

## SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the South-Eastern Division of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at 11, Chandos Street, at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4th, 1916.

The following members were present: Sir George Savage, Drs. Armstrong-Jones, Fletcher Beach, D. Bower, P. E. Campbell, I. Duff, J. H. Earls, A. H. Griffith, E. S. Pasmore, G. E. Shuttleworth, R. H. Steen, and J. Noel Sergeant (Hon. Divisional Secretary).

Dr. David Bower took the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

The Spring Meeting was fixed for Wednesday, April 4th, 1917, at 11, Chandos Street, London, W.

Dr. Shuttleworth read his paper on "Séguin and his Works" (printed in the October number of the *Journal of Mental Science*), and an interesting discussion followed in which various members took part, including Sir George Savage and Drs. Armstrong Jones, Fletcher Beach, D. Bower, A. H. Griffith, and R. H. Steen.

A hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Shuttleworth was carried by acclamation, and the meeting then terminated.

## SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

## ANNUAL MEETING, 1916.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Division was held, by the kind permission of Dr. MacBryan, at 17, Belmont, Bath, on Friday, October 27th, 1916.

The following members were present: Drs. Aveline, Baker, Good, Norman Lavers, Nelis, Rutherford, and G. N. Bartlett, Hon. Div. Secretary.

Dr. Nelis was voted to the Chair.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Dr. Macdonald and Dr. MacBryan.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. Norman Lavers (present member) and Dr. Aveline were nominated representative members of Council.

The place of the Spring Meeting (April 27th, 1917), was left in the hands of the Hon. Secretary, the hope being expressed that a visit to a war hospital in the Division could be arranged.

The members present alluded to the inclusion of a son of Dr. MacBryan in the Roll of Honour, and requested the Hon. Secretary to convey to him their deep sympathies in his bereavement.

A discussion on the recently circularised proposals as to the treatment of patients from the Services followed. The opinion of the meeting was to the effect that (1) Service patients should be defined for practical purposes as patients accepted subject to an agreement with, and paid for by, the War Pensions Statutory Committee, with the proviso that they shall be treated under the same general rules and regulations as at present apply to private patients, (2) that the rate of maintenance should be a fixed sum over and above the ordinary pauper rate in force at the time being, the amount to be settled by each asylum.

## WATERFORD DISTRICT ASYLUM.

## SAVAGE ATTACK ON THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

It was with great regret that we heard of the brutal assault which was made on our colleague, Dr. Oakshott, which might have had fatal results. The whole occurrence was most mysterious, and, so far, inexplicable. Dr. Oakshott enjoys a well-deserved popularity in Waterford City and neighbourhood, and it is difficult to even conjecture what motive, except that of mere robbery, which is hardly sufficient to explain all the circumstances, could have actuated the perpetrators of the crime, neither of whom, unfortunately, has as yet been identified, and although the police are said to have strong suspicions with respect to a certain individual, there is not sufficient evidence to warrant an arrest.

Dr. Oakshott is still (end of December) feeling the effects of the outrage, which

occasioned severe bruising of various parts of his body, his hands especially being badly hurt, and had evidently been trampled on when he was on the ground, and his injuries, of course, involved a considerable amount of shock. We offer him and his family our sincere sympathy, and at the same time our congratulations that he has (as we hope) escaped any permanent disablement.

The following account is taken from the *Waterford Standard*:

"Shortly after nine o'clock on Sunday night, November 5th, Dr. J. A. Oakshott, Resident Medical Superintendent of the Waterford District Lunatic Asylum, was the victim of a dastardly attack and robbery within the grounds of the institution. The cowardly deed was committed within only about twenty yards of the male hospital and about one hundred yards from the doctor's own residence. From the information available it appears that Dr. Oakshott, after having completed his round of inspection, was leaving the male hospital on his way home when he was waylaid by two unknown men. The night was bright and moonlit, but the miscreants took advantage of the shade of a rustic arch and some shrubbery to hide their presence. The onset was so sudden and unexpected that the doctor had not time even to call for help, which was only a few yards away, before he was overpowered and almost strangled. After knocking the doctor down the assailants pulled a small canvas bag with a running string at the opening over his head, and by this means gagged and almost choked him. They then bound his legs and arms with a rope, dragged the doctor into the shrubbery, and robbed him of any valuables he had in his possession at the time. In addition to robbing the money they found in the doctor's pockets, they took the ring off his finger and also a gold presentation watch with the owner's name inscribed on it. In the struggle Dr. Oakshott lost consciousness, and his assailants made good their escape.

"About half an hour afterwards, near ten o'clock, Miss Minnie O'Gorman, daughter of Mr. Edward O'Gorman, the land steward, happened to be walking along the path where the robbery took place. Dr. Oakshott had by this time regained consciousness, and hearing some noise in the shrubbery Miss O'Gorman went across the path to investigate, and she found Dr. Oakshott lying on the ground, bound and gagged. She at once ran for Dr. Fitzgerald, the assistant resident medical officer, who despatched a messenger immediately to District Inspector Maxwell and released Dr. Oakshott from his unfortunate predicament. Dr. Oakshott, who is at present confined to bed, stated that he was unable to identify the two men who attacked him. The police are actively investigating the occurrence, but so far no arrests have been made. They found on the ground Dr. Oakshott's glasses broken, his keys, pencil case, lamp which he was carrying at the time, and his cap. All the circumstances point to the fact that the robbery was premeditated, and access to the institution grounds must have been gained at the rear of the building through the farm."

The Asylum Committee at their meeting on November 13th, passed a resolution of regret at the occurrence, and expressed their horror at, and condemnation of, the act, which the Bishop of the Diocese characterised as "an outrage on Christianity and Christian feeling, and opposed to the fundamental laws of humanity."

#### EXAMINATION FOR NURSING CERTIFICATE.

##### *List of Successful Candidates.*

FINAL, NOVEMBER, 1916.

- Brentwood Asylum, Essex.*—I. McFarlane, D. M. Wilson.  
*Maidstone Asylum.*—K. Augur, E. Sutton.  
*Stafford Asylum.*—E. Bill, J. Bradbury, M. Budd, G. Davis, E. Spencer.  
*West Sussex Asylum.*—T. S. Jefferis, N. B. Tobin, C. E. Weaver.  
*Menston Asylum, Yorks.*—E. Acton, A. Baguley, S. Buttler, M. Cochrane, F. Glover,\* K. Gould,\* R. E. Marsh, A. Nolan, M. Scanlan.  
*Derby Borough Asylum.*—O. E. Coulson, E. Rains.  
*Hull City Asylum.*—A. M. Turnill.  
*Leicester Borough Asylum.*—A. Binge, A. F. Dale, M. Kennelly, E. M. Mulvaney.  
*Norwich City Asylum.*—E. A. Holliday, H. E. Thompson.  
*Portsmouth Borough Asylum.*—B. Couzens, C. A. Craddock, C. F. Guyatt, M. A. Guyatt, E. M. Roome.