

the stout than the tall. Among small children the healthier ones show great activity both of mind and body, but there is a very marked increase in the number of cases showing degeneration; they are often delicate, or could not speak, or ugly, deformed, vicious, dull, mean, spiteful. The small are thus, as a class, much more strongly pathological than the large, and it is added that the treatment they receive is likely to intensify morbid tendencies. The deft and the agile are both undersized, and the agile have the better health, from deftness being often an acquisition due to defects of health, etc. Ugliness is commonly associated with various bodily and mental defects; "there are records of divorces and disreputable parents, of obstinacy, stubbornness, backwardness, gloominess, mental defect, nervousness, etc. That these mental abnormalities might be largely the result of unkind and inconsiderate treatment, and that they might be lessened by right treatment, is probably true, but that there is a predisposing physical basis for them must be admitted. Mere ugliness of face does not imply degeneration, but it is more often found among those who are degenerating." Bohannon finds (as Warner and others have found) that boys are much more liable to deformity than girls. Daintiness (extreme dislike of dirt, etc.) he considers often has a pathological basis. Only children are a special and important group which the author proposes to deal with more fully. He finds that two-thirds of the children with disadvantageous traits belong to this group. The first born and the last born are also specially liable to be abnormal.

Although the report suffers from the absence of personal investigation of the cases, it contains a great many observations which are extremely interesting and suggestive, both from the scientific and the practical points of view.

PART IV.—NOTES AND NEWS.

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

GENERAL MEETING.

A General Meeting was held at the Borough Asylum, Mapperley Hill, Nottingham, on Thursday, February 18th, under the Presidency of Dr. Julius Mickle.

The members present were—Drs. Wigglesworth, Carlyle Johnstone, Mercier, Cassidy, Rayner, Tate, Bower, T. W. McDowall, Legge, Caldecott, Powell, Vincent, Montgomery, E. W. White, Macphail, Spence, Benham, Thomson, Kwan, Clapham, Alexander, Seymour Tuke, Cox, Beach, Stewart, Finch, Aplin, Kay, the Secretary (R. Percy Smith) and the Treasurer (H. Hayes Newington).

The following Candidates were elected as Ordinary Members:—Sydney Hamilton Rowan Montgomery, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Royal Univ., Ireland, Assistant Medical Officer, Borough Asylum, Nottingham. Proposed by Evan Powell, William Vincent, and R. Percy Smith. Harold Andrew Kidd, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., Medical Superintendent, West Sussex Asylum, Chichester.

Proposed by James Moody, A. N. Boycott, and W. Ireland Donaldson. William Harris, M.D. St. And., F.R.C.S.Ed., M.R.C.P.Ed., Medical Superintendent, City Asylum, Helleston, Norwich. Proposed by Henry Rayner, H. J. Macevoy, and R. Percy Smith. William Henry Kesteven, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.S.A.Lond., Hillwood, Waverley Grove, Hendon. Proposed by G. Fielding Blandford, Henry Hicks, and Frank Schofield.

The PRESIDENT stated that it had been resolved by the Council to present an illuminated address to their late Honorary General Secretary, Dr. Beach, who for seven years had most faithfully served the Association, and whose energy and industry in promoting the success of the Association had conduced to the welfare of the organisation as a whole, and the meetings of the members in particular.

A discussion was opened by Dr. Rayner upon "The Housing of the Insane, and the Size of Asylums."

Cases of interest in the wards of the Nottingham Borough Asylum were shown by Drs. Vincent and Montgomery.

These papers, with relative discussions, will be printed in the next number of the Journal.

The Members of the Association present lunched at the Asylum, by kind invitation of Dr. Powell.

The members dined together after the meeting at the George Hotel, Nottingham.

MEDICO-LEGAL CASES.

REPORTED BY DR. MERCIER.

[The Editors request that members will oblige by sending full newspaper reports of all cases of interest as published by the local press at the time of the assizes.]

Reg. v. Leggatt.

Prisoner, a seaman, was indicted for the murder of his wife. They had been married for three years, and had been on bad terms, the prisoner often beating the deceased, of whom he was jealous. Whether there was good foundation for his jealousy was not proved, but prisoner had asserted that on one occasion he found a man's stud in his wife's bed. He returned on September 2nd from a seven months' voyage, and on December 7th he shot his wife with a revolver, threw himself into the river, and subsequently went to the Police Station and gave himself up for the murder. He there gave a perfectly rational and connected account of the murder, and the police surgeon who examined him at the time could find no appearance of insanity about him. It was proved that during his last voyage he had fancied that the other sailors were whispering about him and were talking about his wife. The prisoner's brother deposed that since the prisoner had been home from his last voyage he had not appeared quite right in his mind.

Dr. Rorie, Medical Superintendent of Westgreen Asylum, who had examined the prisoner at the instance of the Crown, was called for the defence. He had examined the prisoner four times. On the first occasion he found the prisoner practically sane. From the account given him by the prisoner he concluded that the prisoner was subject to delusions with regard to the sailors whispering about him, but that the crime was committed under stress of provocation (the wife having struck him) and in a moment of fury, and was not the consequence of the delusion, but was due to the morbidly irritable condition in which the prisoner was at the time.

Dr. Raw, Superintendent of the Dundee Infirmary, gave general evidence that the facts as proved in Court were compatible with the suggestion that the act was the result of homicidal impulse prompted by delusion.