EDITORIAL

THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

Atlantic City being the national playground, the program for the meeting necessarily provided periods for relaxation, for personal contact, or for rest from the stimulating, yet sometimes fatiguing, duties of convention attendance. This innovation was apparently appreciated by all who attended. There were no general night sessions on the first two days, and opportunity was given to attend those of the American Hospital Association, or for small groups, such as the aides from the Veteran's Bureau, to have conferences. It was also possible to speed up the meeting by having the sessions planned for Friday on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Formerly many have deplored the lack of opportunity for personal contact, to renew or make acquaintances, to consult with fellow workers upon common problems. While considerable opportunity was given for contacts it is doubtful if any one felt that there was too much spare time. The very attractive and interesting exhibits of 64 hospitals, as well as the commercial exhibits, required many hours for their proper appreciation. It is improbable that the majority of visitors to such exhibits realize the care, thought, and effort which made them so attractive, but even so, there is an incommensurable feeling of thanks in the hearts of most visitors.

Delightful weather was our lot during the entire meeting. Monday morning was given over to registration and a short meeting of the House of Delegates at which Mr. T. B. Kidner was nominated for President and the following were elected: Vice-president, Dr. G. Canby Robinson; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Eleanor Clarke Slagle; Chairmen of Committees, Finance, Dr. William L. Russell, of Bloomingdale Hospital; Teaching Methods, Miss Ruth Wigglesworth, Boston School of Occupational Therapy; Research, Miss Mariam Morriss, Veteran's
Bureau; Installations and Advice, Miss Harriet A. Robeson, Director, Massachusetts Occupational Therapy Association; Publicity and Publications, Dr. William Rush Dunton, Jr., Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital. Mrs. Carl Henry Davis (nee Elizabeth Upham) and Mrs. Elias Michael were elected to the Board of Management, and after it had been decided to abolish the House of Delegates and increase the Board of Management to 9, the following were nominated and elected: Dr. B. W. Carr, Dr. James A. Mattison, Dr. Philip King Brown, Dr. Frankwood E. Williams, Miss Meta N. Rupp, Miss Florence W. Fulton, and Dr. Horatio M. Pollock. The election of Mr. Kidner was made unanimous.

Mr. T. B. Kidner, the new President of the Association, is well known throughout the United States and Canada. He was born and educated in England and came to Canada in 1900 as one of the organizers under the Macdonald Fund for the promotion of practical forms of education in schools. The establishment of consolidated schools and the improvement of school buildings also engaged his attention. Mr. Kidner was later employed by the Provincial Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to develop similar work. In 1911 he was appointed Director of Technical Education for Calgary, Alberta, where he took a prominent part in the school building program necessitated by the rapid growth of the Western Canadian cities.

Shortly after the formation of the Canadian Military Hospitals Commission, Mr. Kidner was appointed Vocational Secretary and in that capacity was largely responsible for the rehabilitation of the disabled from the Great War. The success of the Canadian system led to a request from the United States Government for the loan of his services and in June, 1918, Mr. Kidner became Special Adviser on Rehabilitation to the Federal Board for Vocational Education; a post which he held until September, 1919. He then joined the staff of the National Tuberculous Association and is in charge of the advisory service on the planning of institutions for the care and treatment of the tuberculous. He is also in charge of a similar service on the application of occupational therapy and the development of vocational train-
ing for the tuberculous. Mr. Kidner is the consultant on Sanitarium Planning to the United States Public Health Service and prepared a special report on the subject. During the past eighteen months he also served in a similar capacity with the Consultants on Hospitalization to the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Kidner was one of the founders of the society.

Dr. G. Canby Robinson, who was reelected Vice-president, is Professor of Medicine at Vanderbilt University and has taken a conspicuous interest in occupational therapy for many years. He has written a number of papers on the subject.

Mrs. Eleanor Clarke Slagle, who was reelected Secretary-Treasurer, is also a leader in the subject and is well known both in this country and abroad. Mrs. Slagle inaugurated occupational therapy at the Henry Phipps Psychiatric Clinic at Johns Hopkins Hospital at its opening in 1913. Later she took charge of the Henry B. Favill School at Chicago and became Director of Occupational Therapy for the State of Illinois. In 1920 she became Executive Secretary for the New York Society for Occupation Therapy and has recently been appointed Director of Occupational Therapy for the New York State Hospital Commission.

Mrs. Elizabeth Upham Davis has for many years been known as a most successful director and teacher of occupational therapy at Milwaukee-Downer College. During the war she was connected with the Federal Board for Vocational Education as research assistant. In recent years she has been co-editor with Dr. Hall of the Department of Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation in The Modern Hospital.

Mrs. Elias Michael, of St. Louis, is a Director of the St. Louis School of Occupational Therapy and a most active worker for it. It is largely through her efforts that the school has acquired the necessary funds for the splendid work which it has done.

