the meeting; but on the suggestion of the Honorary General Secretary, Dr. Mercier consented to its being postponed till the Annual Meeting.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association :—George Beamish, L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.E., L.M., Medical Officer, H.M. Prison, Liverpool ; John W. Geddes, M.B. and C.M.Edin., Assistant Medical Officer, Durham County Asylum, Winterton, Ferryhill, Durham ; Robert Wilson, M.B., C.M.Glas., Nailsworth, Gloucestershire.

SPRING MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH DIVISION.

A meeting of the Scottish Division was held in the Hall of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, on Thursday, 12th March, 1896.

Present—Dr. Carswell (Glasgow), Dr. Margaret C. Dewar (Dumfries), Dr. Edgerley (Melrose), Dr. Havelock (Montrose), Dr. Hotchkis (Glasgow), Dr. MacDowall (Morpeth), Dr. Macpherson (Larbert), Dr. Oswald (Glasgow), Dr. Alexander Robertson (Glasgow), Dr. G. M. Robertson (Murthly), Dr. Turnbull (Hon. Sec.), Dr. Urquhart (Perth), Dr. W. R. Watson (Govan), and Dr. Yellowlees (Glasgow).

On the motion of Dr. YELLOWLEES, Dr. MacDowall was called upon to preside.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary submitted applications for admission as members from Hamilton C. Marr, M.D., Senior Assistant Physician, Woodilee Asylum, Lenzie, and William Cardiff Hossack, M.B., C.M., Assistant Physician, District Asylum, Inverness. On being balloted for these gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Association.

MEMBER OF COUNCIL AND DIVISIONAL SECRETARYSHIP.

On the motion of Dr. YELLOWLEES it was agreed that the name of Dr. Watson (Govan) be suggested to the Council for election when filling up the next vacancies on the Council ; and that of Dr. Turnbull (Cupar-Fife) for the Divisional Secretaryship.

PENSIONS SCHEME.

Dr. URQUHART submitted a report, prepared by Mr. J. A. Robertson, C.A., Edinburgh, for the Pensions Committee, and suggested that a copy should be sent to the Council by the Divisional Secretary, with the request that the matter should be placed on the agenda paper of the next Annual Meeting, as having the approval of the Scottish Division.

After some conversation this was agreed to, and on the suggestion of Dr. TURNBULL it was resolved that Mr. Robertson's report should be printed, and a copy sent to each member of the Scottish Division.

CARLISLE MEETING.

Dr. TURNBULL, for Dr. Carlyle Johnstone, intimated the arrangements for the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association at Carlisle, and hoped that there would be a good attendance from Scotland.

FORMS FOR CASE TAKING AND FOR OTHER ASYLUM RECORDS.

Dr. URQUHART submitted forms which he had prepared for case taking in the admission room and in the wards—a scheme for case books and a card index to cases. He also laid on the table various charts and lithographs procurable from Messrs. Daniellson; and a chart for recording mental states devised by Dr. Watson, of the Winson Green Asylum, Birmingham.

COLLECTIVE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

Dr. G. M. ROBERTSON submitted the proposal by the Collective Investigation Committee that "Statistics and Types of Epileptic Insanity" be the subject adopted for examination, and said one of the recommendations agreed to at the last meeting of this Division was that the suggestions of the Collective Investigation Committee should be printed on our agenda paper. The reason of the

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.42.178.655 Published online by Cambridge University Press

present suggestion is that at the last Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association Dr. Gower asked that such facts should be collected. If the Division is willing that this investigation should be made, forms might be drawn out relating to the subject. The statistics can be got to a large extent from the Annual Reports of our asylums, probably all the statistics that are required as to the forms of insanity that epileptics labour under, and also facts relating to dementia and fits, and as to whether insanity replaces fits, and at what period the patients suffer from acute symptoms as indicated by Dr. Gower.

The CHAIRMAN—I hope the Committee will not go to Annual Reports for information on anything.

Dr. YELLOWLEES—Epileptic insanity is a very vague expression. We know that there are people who take fits every six or eight weeks and labour under a greater or less degree of mental weakness; but there are others who have fits, one in a year or in two or three years, and you may not know that a patient ever had them. Are these cases of epileptic insanity?

The CHAIRMAN—I think not.

Dr. YELLOWLEES—They are far more frequent than we are apt to suppose.

The CHAIRMAN—Would you wish this suggestion sent up to the Council?

Dr. TURNBULL—It was intended that the gentleman who proposes a subject for investigation should act as secretary; and if Dr. Robertson would be willing to issue the questions to the members of our Division it would ensure the present proposal being carried through.

The CHAIRMAN—You will be glad to do that, Dr. Robertson?

Dr. ROBERTSON—Yes, certainly.

After some conversation Dr. Robertson's proposal was adopted.

On the motion of Dr. YELLOWLEES a hearty vote of thanks was given to Dr. MacDowall for presiding. The members afterwards dined together in the Windsor Hotel.

MEETING OF THE IRISH DIVISION.

A Meeting of the Irish Division was held at the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, on May 7th, 1896. There were present Dr. Hetherington (Londonderry), in the chair, Dr. Garner (Clonmel), Dr. O'Neill (Limerick), Drs. Finnegan and Elizabeth Moffett (Mullingar), Drs. Patton and Dawson (Finglas), Drs. Eustace and Henry Eustace (Glasnevin), Drs. Conolly Norman, O'C. Donelan, H. C. C. Cullinan, D. F. Rambaut, E. L. Fleury, Dr. Burke (Dublin), and Dr. Oscar Woods (Cork), Hon. Sec.

The following gentleman having been proposed for membership, was balloted for and unanimously elected:—Thos. Adrian Greene, L. & L.M.R.C.S.I; L. and L.M.R.C.P.I., Assistant Medical Officer, District Asylum, Ennis.

MORNING MEETING.

Dr. CONOLLY NORMAN said before the first subject on their agenda paper was discussed he wished to ask whether the meeting was prepared to listen to a brief statement from him in regard to the question of a Trades Union being formed called "The National Trades Union of Asylum Attendants in Ireland," and to the report that appeared in the daily papers that morning? They could consider it as a matter of urgency.

The CHAIRMAN said they could take the matter up under their first Rule.

Drs. FINEGAN and GARNER agreed as to the importance of discussing this subject together with the training of attendants.

Dr. NORMAN then said they would find in a newspaper called the *Irish Times* of that date a report of the regular meeting of the Board of Governors of the Richmond District Asylum, held yesterday. That newspaper report contained the following sentences:—

"A report was read from a Committee of the whole Board, in relation to the rules of the National Union of Asylum Attendants of Ireland, a copy of which

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.42.178.655 Published online by Cambridge University Press