express their deep sense of the loss sustained by the death of Dr. A. R. Urquhart, and their sympathy with his relatives in their bereavement, and the Secretary was instructed to transmit an excerpt of the minutes to the relatives.

The CHAIRMAN also suitably referred to the great loss which the Association had sustained through the death of Dr. H. Hayes Newington, a former President, and Treasurer of the Association since 1894.

It was unanimously resolved that it be recorded in the minutes that the members of the Scottish Division of the Medico-Psychological Association desire to express their deep sense of the loss the Association has sustained by the death of Dr. H. Hayes Newington, and their sympathy with his relatives in their bereavement. The Secretary was instructed to transmit an excerpt of the Minute to his relatives.

The minutes of last Divisional meeting were read and approved, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Lieut.-Col. Thomson, President of the Association; Majors Eager and Stansfield; Capts. Stewart Campbell and Steele; and Drs. Yellowlees, Fraser, Easterbrook, Alexander, Tuach Mackenzie, and Shaw.

The SECRETARY submitted a letter of acknowledgment received from the

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relatives of the late Dr. Turnbull, thanking the members of the Division for their kind letter of sympathy.

A letter was also submitted from Dr. Carlyle Johnstone thanking the members of the Association for their kind expressions towards him on his retirement from the Medical Superintendentship of Roxburgh District Asylum.

The business Committee was appointed, consisting of the nominated member and the two representative members of the Council, along with Drs. Carlyle Johnstone, Maxwell Ross, and the Divisional Secretary.

Drs. L. R. Oswald and J. H. Skeen were nominated by the Division for the position of Representative Members of Council, and Dr. R. B. Campbell was nominated for the position of Divisional Secretary.

The members were then conducted over part of the hospital by Lieut.-Col. Keay. The orthopædic workshops were first visited, when an opportunity was given to see the various ways in which incapacitated soldiers were being trained in useful forms of employment. The electrical department was next visited, when Major Rankine, Officer in Charge, explained the various forms of treatment, etc. Lieut.-Col. Stiles then gave a most instructive and interesting demonstration of various nerve injuries caused by wounds, explaining the surgical methods which had been successfully adopted to overcome many nerve lesions.

A vote of thanks to Lieut.-Col. Keay, Lient.-Col. Stiles, and Major Rankine for the great trouble which they had taken to make such an interesting and successful meeting, concluded the business of the meeting.

After the meeting the members were kindly entertained to tea by Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Keay.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Irish Division was held on Thursday, November 1st, 1917, at the Royal College of Physicians.

Members present: Dr. J. O'C. Donelan, Dr. Drapes, Dr. Gavan, Dr. T. A. Greene, Dr. Mills, Dr. Rainsford, Dr. Redington, Dr. Rutherford, and Dr. Leeper (Hon. Sec).

Dr. Drapes having been moved to the chair, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Letters of apology for unavoidable absence were received from Dr. Hetherington, Londonderry, and Dr. Greene apologised to the meeting for the unavoidable absence of Dr. Nolan of Downpatrick.

A ballot for the election of two new members was next proceeded with, and Dr. Redington was appointed scrutineer.

The CHAIRMAN declared that Dr. Christopher Costello and Dr. Vincent C. Ellis, Assistant Medical Officers of Portrane Asylum, Donabate, were elected unanimously.

It was proposed and seconded that in future elections of members, the word "unanimous" should be omitted in declaring the result of the ballot.

The Secretary was directed to forward a resolution of condolence to Dr. Oakshott, of Waterford upon the death of his only son, who fell gallantly leading his men in action at the Front.

Dr. MILLS next read his paper on "Homicidal Impulse," which produced a most interesting discussion.

Dr. MILLS said: I have chosen to speak on a subject on which there are wide diversities of opinion, and the views I intend to express are based on accumulated experience in the treatment of various insanities, and I will welcome criticism of my views, and hope to receive help and enlightenment therefrom. I regret that pressure of other duties and pre-occupation of my time with the details of administrative work incumbent on my office have prevented me from presenting a scholarly exposition of authorities, as is usually done when papers are read at meetings of the Medico-Psychological Association, but I offer for criticism my views as regards the alienation of patients suffering from what I call the homicidal impulse. The class of cases I propose to speak of from personal experience are those outlined in the following words of Bianchi, translated by MacDonald, quoted from the chapter on "Fixed Ideas and Obsessions":

"We now come to describe another group of obsessions—the obsessive

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