

McBryan, Marnan, McDonald, Nelis, Phillips, Rains, Rutherford, J. M. Soutar, Scott Williamson, and White, and the Hon. Divisional Secretary (Dr. Blachford).

Dr. McDonald having been appointed to the Chair the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

The date of the Spring Meeting was altered from Friday, April 26th, 1912, to Thursday, April 18th, 1912, a Thursday being more convenient as regards train service.

The invitation of Mrs. Fox to hold the Spring Meeting at Brislington House, near Bristol, was unanimously accepted.

Drs. SCOTT WILLIAMSON and PHILLIPS read a paper on "Further Investigation on the Cerebro-Spinal Fluid in Insanities" (see p. 84). This gave rise to an interesting discussion, both on the paper and the cases shown, which was taken part in by Drs. McDONALD, SOUTAR, NELIS, and BLACHFORD. Dr. BLACHFORD suggested during discussion that as all asylums had not opportunities for pathological work, and as the lead had been given by London, Scotch, and some northern asylums, it was time something was done in the south-west, and he proposed—"That a committee of five be appointed to consider the question of a central pathologist: each asylum to contribute towards the cost of the work." This was seconded by Dr. AVELINE, and Drs. McBryan, Soutar, Aveline, Blachford, and Scott Williamson were elected to form the committee and asked to report at the Spring Meeting.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of this Division was held at the kind invitation of Dr. E. H. O. Sankey at Boreatton Park, Baschurch, Salop, on Thursday, October 19th, 1911.

Dr. Dawson, the President of the Association, presided, and the following members were present: Drs. L. F. Cox, C. K. Hitchcock, J. Middlemass, B. Pierce, D. F. Rambaut, E. H. O. Sankey, E. W. White, T. S. Adair; and one visitor: Dr. W. H. Packer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Drs. Hitchcock, McDowall and Pierce were unanimously re-elected to form the Divisional Committee for the next twelve months. Proposed by Dr. White, and seconded by Dr. Middlemass.

SOME REMARKS ON THE DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

By BEDFORD PIERCE, M.D., F.R.C.P.,
Medical Superintendent, The Retreat, York.

Four Universities have already instituted diplomas in Psychological Medicine, *vis.*, Edinburgh, Durham, Manchester and Leeds. Two others are seriously considering the subject, and the College of Physicians in London has decided that Members of the College can enter for a special examination in psychiatry.

It is clear that the policy of the Association as expressed in the circular letter to the teaching bodies in July, 1910, has been generally approved.

Before considering the effect of the diploma upon those engaged in asylum work, it will be well to state briefly the conditions under which the diploma can be obtained. Although, as a general rule, the suggestions of the Association have been acted upon, there are important differences in the requirements of the various universities.

Edinburgh and Durham both require one academical year's study. The subjects fall into five groups: (1) Anatomy, physiology, and pathology of the nervous system; (2) psychology and experimental psychology; (3) bacteriology in relation to mental diseases; (4) clinical neurology; (5) psychiatry.

Two examinations are held at the end of the winter and summer sessions respectively.

Edinburgh permits candidates who have held responsible asylum posts for not less than two years, exemption from one or more subjects of the curriculum during the next three years dating from October, 1911.