

journalists called "news," and the verity of psychological conclusions was now part of the stock-in-trade of the uneducated. It was a thing to be regretted when the language of exact science became a popular jargon. The same development had been seen in respect to the doctrine of relativity brought forward by Professor Einstein; it had been adopted with a formula, in order to confuse knowledge, by many who had not the remotest notion of what it meant. Psychology had provided the formula for foolish people to explain everything and thereby to avoid the rigour of thought. Complexes, repressions, inhibitions, and all the rest had become the slogans of the novelist, to the overthrow of common sense and to the degradation of the English tongue. The more reason why the work of those who were endeavouring to keep this new learning in the paths of rigorous science should be exalted. Psychology was not, like metaphysics and logic, an academic subject; it was immensely practical. Every human being was compounded of flesh and spirit, and the relations between the two had been a conundrum for all ages. It was not too much to say that psychological science was facing the fundamental problem of the modern world. That problem as he saw it was this: that while mechanical apparatus had been enormously extended and the pace of life had been speeded up, while the old vehicles of thought had been destroyed, and people had been compelled to the difficult task of a new analysis, conditions had been created to which human nature found it hard to adjust itself, yet at the same time upon such adjustment depended the future of the world. These problems had been created by the questing spirit of man, and only the questing spirit of man could solve them. They were problems of old standing. They began to arise when the secure cosmogony of our forefathers was first shattered, and the horizons of what had hitherto been a sheltered world were widened out into the unknown. That process went on through the nineteenth century, and was enormously accelerated by many scientific inventions. Long before the war it was stated that many human beings were not properly adjusted to their environment. The war speeded up the process, and threw down bulwarks and destroyed more foundations. Since 1918 the problem had become more urgent, and during the last three or four years the world-wide economic confusion, which might be regarded as a belated phase of the war, had accentuated it. No conquest of bodily diseases, however triumphant, could really ameliorate human life, unless at the same time the human spirit were strengthened and clarified. Mr. Buchan then mentioned certain departments of the work of the Institute, including child guidance, and the social services consequent upon it. He spoke of the complete revulsion from the old view of repression and punishment. Everyone was aware how often youth had been warped and retarded as the result of these wrong notions. It was now realized that the only way of dealing with this kind of condition was by patience and intelligence. The days of the blustering schoolmaster and the heavy-handed doctor were over. It was now seen that humanity and sympathy in this province were not the same thing as sentimental weakness. Not less important was the work of the Institute in respect to adult life. Nothing had impressed him more than the way in which men in middle life—competent and even distinguished men—suddenly cracked. In many cases no doubt this was entirely the result of the war, but in others which he had known there had been no severe war experience; it was simply the result of the stress and perturbation of modern life, and here again only intelligence and patience would serve, and repression and isolation were no good at all. He thought that to-day it was realized that it was possible to be too simple in diagnosis. Our forefathers used to divide all men into sane and insane. It was now realized that in the most normal people there were queer irrational elements, and in the most abnormal, material which, by skill and patience and the grace of God, might be used to bring them back to mental health. He added, in conclusion, that this work of the Institute bore a close resemblance to the task of those statesmen who were trying to mend world conditions. A sound instinct for psychological truth was at the bottom of all leadership.

The work of the statesman was to persuade and to regulate, and to do that he must have a clear understanding of the popular mind. The business of a leader was not to put quality into humanity, but to elicit the quality already there.

Dr. J. R. REES, deputy director of the Institute, gave some further account of its work. He mentioned that in the cramped old premises in Tavistock Square the Institute had seven consulting rooms—all very inadequate. In its new quarters in Torrington Place it had seventeen, all excellently equipped, together with proper laboratories, library, refectory, and children's department. When the Institute began in 1920 it had nine doctors, and in that first year 2,300 hours were spent on the treatment of patients. This last quarter—the only complete quarter in the new premises—the staff had been working at the rate of 15,000 hours of doctors' time in a year, and in addition to that many thousands of hours had been spent on the work by lay psychologists, social workers, occupation therapists, and others in interviews and visits. At present fifty-one doctors were working part-time in the Institute building, without taking account of the honorary physicians, the pathologist, and others, while in addition there were twenty-one technical lay workers and an administrative staff of fourteen. Altogether a team of approximately 100 people were working in the Institute, more than half of them in an honorary capacity. There was a waiting list of over 250 patients, and many of these people—especially if they could only come in the evening—would, he feared, have to wait six or nine months before starting treatment.