Dr. Philip King Brown, of San Francisco, has for years been a prominent advocate of the use of occupation for the tuberculous. His many writings testify to the clearness of thought and wisdom which he has brought to bear on the subject.
Dr. B. W. Carr, in charge of physiotherapy and occupational therapy for the Veteran's Bureau, has also shown an especial interest in the tuberculous and in his paper showed that he has an active interest in occupational therapy.

Dr. James A. Mattison, of the Soldier's Homes Management, while a more recent convert, can be counted upon for active and wise cooperation in administering the affairs of the society.

Dr. Frankwood E. Williams, of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, has been a friend and member of the society for some time. He was one of the speakers at the Chicago meeting in 1919. Through him there will probably be a closer affiliation with those interested in the care of the mental and nervous, if such be possible.

Miss Florence W. Fulton, Dean of the Philadelphia School of Occupational Therapy, brings to the board an active experience in training aides and therefore her counsel will be of especial service in educational matters.

Miss Meta N. Rupp, Executive Secretary of the New York Society of Occupation Therapy, is in a position to have a broad view of occupational therapy activities.

Dr. Horatio M. Pollock, Statistician to the New York State Hospital Commission, is also in a position favorable to a broad view of activities both in New York and in other states, by reason of his position and the fact that he is editor of the State Hospital Quarterly. His calm, sound judgment is well known.

With such a board and such officers it would seem strange if the society does not grow even faster than it has in the past. With the increased growth comes new responsibilities and increased expenses so that it is necessary to gain new members or in some other way provide for the budget of $2000 which is deemed necessary. A gift of $50 from Mrs. d'Ouchy Kelley is a decided help in this direction and an enrollment of 45 new members at the meeting is most encouraging, but it is necessary for each member to bring in others if we are to go through the coming year without a deficit. It was shown by the reports made that the affairs of the society are being administered most economically and there is not the slightest doubt but that this
plan will continue, but if the association is to further develop its usefulness and further serve the cause of occupational therapy it is necessary to employ clerical aid, and this clerical aid must have proper equipment. A hired typewriter, a desk (which cannot be closed) rented for $2 a month, and similar office furniture is disheartening to those associated with it.

It is pleasant to record that through Mrs. Slagle and Mrs. Davis that Mrs. John H. Hardin of Hubbard Woods, Illinois, has given a scholarship of $250 to Milwaukee-Downer College to be used for the training of an occupational therapy aide. This was given as a memorial.

The registration at the meeting was 200 of which 25 were visitors. Quite a number of both members and visitors were not registered so that the attendance at the meeting is believed to equal former ones. A considerable number of persons from the Hospital Association came to hear special papers or to attend special sessions. The meeting was notable for the interest and enthusiasm shown.

The meeting was formally opened on Monday afternoon, September 25, with an invocation by Rev. William W. Blatchford, Rector of St. James Church, after which Mr. Armand T. Nichols, Assistant Mayor, delivered a most hospitable address of welcome and regretted the absence of the Mayor, Mr. Edward L. Bader, who was ill. He presented the key of the city to Mr. Kidner, who had been asked to preside by Mrs. Davis, upon whom this devolved by reason of the illness of the President, Dr. Herbert J. Hall. The latter's address was read by Mrs. Slagle and will be printed in full in the December number of Archives.

Mr. Louis J. Haas, Director of Men's Occupations at Bloomingdale Hospital at White Plains, N. Y., read an excellent paper entitled Observations of Patient's Reactions the Guide to Further Treatment. The careful and intelligent use of records was the gist of this paper which was discussed by Dr. Brush, Mrs. Price, Dr. Philip Smith of Ward's Island, Dr. Stack of Milwaukee, Miss Idelle Kidder, and Miss Emily Haines.
Miss Idelle Kidder, recently Director of the Missouri Occupational Therapy Association, read a paper on Experiences in Directing an Occupational Therapy Association. Several requests having been received by the association for information as to the proper steps in founding such a body Miss Kidder had been requested to record her experiences that they might be helpful. This was discussed by Mrs. Davis, Miss Taft, Miss Robeson, and Mrs. Michael.

The final paper of this session was read by Dr. Frederick Brush of the Burke Foundation, on Men’s Occupational Therapy in Convalescence. Among the many striking things said was that the author was depending less upon craft work and more upon outdoor occupations.

A telegram inviting the association to hold its next meeting at Colorado Springs was then read and the chairman called upon Mrs. Hobart, National President of the Women’s Branch of the American Legion for a few remarks. The meeting then adjourned.

At the business meeting on Tuesday morning the report of the Secretary-Treasurer was the first matter taken up. It is worth while to abstract some of the principle points brought out. Eight members have resigned from the association and one has died. Office work has been exceptionally heavy and in February the Board of Management authorized the Secretary-Treasurer to secure offices in the Terminal Building, New York, in close contact with the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, the National Tuberculosis Association, The National Society for Public Health Nursing, and several others with whom the Secretary-Treasurer is in frequent consultation. The office furniture is inadequate and it will be necessary to purchase a number of pieces. Numerous inquiries of a general or special nature were answered, plans were prepared for an occupational center, and personal inquiries were made by many, among them Dr. Askano, of Japan. Work in the field has also taken considerable time and visits have been made to institutions, and addresses have been made to public gatherings, clubs and associations. The treasury contains $458.
Miss Taber reporting for the Finance Committee stated that but little had been done and recommended that the association underwrite and support the very modest budget of $2000 required for the coming year.

