

him. After some little discussion this was found to be the unanimous feeling of the meeting, and it was agreed that further consideration of the matter should be dropped. On the motion of Dr. McRae a unanimous vote of thanks was proposed to the Business Committee for the great trouble which they had taken in this matter.

The Secretary reported that the Sub-committee appointed by the Division to consider the terminology used in Lord Pentland's Bill had met to-day, and that they had considered the correspondence which had been received from medical superintendents and the suggested alterations which had been offered by them. The Sub-committee made the following recommendations. As many of the opinions obtained were in favour of retaining the term "asylum," it was thought advisable to retain this, but at the same time that such terms as "mental hospital," or "hospital for the insane," might be substituted if preferred. That instead of the term "lunatic," "person of unsound mind" should be substituted. That instead of the term "pauper," "public" should be substituted. That instead of the term "lunacy," "mental disorder" should be substituted. The terms suggested met with the unanimous approval of the meeting, and the Sub-committee was requested to frame a resolution incorporating these alterations, and the Secretary was asked to send a copy of the resolution to the Secretary for Scotland, the General Board of Lunacy, Scottish members of Parliament, clerks to Royal Asylum Boards, clerks to District Lunacy Boards, and the members of the Parliamentary Committee of the Medico-Psychological Association.

The Secretary stated that the Business Committee had considered the Memorandum on Lord Wolmer's Bill, and the views expressed on the Memorandum which he had obtained from the medical superintendents of Scottish asylums, and that the Committee had thought it advisable to consider at the same time "The Asylum Officers Superannuation Bill," which had been promoted by the Asylum Workers' Association, and introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Charles Nicholson, M.P.

Dr. CARLYLE JOHNSTONE briefly referred to Sir Charles Nicholson's Bill, and pointed out the more important points in which it differed from Lord Wolmer's Bill, and he proposed—"That the Division should approve of Sir Charles Nicholson's Bill generally, and support it in preference to Lord Wolmer's measure; and that the Division should in any case continue opposition to Lord Wolmer's 'Hours of Duty' Clause, and 'Dismissal of Officers' Clause. That the Division should approve of the first part of the Memorandum, with certain verbal alterations, omitting the whole of the second part referring to suggested scheme of hours, and that this should be printed and a copy sent to Scottish Members of Parliament, the General Board of Lunacy, Royal Asylum Boards, members of District Lunacy Boards, and the Parliamentary Committee of the Medico-Psychological Association."

This was seconded by Dr. CAMPBELL, and unanimously agreed to.

Dr. DONALD ROSS read a paper, contributed by Dr. R. DODS BROWN and himself, on "The Production of Leucocytosis in the Treatment of Mental Disease," which was afterwards discussed by Drs. DAWSON, BRUCE, G. M. ROBERTSON, and SHAW.

Dr. IVY MACKENZIE read a paper on "The Physical Basis of Mental Disease," which led to an interesting discussion, which was taken part in by Drs. DAWSON, OSWALD, and BROWNING.

A vote of thanks to the President for his conduct in the chair concluded the business of the meeting.

The members afterwards dined together in the Central Station Hotel.

#### PRESENTATION TO DR. JOHN FRASER.

DR. JOHN FRASER, retired Commissioner in Lunacy, was presented with his portrait, painted by Fiddes Watt, A.R.S.A., by his friends on February 27th. The presentation took place in the hall of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, the Master of Polwarth presiding over a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen.

The MASTER OF POLWARTH, before calling on Sir Thomas Clouston to make the

presentation, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—I imagine the only reason I have the honour of occupying the chair on this pleasing and interesting occasion is that it was my good fortune during the whole time I was Chairman of the General Board of Lunacy for ten or eleven years to have as my colleague Dr. Fraser, whom we are here to honour this afternoon. During the greater part of that time Dr. Fraser was Senior Medical Commissioner in Lunacy, and naturally I came very much into contact with him during that period of lunacy administration. It would be quite out of place to-day to enumerate any of the various changes which were introduced in lunacy administration during that time, but I think I may be allowed to express this opinion, that the high position which Scotland occupies in lunacy matters is very much due to the fact that our Medical Commissioners have always encouraged individual superintendents, and have always encouraged the various asylum authorities to initiate experiments, and to carry them out as they thought best, and when they found the results to be successful, they used the great influence which they possess to recommend the adoption of these methods in other places. That, I venture to think, is the secret of the progress that has been made in Scotland. We have not been bound down by any cast-iron rigid system. Now in that process our friend, Dr. Fraser, played a very important part. Quietly and unobtrusively he took note of all that was done for the benefit of the insane, and when satisfied he lost no opportunity of recommending it to others. There is one other feature I should like to mention, but I do not wish to take up time that really belongs to Sir Thomas Clouston—I would like to refer to this feature of Dr. Fraser's administration which was always brought under my notice, and that was his unflinching, his unwearied kindly disposition with all that had to do with the patients. This was extremely marked in all that Dr. Fraser did, and I am perfectly certain that his influence in this way, even without a word, must have been very great upon all concerned with the care of the insane in Scotland. His example must have borne its fruit very widely throughout our land. Well, I am not going to occupy the time of this meeting any longer, because the place of honour in presenting the portrait which we wish to present to Dr. Fraser in memory and in grateful recognition of his long services is to be taken by one who is pre-eminently qualified to take it. I refer to Sir Thomas Clouston, whose work at Morningside Asylum is so well known to every one of us. I call upon Sir Thomas Clouston.