Ireland

Touring and Fishing in Ireland

Ireland is a small country—one could comfortably motor from Fair Head to Cape Clear in a couple of long summer days, and tour the entire coast-line in a week. But in its small compass this island, to be visited by the British Medical Association in July, holds a wealth of natural beauty which makes it an ideal touring ground. Sportsmen will find good fishing, good rough shooting, and good hunting at very reasonable rates, or in many cases free. For golfing enthusiasts there are nearly 200 golf clubs affiliated to the Golfing Union of Ireland, and these courses include many famous links, to say nothing of more modest courses attached to the hotels. Antiquarians will find a rich field for their interest; relics of remote antiquity abound, and mediaeval ruins, both civil and ecclesiastical, are scattered in profusion through the country. Geological formation and custom have formed the selection of a few regions as the principal touring districts; but, in truth, the whole country is one splendid tourist resort. The mountains and lakes of Kerry, the fascinating barrenness of Connemara, the wild highlands of Donegal, no doubt merit their fame, and there are a score of other equally attractive districts—the glens of Antrim and the glens of Wicklow; the coast of Clare and the coast of Cork; the river scenery of Shannon, Blackwater, and Lee; the inland beauties of Kilkenny or Tipperary, and the rolling hills of Down; the mountains of Mourne, the Galtees or the Comeraghs; the great loughs of Mayo, Galway, and Fermanagh. Some dismal folk say that the centre of Ireland, with its great expanses of dreary bogs, is dull and uninteresting. But the fascination of the bog-land grows, and the dreary expanse has its alluring and insistent charm, which brings men to love its wide spaces and rich colouring, its soft, rolling contours, and its wonderful flora and fauna, as they love the reek of its pungent turf-smoke. The rivers Shannon, Boyne, and Erne flow through this flat centre, and are surrounded with ancient interests. Broadly speaking,

climatic conditions in Ireland do not differ materially from those prevailing in other parts of the British Isles. The average rainfall for the whole of the country is approximately equal to that of England and lower than that of Scotland. The rainfall is less on the eastern seaboard than in the mountainous districts in the south and west, but the temperature in the latter districts is higher by reason of the Gulf Stream striking the south-western seaboard. For this reason this part of the country offers special attractions as a touring ground at times of the year when conditions are unfavourable in more northern latitudes and the corresponding latitudes of England. The traditional emerald green of the country is seen at its best in the first half of the year, but at all seasons Ireland is "The Emerald Isle."

The Automobile Association, in its *Road Book of Ireland*, has outlined nine touring districts, with a short account of places of interest to be visited from the various centres. From the point of view of fishing, around the coast of Ireland is a veritable "anglers' paradise." Once the angler arrives in a fishing district he will have no difficulty in obtaining all the information he requires from hotel-keepers and local enthusiasts. But in order to assist him in deciding where he shall fish he will be well advised to procure beforehand a copy of the *Angler's Guide to the Irish Free State*, published by the Free State Stationery Office (price 2s.), and obtainable through any bookseller. This book gives advice in the choice of a district according to the kind of fish the angler hopes to catch, on the best season for each water, and on "free" water, hotel waters, ticket waters, and fisheries let on lease, on coarse fishing, and on sea fishing. The fishing is then described under the centre from which it can be most conveniently fished and where there is accommodation. Maps of the most important fishing districts are included, as well as a river map for the whole of Ireland. Lists of rivers and lakes with their open seasons are given, and other information useful to the visiting angler. *The Angler's Guide* only deals with the Irish Free State; for those who propose to fish in Northern Ireland the guide *Where to Fish*, published by the *Field* (price 5s.), is recommended. Ireland is divided into twenty-seven fishery districts, as follows: Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Lismore, Cork, Bandon, Skibbereen, Bantry, Kenmare, Killarney, Waterville, Limerick, Galway, Connemara, Ballinakill, Bangor, Ballina, Sligo, Ballyshannon, Letterkenny, Moville, Londonderry, Enniskillen, Coleraine, Ballycastle, Drogheda, and Dundalk. Full details of these districts are given in the two books mentioned above, and a note on the fishing in each district will be found in the A.A.'s *Road Book*.

