

with this year, but he thought it might be well for the Association, at the November meeting, to send a reminder to the Home Office of the urgency of the question.

The proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. HAYES NEWINGTON and seconded by Dr. JAMES STEWART, to the President, and congratulations upon a very successful session.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner was held on Thursday evening, at the Queen's Hotel, Leeds. Among the distinguished guests supporting the President were the Lord Bishop of Wakefield, Sir James Chrichton-Browne and Professor Grünbaum.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE SUMMER MEETING of the Division was held at the District Asylum, Clonmel, on Thursday, July 1st, 1909, by the courtesy of Dr. Bagenal Harvey, who occupied the chair. There were also present Drs. J. A. Oakshott, T. Drapes, J. Cotter, J. F. Fitzgerald, E. O'Neill, and W. R. Dawson (Hon. Sec.). Apologies were received from Drs. T. A. Greene, James J. Fitzgerald, M. J. Nolan, P. Coffey, A. Finegan, J. O'C. Donelan, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

A letter from Dr. M. J. Nolan was read reporting that he had given evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in connection with the Asylums Officers' Superannuation Bill, as deputed by the Irish Division at their last meeting. Some discussion took place in which the Chairman and Drs. Oakshott, O'Neill, and Drapes joined.

The Hon. Secretary reported on a matter arising out of the minutes.

The following was balloted for and declared unanimously elected an Ordinary Member of the Association, viz.:—Kathleen Dillon, L.R.C.P.I., L.M., L.R.C.S.I., Assistant Medical Officer, District Asylum, Mullingar; proposed by Drs. A. Finegan, W. S. Gordon, and W. R. Dawson.

It was agreed that the Autumn Meeting of the Division should take place at the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin.

A discussion took place upon the part of the Irish Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws which dealt with the insane. The discussion was joined in by the Chairman, Dr. O'Neill, the Hon. Secretary, and others, and the meeting was unanimous in disapproving of the establishment of auxiliary asylums except as departments of the parent institutions. The Chairman was especially opposed to such a step from practical experience at Clonmel, where a separate auxiliary had been established in an old workhouse, and found neither satisfactory nor economical. Finally, a unanimous resolution was passed embodying these views, with the addition that if such a separate auxiliary were for any reason established there should always be one or more resident medical officers. Copies were directed to be sent to the Irish Chief Secretary and the Inspectors of Lunatics.

After a short discussion, a resolution was unanimously passed expressing the opinion of the Division that lectureships in mental diseases should be established in connection with the medical faculties of the constituent colleges of the new Irish National University and Queen's University of Belfast, as had already been done at the Cork College.

A resolution was unanimously passed reiterating the view expressed a year ago that the expenses of the Hon. Secretary of the Division in attending the London meetings of the Association should be defrayed by the latter, and adding that, in the opinion of the Division, all his expenses in attending meetings should be so defrayed.

Dr. W. R. Dawson read an account of a case of "Sane Hallucinations due to Alcohol and Atropin," written by the patient himself, who was a literary man of great ability. The paper was discussed by Drs. Drapes, O'Neill, Harvey, and Oakshott, and Dr. Dawson replied (see p. 711).

The meeting then adjourned for lunch, at which the members were entertained by Dr. Harvey, and on re-assembling a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to him for his kind hospitality, and he having replied, the formal proceedings terminated.

In the afternoon the newer portions of the Asylum, some of which, including an open-air sanatorium for phthisical patients, were only just completed, were visited by the members, many of whom, after tea at the Medical Superintendent's house, enjoyed a motor drive through the beautiful country surrounding Clonmel which was kindly arranged for them by Dr. Harvey, thus bringing a very pleasant day to a conclusion.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE (SCOTLAND) ON INEBRIATES.

The Report of this Committee has now been issued, and we need not refer to it at length here, for those recent Reports on Feeble-minded, Poor Laws, and Drunkards will require full consideration on the part of the Medico-Psychological Association. We merely note that the Committee are convinced that the existing statutes are inadequate, and demand substantial amendments and additions.

NOTES FROM AMERICA.

MEDICAL EXPERT TESTIMONY.

We learn from the *New York Times* of April 22nd last that the Assembly passed the Fowler Bill, recommended by the State Bar Association and the medical societies of New York. It provides for the appointment of from ten to sixty physicians to the court in each judicial department, these to be paid by the county in which the action is tried, and by no other person. They shall have had five years' experience in practice, and may be subject to call by the court or by either party to a civil or criminal action. The judge shall determine the amount of their compensation. A person on trial for murder, though he be penniless, may thus have recourse to unbiased and able testimony. The courts will appreciate evidence of this kind, and the Bill will do much toward restoring the dignity before the public of the medical profession in its legal aspects.

It should be noted that the Bill in no way limits the right of parties to call other expert witnesses.

EMMANUEL HEALING.

In the same newspaper we are told by the Minister of the Church of the Redeemer, Newark, N.J., that he has been working Emmanuel Healing for a year past. The object is to get rid of worry, fear, temper, jealousy, grief, lust, alcoholism, and the physical disturbances consequent; but not to meddle with cancer, tumours, tuberculosis, and other organic maladies. This is not Christian Science, and is not in conflict with medical treatment. The minister claims to have cured stammerers, alcoholics, dyspeptics, and those who had headaches, colds, grief, etc., relying on good advice, affirmatory prayer, and suggestion, but not hypnotism. We are left uninformed as to the nature of affirmatory prayers. Unfortunately—are they not rather of the nature of prophesyings?

THE CASE OF THAW.

The *New York Times* also informed the world on July 9th that the wealthy murderer of Stanford White was then enjoying his annual outing. That is to say, he was removed from the Criminal Asylum of the State of New York to the hospital ward of a jail which was notoriously unsafe, pending yet another inquiry into his sanity. On the 13th August, however, it was announced that it had been judicially declared that Thaw is a paranoic, still insane and unfit for liberation. His delusions were manifested to the Court, and the presiding justice was informed