Sir THOMAS CLOUSTON, in making the presentation, said: Master of Polwarth, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have had the high honour done me of being asked to speak in the name of the subscribers to Dr. Fraser's portrait, and to formally present it to him. I count this as a very high privilege, and it is a duty that I agreed to do most willingly and most cheerfully. One cannot help being a little biographical on such an occasion as this. A portrait is being presented to Dr. Fraser, and some might ask, "What kind of man is Dr. Fraser?" We all know him, but at the same time one must say something formally about a man who is to receive this honour at the hands of the subscribers. Dr. Fraser was a distinguished student of Edinburgh University, and after graduating in Medicine he assumed the position of Assistant Physician at Fife District Asylum, where he subsequently succeeded Sir John Batty Tuke as Medical Superintendent, regarding whose distinction I require to say nothing. There must be something in the Fife air, stimulating not only to the minds of the inhabitants, but also to the doctors, because the Fife Asylum has produced quite a series of distinguished men. After being there for a time as Superintendent—not many years—Dr. Fraser was appointed Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy. This is a position which, in Scotland, has filled a very important part in the history of the insane. Sir Arthur Mitchell, when Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy, observed that a great number of the mentally afflicted were in such a condition that it was not requisite that they should be confined in institutions. These institutions were costly and there were other disadvantages. You may do what you like with human nature; you may put it in a palace, but if it has not an opportunity of getting liberty then it is apt to be discontented. Now there were many persons of that character throughout Scotland who were taken in hand under the Lunacy Board, but specially the whole scheme of boarding out in private dwellings was really devised in an official and administrative form by Sir Arthur Mitchell. He saw that by distributing such cases in private dwellings throughout Scotland, a means of providing for their welfare in an economical and efficient way was

assured, which at the same time added to the comfort and happiness of the patients. He wrote a book which is still an interesting one on the disposal of the insane in private dwellings, and he devised a system for their being constantly inspected from the centre in Edinburgh, which has been of extreme benefit to the country. I believe there are now between 2,500 and 3,000 patients who have been accommodated in this way, and I think that one may say, looking at the financial side, that the country is saved expensive buildings and asylum administration to the extent of £20,000 and £30,000 a year through the success of this system of boarding out. Dr. Fraser took up this system, following Sir John Sibbald, and carried it out with ability and energy, so that it became a greater success than ever. When the time came for the retirement of Sir Arthur Mitchell, Dr. Fraser was duly promoted to the position of Commissioner in Lunacy. After what the Master of Polwarth has said, I need scarcely dwell on the way in which Dr. Fraser did his work. The work of looking after the insane is one of great social and scientific interest. The study of insanity is one of profound interest, and the men at the head of affairs in Scotland who have charge of mentally afflicted people require to be men of ability, men of tact and sympathy, of great general knowledge, and especially of general social knowledge. Now I think that the successive Governments have made a most wise selection, as the Master of Polwarth has said, in those who have held these important offices. Insanity, unfortunately, is attended in the minds of the general public with a certain prejudice, and with a certain repulsion—that is a word which I have often heard used. Now it is the duty of everyone who has to do with the mentally afflicted to diminish this kind of handicap which our insane suffer from. Dr. Fraser, above all, by his personal characteristics, has helped to diminish this prejudice against insane people. I suppose few, if any, men in Scotland know Scotland better than he does. He has been thrown into contact with all sorts of people—inspectors of poor, governors of poorhouses, members of parochial boards, and county councils. It was a special characteristic of Dr. Fraser that he had a genius for friendship with all with whom he came in contact. Everybody who was brought across him came away pleased; they got information, and they felt that they had been treated in the most courteous way. Dr. Fraser, though a great Government official, did not lose his humanity; in fact he was very human, and that, I think, is a very great deal to say of any man. When Dr. Fraser retired a large number of his friends—about 200—thought that they must not allow this event to pass over without something being done, and that they ought to mark their appreciation of the great services that Dr. Fraser has performed to the State, and the great benefit he has been to the mentally afflicted, and to express the personal friendship that so many felt for him and admiration for his work. You know a thing of this kind has to be carried out and administered. It has been carried out by Dr. Campbell, who tells me that there have been subscribers from Kirkwall in the north down to Bristol in the south, from Holland, from Belgium, from New South Wales, and, in fact, the picture we are now going to present to Dr. Fraser represents friendship and comradeship in every part of the world. I trust that Dr. Fraser in future, when looking at this picture, will endeavour to look upon it not as the picture of himself, but as one of those composite pictures, and will see in it the reflection not only of himself, but of the many friends who have wished him well and have contributed to this mark of esteem. Now, Dr. Fraser, we are to present this picture to you. We think, sir, it is a worthy picture as a work of art. It is worthy of adorning your own house, and your son's house, and the houses of your successors to all generations. I am sure I express the unanimous wish of everyone present and of all the subscribers who are not able to be here, that you may live long to enjoy the sight of this picture, and the sight of the people who have had the privilege of presenting it to you. We hope you will have a long and happy life in your retirement, and that this picture will add at least one joy to those you at present possess.

