

was a lecturer to the St. John's Ambulance Association, coadjutor-examiner for the nursing certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association, vice-president of the Asylum Workers' Association, and vice-president in 1910 of the Section of Psychology and Neurology of the British Medical Association. Though not a voluminous writer he has contributed to medical and other journals several papers of importance upon the mentally defective and kindred subjects. A man of great amiability, he made many friends, by whom his untimely death will be sincerely regretted."

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Journal of Mental Science.

AN AID TO RECRUITING.

SIR,—The male attendants of military age employed in asylums have as a class not been backward in their duty to their country. Many of them enlisted at the beginning of the war, being encouraged to do so by the loyal attitude of Asylums Boards and Committees as regards pay, etc., and the vacancies created by these absentees have since been largely filled by men who are ineligible for military service. There are still, however, at the present time very many able-bodied young men employed as attendants on the insane. The presence of some of these is necessary, but the number required can be considerably reduced by the substitution of female nurses, especially in place of those attendants engaged in nursing the sick in the male hospitals and male infirm wards of asylums.

Fifteen years have now elapsed since the experiment of employing women on a large scale to nurse male patients in an asylum was tried in Scotland. All that was then said as to the advantages of female nursing for insane men, under certain limitations, has since been proved true by many observers, and the fears of the early opponents of this system have been found to be negligible, for the dangers that they prophesied have by forethought and care been avoided. The system is now, from the practical experience they have gained of its benefits, very strongly advocated by the Scottish Board of Control, and their judgment can be accepted without reserve. It has been all but universally adopted by the Scottish asylums.

As there is every indication that all eligible males who can be spared will soon be wanted for our military forces, I take this opportunity of directing the attention of the Medical Superintendents and the members of Boards and committees of asylums in England to this system, as it has up till now scarcely been introduced into English asylums. Not only will they be doing a patriotic duty by introducing these female nurses to enable more of their male attendants to enlist, but they can be assured that they will at the same time be adding to the comfort and well-being of the sick and infirm male patients under their charge.

I am, etc.,

THE ROYAL ASYLUM,
MORNINGSIDE,
EDINBURGH;

GEORGE M. ROBERTSON, M.D.,
Physician-Superintendent.

July 21st, 1915.

NOTICES BY THE REGISTRAR.

DATES OF NURSING EXAMINATIONS.

Preliminary examination Monday, November 1st.

Final Examination Monday, November 8th.

Schedules must reach the registrar *not less than four weeks* prior to the date of Examination. For further particulars apply to Registrar, Dr. Alfred Miller, Hatton Asylum, Warwick.
