

(4) Improve the diet all round, and have special dietary and cooking in the infirmaries and admission hospitals.

(5) Abolish committees, or at least reduce their numbers and curtail their powers.

(6) A strong Lunacy Commission should be set up, "divorced," or at least "judicially separated" from the Local Government Department.

(7) Out-patient clinics in connection with the mental hospitals would be a most desirable development, but under present conditions are not feasible. Similarly, the reception of voluntary boarders, even if legalized, would not be largely practised until conditions materially improve.

The paper gave rise to a lengthy discussion.

Dr. R. R. LEEPER, while approving of the ideals expressed in the paper, thought that they were, in the present state of the country, rather counsels of perfection. He reminded the meeting that, had it not been for the active opposition of the Irish Division, in the past, to certain proposed changes, our mental hospitals would have been very much worse than they were at present.

Dr. KEENE expressed similar views, and cast a doubt on the utility of some of the modern forms of treatment, *e.g.*, hydrotherapy.

Dr. D. L. KELLY, Inspector of the Free State Mental Hospitals, in replying at length to the paper, stated that they were attacking, even if slowly, many of the problems raised by Dr. Moran. Building schemes to relieve congestion were now in hand in Louth, Clonmel and Cork. He could not agree that the Central Authority could be divorced from the Government, and he considered that the present central authority—the Ministry for Local Government—was the most appropriate. He felt that superintendents might accomplish a great many of the suggested improvements, where no great expense was involved, without reference to committees or other authority. In his opinion, the medical staffs of the various hospitals outvied each other in their keenness for the welfare of the patients, but were generally overworked, and therefore unable to cope with clinical research.

Dr. NOLAN suggested that congestion might be more or less cheaply remedied by the erection of wooden structures such as they were familiar with in the war. This he considered was the most urgent problem with which they were faced.

Dr. MORAN, in replying, stressed the need for improved treatment in more hospital-like surroundings for the new admissions, and stated that the amenities for these patients should not fall below that provided by a general hospital.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Dr. and Mrs. Mills for their kind hospitality.

This terminated the proceedings.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

The Tavistock Square Clinic for Functional Nervous Disorders, 51, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.—A Short Course of Lectures on Functional Nervous Disorders for practitioners and medical students will be given at the Clinic beginning May 19th, 1930. Lecturers: H. Crichton-Miller, M.D., Hon. Director of the Clinic; J. R. Rees, M.D., Deputy Director of the Clinic; W. Langdon Brown, M.D., F.R.C.P., St. Bartholomew's Hospital; W. J. Adie, M.D., F.R.C.P., National Hospital, Queen Square; R. G. Gordon, M.D., F.R.C.P., Royal United Hospital, Bath; Edward A. Bennet, M.B., D.P.M., Charles Berg, M.D., D.P.M., C. M. Bevan-Brown, M.B., Ch.B., Leonard F. Browne, M.D., C. L. C. Burns, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Henry V. Dicks, M.B., M.R.C.P., John Freeman, M.D., St. Mary's Hospital; E. A. Hamilton-Pearson, M.B., Ch.B., E. Graham Howe, M.B., D.P.M., Alice M. Hutchison, M.D., M.R.C.P., Dr. Karl B. Martin, Freiburg; A. R. Redfern, M.B., Ch.B., Isabel G. H. Wilson, M.D., D.P.M., Maurice B. Wright, O.B.E., M.D., James Young, M.D. Demonstrations of Intelligence Testing by Miss C. A. Simmins, M.A., Hon. Psychologist.

Fee for the course: Medical graduates, £2 2s.; medical students (*i.e.*, unqualified), ros. 6d. Tickets for the course to be obtained in advance from the Hon. Lecture Secretary at the Clinic. These lectures are open to medical students and graduates only.

London Clinical Society.—The Fifth Annual MacAlister Lecture will be delivered at The London Temperance Hospital on Tuesday, June 24, 1930, at 9 p.m., by Sir Robert Armstrong-Jones, C.B.E., D.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.L., Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy. Subject: "The Evolution of the Human Mind" (illustrated by lantern slides).

All students, medical practitioners and their friends are cordially invited to be present.

STUDY TOURS AND POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE.

VISIT OF DUTCH PSYCHIATRISTS TO ENGLAND, SEPTEMBER, 1929.

During the hospitable and instructive visit to Dutch mental hospitals which members of this Association paid in October, 1928, a reciprocal tour was suggested by Dr. Engelhart, of Utrecht. Early the following year a provisional programme was submitted to the Dutch Association of Asylum Physicians. The Medical Superintendents of all the institutions in the programme, however, by their ready sanction and hearty invitation promptly divested the programme of any provisional character, and their cordiality will be remembered by our colleagues from the Netherlands with a tender regard for many years to come.

They arrived on Monday night, September 9, at Liverpool Street, and spent the first three nights in a modern Bloomsbury building. One was glad that their subsequent quarters formed a pleasant though varied contrast, and afforded more characteristic impressions of British hostilities.

On Tuesday morning the first instruction to "Steve," the driver of our coach, was to call at the box office of a certain theatre. This diversion from the strict path of psychiatry cost us the ill-repute of reaching Horton a quarter of an hour behind the scheduled time. This did not, however, lessen the welcome which Dr. J. R. Lord and his Staff gave our visitors in the Admission Hospital, where they saw the most recent conceptions in hospital design, both completed and in building. One heard urgent but whispered inquiries as to the nature of Plombières' fame and ritual.

Then we visited the wards of earlier construction, where the durability and costly appearance of the furniture and equipment were quickly observed, and no less so the leisure of the patients, who were making the most of a fine day of late summer in the gardens; leisure, in Holland, being of a somewhat restricted character.

We saw the provision made for various special medical and surgical departments of treatment, for gynaecology, actinotherapy and X-rays, for occupational therapy, remedial exercises and massage, each of which is directed by a visiting consultant or resident expert. We heard, too, of the team-work among the medical officers, and had ample evidence of the prevailing hospital atmosphere. Indeed, one could quote lessons from Horton which general hospitals might with advantage apply to their own administration. Among the special departments, the Malarial Research and Treatment Centre greatly appealed to our visitors in the completeness of its equipment and achievement.

Mr. Greenwood, the Chairman of the Hospital Committee, was so good as to come out to Epsom to meet the visitors, and to join them in a lunch, the excellence of which, had they but known at 8 a.m., would have restrained them from essaying the "English breakfast."

An important part of the visit was that given to the accommodation and training of nurses; we saw the recently erected Home, a building of really pleasing appearance, convenient and comfortable, where no small requirement of its residents had been forgotten. Their School of Instruction has well equipped quarters of its own, and it was evident to the visitors that nothing was omitted in that essential hospital duty, the training of the nurse.

We desired to spend a much longer time than was available in the Pathological section, but received a summons to the lawn, which proved both attractive and refreshing. And so we came to the close of what our colleagues from Holland regarded as a day of memorable first impressions.

A variety theatre had been selected as a place of instruction in our own tongue after dinner, but the velocity of subtle and oblique utterance proved a double