Weak-minded Children

The report presented to the annual meeting of the Stewart Institution, Dublin, stated that 1932 had been a successful year, the income having been well maintained. Subscriptions and donations had increased slightly; payments received on account of pupils' maintenance was the only item which showed a decrease, the reduction having been £245, accounted for by the loss during the year of five full-paid pupils, whose places had not yet been filled. The hospital for mental diseases, run in conjunction with the Institution, showed a profit of £402, as against a loss in 1931 of £177. Last year the question of participating in the Hospitals' Trust Sweepstakes Scheme came before the committee, and it was decided not to apply. To many that might seem a matter for regret, but the committee believed that its decision would voice the wish of the large majority of the friends and supporters of the Institution. It was earnestly hoped that those who had withdrawn subscriptions from other charities on

account of participation in the sweepstakes scheme would remember the Stewart Institution. Dr. G. H. Keane, medical superintendent, said it was estimated that there were upwards of 40,000 mentally defective children in Ireland. Of that number about 5,000 were idiots and low-grade imbeciles. The Stewart Institution was the only one in Ireland which tried to cope with the need for training mental defectives.

Scotland

Edinburgh Branch of the British Medical Association

The clinical meeting of the Edinburgh Branch and other Scottish Branches, which is held annually in the spring, was organized by the secretaries, Mr. W. A. Cochrane and Dr. John Young, on April 26th. The forenoon was devoted to various demonstrations in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh; these included recent advances in radiography, by Dr. Duncan White, clinical cases illustrating treatment of various types of venereal disease, by Dr. David Lees, the present position of the vitamins, by Dr. Chalmers Watson, and blood films and clinical cases illustrating diseases of the blood, by Dr. A. Goodall and Dr. Colin Campbell. A visit to the Hospital for Crippled Children had also been arranged by Mr. W. A. Cochrane. The clinical meeting took place in the afternoon in the large surgical theatre of the Royal Infirmary, various members of the staff demonstrating cases. In the evening a dinner was held in the British Medical Association House, 6, Drumsheugh Gardens, at which Dr. John D. Comrie, president of the Branch, presided, and Sir Henry Brackenbury, Chairman of Council of the Association, was the chief guest. There was a large attendance, including Sir Thomas Whitson, chairman of the Board of Managers of the Royal Infirmary, and other members of the Royal Infirmary management, and representatives from the Department of Health for Scotland. The chairman, in proposing the toast of "The Guests," said that when a cynical member of the Association asked what the Association gave him in return for his annual subscription, one of the most effective and convincing answers was: "The services of Sir Henry Brackenbury." Every insurance practitioner was grateful to him for the part he had played as chairman of the Insurance Acts Committee in bringing to a successful issue the arbitration between the Ministry of Health and the Association regarding the remuneration of these practitioners. In recent years he had taken a special interest in the changes that were taking place in hospital arrangements as they affected the public and the medical profession. The chairman also pointed out that Edinburgh possessed, in its Royal Infirmary, the largest voluntary hospital in Britain, and one which for over 200 years had been affording charitable assistance to the sick poor. It had now become the earnest hope of a large section of the community and of the medical profession that before long the motto of the hospital, "Patet omnibus" (It is open to all), might be literally fulfilled, and the hospital open to those who were able and willing to pay, either collectively or individually, for treatment. Sir Henry Brackenbury, in reply, said that there had been great changes in the last few years in the hospital system of the country. The voluntary hospitals had been passing from institutions established by a charitable public for the care of those unable to pay anything at all to institutions where provision was made by the public on a self-supporting basis for members of the same public who required treatment. Another great change was that the demand to go into hospital was not now exclusively confined to those who needed