

thing charitable and good in this country, and the British public was still loyal and wise enough to appreciate the noble efforts every member of the Royal House exerted on behalf of illness and misfortune. He ventured to hope that the fact that the Prince of Wales had become their Patron would induce the public to look more kindly upon the work of the Association and to follow the lead his Royal Highness had given.

The accounts were adopted.

Dr. WOLSELEY LEWIS, in moving the re-election of officers, spoke of the untiring work of Miss Vickers, the Secretary, and the other members of the staff. He pointed out that the extension of the work with regard to the arrangements for visiting the homes of patients before discharge and reporting to the medical superintendents and keeping in touch after discharge was to his mind an enormous help to the medical superintendents and visiting committees, and enabled many patients to be discharged more quickly.

Dr. PERCY SMITH seconded, and also paid a tribute to Miss Vickers and her assistants.

A very hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. Faudel Phillips, was accorded to Sir Charles Wakefield for presiding and for his munificent gift, also to the Clothworkers for their hospitality in entertaining the large number present.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

London County Council.—The Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E. 5 (University of London).—Lectures and Practical Courses of Instruction for a Diploma of Psychological Medicine: VIIIth Course, 1925. Part II will commence on April 1.

(1) Eight lectures on the Psychoneuroses. By Bernard Hart, M.D., M.R.C.P. On Mondays at 3.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m., commencing May 4, 1925.

(2) Eight lectures on Morbid Psychology. By Edward Mapother, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S. On Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. and 4.30 p.m., commencing April 7, 1925.

(3) Six lectures on the Pathology of Mental Diseases, including Brain Syphilis, its Symptomatology and Treatment. By Sir Frederick Mott, K.B.E., LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. On Tuesdays at 4.30 p.m., commencing May 5, 1925.

(4) Eight lectures on the Practical Aspect of Mental Deficiency. By F. O. Shruballs, M.D., F.R.C.P. On Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m., commencing April 1, 1925.

(5) Six demonstrations in Clinical Psychiatry. By Edward Mapother, M.D., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., Maudsley Hospital. On Wednesdays, at 2.30 p.m., commencing May 6, 1925.

(6) Twelve Clinical Demonstrations in Neurology. By Sir Frederick Mott, K.B.E., LL.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., and F. L. Golla, F.R.C.P. The first 5 Demonstrations will be given by Dr. Golla at the Hospital for Paralysis and Epilepsy, Maida Vale, on Thursdays at 2.30 p.m., commencing April 2, 1925. An announcement will be made later regarding the remaining Demonstrations to be given by Sir Frederick Mott, at the Camberwell Infirmary.

(7) Six lectures on Crime and Insanity. By W. C. Sullivan, M.D. On Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m., commencing at the end of May. Date to be announced later.

(8) Lectures on the Legal Relationships of Insanity and Treatment. By C. Hubert Bond, D.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P. On dates to be announced later.

In addition to the special lectures and demonstrations of the above course, there is opportunity for clinical experience and instruction available at the Hospital. In particular there are a limited number of appointments available as clinical assistants; service in this capacity (either whole-time or part-time) is recognized by the various examining bodies as constituting the clinical experience required by the regulations for the Diploma.

Fees: For whole of Part II, £10 10s.; for a single series of Lectures, £2 2s.

Inquiries as to Lectures, etc., should be addressed to "The Director of the Pathological Laboratory," Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, S.E. 5.

The Fellowship of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, W. 1, will collect fees from, and issue admission tickets to, medical men intending to take the course who are introduced by the Fellowship.

Tavistock Clinic for Functional Nerve Cases, 51, Tavistock Square, W.C. 1.—A course of ten lectures on the Treatment of Functional Nerve Disease will be given at the Tavistock Clinic on Tuesdays, beginning May 5, 1925, at 5.30 p.m.

H. Crichton-Miller, M.A., M.D., May 5, Psycho-physical Interaction; June 2, Freud; June 9, Adler and Jung; June 16, Regression.

S. Roodhouse Gloyne, M.D.; May 12, Toxæmia; May 19, Toxæmia (contd.); May 26, The Endocrine Glands.

J. R. Rees, M.A., M.D.; June 23, Physical Methods of Treatment; June 30, Analytical Methods; July 7, Analytical Methods (contd.).

Fee for the course: Medical practitioners, £2 2s.; medical students, £1 1s. Single tickets, 5s. Tickets for the course to be obtained in advance from the Hon. Lecture Secretary at the Clinic.

The National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen's Square, Bloomsbury, W.C. 1.—Syllabus of Post-Graduate Course, May 4 to June 26, 1925.

The Course will consist of the following subjects: (1) Out-patient Clinics, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2 p.m.; (2) Clinical Lectures and Demonstrations, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 3.30 p.m.; (3) Lectures on the Anatomy and Physiology of the Nervous System (if sufficient applicants), Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon; (4) Lectures on the Pathology of the Nervous System, Mondays, 12 noon; (5) Clinical Demonstrations on Methods of Examination (if sufficient applicants), Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m.

For further information apply to J. G. GREENFIELD, *Dean of Medical School*.

THE MENTAL PATIENT AS HE FEELS HIMSELF.

I BELIEVE, from my own experience, and from what I have seen and heard of the experiences of other people who have suffered a mental or nervous breakdown, that there are two sets of signs which precede the illness. If the body is weaker than the mind, the body will give way first; but in every case there will be physical signs as well as mental signs of nervous failure. Obstinate constipation, exhaustion and bodily heat often precede insomnia and loss of memory; but too often the sufferer does not pay any attention to these symptoms, merely thinking that he must be a little bit run down, whereas long-continued worry, work, or lack of fresh air and proper nourishment may be telling desperately upon the individual at last.

In my own case the physical symptoms which I have described were present, especially the exhaustion and bodily heat, which I found almost unendurable. The mental symptoms only occurred upon the very eve of my losing touch with reality. I was able to do my literary work quite well, that very evening; and yet a strangely abnormal occurrence rather frightened me. I was translating De Maupassant—the story of the man who is on the threshold of insanity, and who, one night, finds himself lost in Paris, and goes mad with terror. The story did not affect me, as I do my work without letting it remain with me afterwards; but when I left my desk in the immense reading-room of the British Museum I was unable to find it again, or to remember where I had been sitting. Little did I think that the fate of the man in the story I had translated was to be mine also!

The borderland state, in which I then was, is a very strange one, in which reality and unreality are strangely mixed. I did not once think that anything was wrong with me, only that something was very wrong with other people. Phobias and delusions crowded in upon one. Above all, one's thoughts and dreams are real, and all else seems remote and artificial. Then, paradoxical as it may sound, there is a kind of rare sanity in insanity. For if sane, one is sensitive to impressions, one is doubly sensitive to them when intellectual checks and reasoning inhibitions are absent. The whole universe is, as it were, inverted, and instinct rules supreme; and one reacts very strongly to those who are about one—almost as if one could see into their very souls. Pagan people, of course, respect the insane, believing that they are living in another world; and many Christian people have a religious theory of insanity. To a certain extent I sympathize with this, though it would be obvious folly for me to decry the splendid services which medical science has rendered to humanity. Suffice it to say, therefore, that the insane mind is primitive and child-like, and subject to receive strong and direct impressions.