

OBITUARY.

DAVID BOWER, M.D., C.M.Aberd.,

Medical Superintendent of Springfield House, near Bedford. Ordinary member since 1877; Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, 1907-10; Chairman of the South-Eastern Division since April, 1929.

Dr. David Bower, who had been in failing health since the beginning of the year, died on June 17 from heart disease. His final illness was of only five days' duration.

Dr. Bower was born on November 16, 1853, at Inverkeilor, Forfarshire. He studied at Aberdeen and Edinburgh Universities, and graduated M.B. and C.M. (both with honours) in 1876, and M.D.Aberdeen in 1878. He became a member of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association as far back as 1877. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Medical Society of London, a member of the British Medical Association, and of the Bedford Medical Society.

Fifty years ago he went to Springfield House, Bedford, as Medical Superintendent, having previously been Resident Medical Superintendent of Saughton Hall Private Asylum, Edinburgh. Springfield House under his management and proprietorship was several times enlarged, and its grounds extended. Its success as a high-class private mental hospital has been very largely due to his energy, business capacity, tact and judgment. He took an interest in local affairs, and for twenty-five years was a member of the Bedfordshire County Council, and for many years chairman of the local Conservative Association and an active supporter of the County Cricket Club and sports generally. He was also a prominent Freemason and Past Provincial Grand Warden for Bedfordshire. By his death yet another of the pioneers in the evolution and educational development of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association has been removed. He was for many years on the committee of its South-Eastern Division, of which he was one of the founders, and he also served on the Council of the Association. Quite recently the South-Eastern Division did him honour by electing him first Chairman of the Division. Moreover he filled the office for several years of Secretary to the Parliamentary Committee of the Association and was subsequently for three years (1907-1910) Chairman of that Committee. He also took an active interest in the After-Care Association. Beneath a somewhat bluff exterior, David Bower had a heart brimful of human kindness and sympathy, and those who knew him well valued his friendship highly and often sought his opinion. He will be sadly missed at the meetings and annual dinners of the Association. He leaves a widow and a son, Dr. Cedric Bower, who has been his partner for several years past and succeeds him at Springfield House.

ERNEST W. WHITE.

PATRICK O'DOHERTY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., R.U.I.,

Resident Medical Superintendent, District Mental Hospital, Sligo. Ordinary member since 1903.

Patrick O'Doherty, we regret to announce, died on July 19 (at the residence of his brother-in-law, Dr. Nicholas Donnelly, West Wickham, Kent) at the age of 51 years. The news of his death caused deep feelings of regret to a large circle of friends. His outstanding professional ability, coupled with a kind, unobtrusive and considerate nature and charming personality endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was appointed Assistant Medical Officer in Omagh District Asylum (Tyrone and Fermanagh counties) on June 12, 1902, and served in that capacity till he was appointed Resident Medical Superintendent in Sligo District Asylum (Sligo and Leitrim Counties) on December 13, 1921. Although for a long time in failing health, he never complained or slackened in his work, his one great aim in life being the advancement of his patients' interests. He was untiring in his efforts on their behalf and never relaxed in the diligent discharge of his duties, thus infusing a spirit of energy into those who worked with him. The medical profession and mental hospital service are the poorer by the loss of a thorough Irish gentleman and a conscientious physician. To his

bereaved wife and family we extend our heartfelt sympathy. His remains were removed from England and buried at Killyclogher on July 21, the large and representative cortège (including members of the staffs of Omagh and Sligo District Mental Hospitals) bearing testimony to the esteem in which "Paddy O'Doherty" was justly held.

J. C. MARTIN.

NOTICES BY THE HONORARY LIBRARIAN.

The following journals are circulated from the Library :

American Journal of Psychiatry.
The Psychological Review.
Journal of Neurology and Psychopathology.
L'Encéphale.
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis.
Journal of Abnormal Psychology.
Mental Hygiene.
Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases.
Revue Neurologique.
Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry.
Journal of Comparative Psychology.

Members are requested to return all long-outstanding books to the Library as soon as possible for the purpose of cataloguing. It appears that in a number of instances in the past there has been a failure to register the loans. Six members are thanked for returning books which have been lost sight of for years.

In response to the invitation issued to members to make gifts to the Library to assist in building up a historical collection of psychiatric works from the seventeenth century onwards, Dr. J. Whitwell has presented the following books :

The Positive Philosophy of Auguste Comte, Harriet Martineau, 1898.
The Idea of the Soul, A. E. Crawley, 1909.
The Blot on the Brain, W. W. Ireland, 1893.
Through the Ivory Gate, W. W. Ireland, 1899.

Others are promised from the same source.

In selecting books for presentation, members are advised to consult first the Library Catalogue (Messrs. J. & A. Churchill, price 2s. post free), to see what books the Library possesses and those it is desirable it should possess.

The new accommodation for the Library at the B.M.A. House will shortly be available for use, when there will be ample room for the expansion of the Association's collection of books.

NOTICES BY THE REGISTRAR.

Bronze Medal and Prize for 1930.

Dissertations for the Association's Bronze Medal and Prize must be delivered to the Registrar by April 30, 1930.

Divisional Prizes for 1930.

Papers certified as eligible for this competition must be forwarded to the Registrar not later than April 30, 1930.

Gaskell Medal and Prize.

The following Regulation has been rescinded on the authority of the Annual General Meeting (Wakefield), 1928 :

"(3) A thesis based on original research, if of sufficient merit, may be accepted by the examiners in place of either the written or the clinical examination or both."