Mr. Kidner, reporting for the Committee on Research, stated that the year had not been active for his committee, but gave observations made during his recent trip abroad. He stated that we had little to learn from the other side although a great deal of good work is being done in spots.

Miss Wigglesworth reported for the Committee on Teaching Methods and Dr. Dunton for the Committee on Publicity and Publications.

Miss Susan C. Johnson read the report of the Committee on Education.

Tuesday afternoon was given over to Occupational Therapy in General Hospitals and to Recreations. Miss Winifred Brainerd read an interesting paper on the Workshop in a General Hospital. Miss Elsie Hassenstein followed with a paper on Ward Work in a General Hospital. Both of these contained valuable observations.

Miss Evelyn L. Collins briefly described the work which is being done at the Vanderbilt Clinic in New York. All of these papers will be helpful to those planning occupational therapy in general hospitals.

Mr. Willem van de Wall, Director of Music for the New York State Hospital Commission, gave a witty paper upon Music as a Means of Mental Discipline, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

He was followed by Miss Bertha M. Baugher who read the paper of Miss E. M. Huseby who was unable to be present.

Mrs. Gratia Elvidge Harrington concluded the session with an excellent paper upon Games and Dramatics. In this she detailed her experience with mental cases while at Bloomingdale Hospital.

On Wednesday morning were begun the reports of the occupational activities in the various states. It is expected that when these are analyzed that much information of value will be in the hands of the society. Some of these reports were too
long to be read in their entirety and the readers merely gave abstracts. Others were extremely brief. While others, sad to say, had to report no occupational therapeutic activities in their states.

On Wednesday afternoon the very important question of the Financial Side of Occupational Therapy was taken up. Dr. Horatio M. Pollock read the opening paper upon State Hospitals. He stated that there was two distinct aspects of occupational therapy: as a department of medicine, and as an industrial undertaking. From either of these standpoints it is worthy of support and funds should be provided for it. He believed that the aides should have no part in the financial management.

Mr. Haas then spoke of the financial side of the Incorporated Hospitals drawing freely upon the figures of the work at Bloomingdale.

Dr. W. W. Richardson, of Mercer Sanitarium, spoke of the work in a sanitorium for mental and nervous cases.

A round table on Training Courses, conducted by Miss Ruth Wigglesworth, followed and was notable for the excellent discussion which took place.

On Wednesday night the round tables on crafts best suited for the mental and nervous and for the tuberculous were held. These evoked considerable interest.

The session which was to have been held on Thursday afternoon was held in the morning as several of those who were to participate had to leave by an early train. This was opened by a short paper by Miss Martha Emig upon Experiences with Ex-service Men in General Hospitals. She was followed by Miss Dorothy Rouse and Miss Esther Macomber who detailed her work in interesting the soldiers in music. Dr. Lloyd W. Ziegler of Waukesha, read a splendid paper upon Occupational Therapy in Psychoneuroses in opening the discussion upon Experiences with Ex-service Men in Neuropsychiatric Hospitals. He was followed by Miss Jeannette Moody who spoke of her work at the Bronx Hospital. Mr. C. C. Dunn, of St. Elizabeth's, emphasized the value of friendliness in acquiring contacts.
Dr. B. W. Carr was the only speaker on Experiences with Ex-service Men in Tuberculous Hospitals but read an interesting paper.

A round table on Records, conducted by Dr. Horatio M. Pollock, concluded the morning session. Dr. Pollock stated that records should be simple, be easily kept, give the desired information, and constitute a harmonious whole. Mrs. Marshall L. Price, Director of Occupations at the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital described the forms in use, and Dr. Dunton described the forms he used in estimating the financial value of the various crafts used as well as in analyzing the total costs. The forms in use at Montefiore Hospital were also shown.

At the close of this session the new President, Mr. Kidner was inducted into office.

Crafts suitable for Bed Cases and for the Physically Disabled were considered at the evening session, Mrs. Mary Steinbach and Professor Ethel Bowman being the conductors. There was considerable informative discussion.

The meeting then adjourned. The matter of the next meeting place has been left to the Board of Management, but there is a feeling that it is desirable to meet with the American Hospital Association to whom thanks are due for many courtesies, especially to Dr. A. R. Warner, the Executive Secretary.

Thanks are also due to the ladies who managed the exhibit, Miss M. G. Smith, Miss Louise Weeks, Miss Stella Weeks, Mrs. L. Wortley, Miss Jane Wick, and especially to Mrs. E. G. Shreve, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.