Dr. FRASER, in reply, said: Master of Polwarth, Sir Thomas Clouston, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel myself quite unable to find words to express my feelings of pride and gratitude at the honour you have done me in presenting me with this most valuable gift. The picture is well worthy of the reputation of Mr. Fiddes Watt, the artist, and I thank him for the successful work he has expended on it. It is a high honour to me that the picture has been entrusted to an artist of such distinction. It is a gift from a host of friends, and my feeling is one of deep

gratitude for such a token of their esteem. It has come to me without, I fear, my having adequately deserved it; and the sense of that has been deepened by the remarks of the Master of Polwarth, and by the too appreciative things which Sir Thomas Clouston, in presenting the portrait, has so kindly and pleasantly said of me. This act of kindness has made me fully recognise how much I am a debtor all round—all along the road of life down to the present moment. My years, which are now many, have been filled with interesting work, which I thoroughly loved, and which I have done my utmost to perform to the best of my ability. I trust it has had some measure of success. I remember with gratitude how abundantly I have been helped by my colleagues at the General Board, by medical superintendents, and by the official staffs of asylums and other establishments for the insane, by officials of Government departments, and by inspectors of poor throughout the length and breadth of Scotland, all of whom I have looked upon as fellow-workers and personal friends. To my numerous other friends not connected with my official work I tender my sincerest thanks for their associating themselves with this presentation. During the seventeen years I was Deputy Commissioner, and the sixteen years I was Commissioner, I endeavoured to do my duty justly and kindly, and to be sympathetic and helpful to all with whom my work brought me into contact. I have been associated in my lunacy work with very distinguished colleagues; those who have passed away (Sir Arthur Mitchell, Sir John Sibbald, and Dr. Robert Lawson), and those who are still with us (Dr. John Macpherson and Mr. Spence). Their influence and example have done much to shape my life, to stimulate, and to encourage me. I congratulate all my fellow-workers on the improvement which has been effected in the way the insane are now treated, and I venture to affirm that nowhere has the improvement been more marked than in Scotland. In the way the insane are provided for Scotland stands (as she ought to stand) second to none. I have always endeavoured to be a warm and fast friend to the patients, both in and out of asylums, and there are, I think, many who have realised this. To add to their happiness and to improve their well-being has been a duty which I have always kept before me. It was with deep regret that I severed my connection with lunacy administration, and with Scottish administration generally, which I feel the more acutely that I am not, so far as I am aware, mentally or bodily disabled from continuing to carry on such work. My hearty thanks are due to the Committee, and especially to Dr. Campbell, for their efforts on my behalf. I am fully aware of the great amount of labour and trouble involved in such matters. Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely for your presence here to-day, and for the highly artistic form in which you have enshrined your feelings of esteem. I will for ever keep green in my heart the memory of this day, and feel sure that the feelings I express are shared equally by my wife and family.

Dr. BYROM BRAMWELL, President of the College of Physicians, proposed a vote of thanks to the Master of Polwarth for presiding.

The MASTER OF POLWARTH, replying to the vote of thanks, said: It has been a great pleasure to me to take this little part in the proceedings. I feel we rather owe our thanks to Dr. Fraser for those very beautiful words he has addressed to us in acknowledging the presentation. I am sure we have listened with intense interest to those words from one whose official career has now come to an end, although we hope that his life of usefulness will be spared for many a long day. To hear those words of cheerful gratitude for the past must be an encouragement to those of us who are younger, and who may be sometimes tempted to feel the strain of our work or feel discouraged in doing it. It is good for us to hear those words from one who can look back, as Dr. Fraser can, with satisfaction upon many years of useful work in the public service, work which is not always recognised as it ought to be.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the Editors of THE JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE.*

DEAR SIRS,—In the Journal for January, 1912, in the review of the annual report of this institution for the year 1910, the suggestion is made that I should attempt to use the verandahs day and night, summer and winter. This has been done for several years. My report reads as follows: