

concentrate on biochemical changes in the *brain* in seeking an underlying pathology for this, so far empirical, treatment.

Dr. Sullivan introduced Dr. Gilmartin, who gave a clinical demonstration of his technique. He used larger doses of curare than those suggested by Dr. Drury, and gave physostigmine as a routine procedure. The demonstration was smoothly and skilfully carried out, and showed clearly the extent to which a convulsion may be modified.

A general discussion followed, in which the following members took part: Drs. DUNNE, COYNE, THOMPSON, H. J. EUSTACE, GLASS, CONLON, McLAUGHLIN, O'BRIEN, FITZGERALD, MOORE, SHERIDAN, HILL and ANDREWS.

Dr. DRURY, Dr. GILMARTIN and Dr. SULLIVAN replied to questions, and the discussion was closed.

Dr. McCARTHY kindly invited the division to hold the summer meeting at Ballinasloe. The invitation was unanimously accepted, and it was decided to hold the meeting on Wednesday, 13 July, 1949. After some discussion it was decided to hold a golf competition on the morning of the meeting at Ballinasloe.

It was proposed by Dr. DUNNE, seconded by Drs. McCARTHY, FITZGERALD, MORAN, COYNE and MOORE, that Dr. KEARNEY be elected junior representative of the Council.

The meeting then adjourned.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING of the South-Eastern Division was held at Shenley Hospital on Wednesday, 27 April, 1949, and was attended by 75 members.

Before the meeting members visited the hospital including the newly-opened Mansion House, and were entertained to lunch by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. O. W. S. FITZGERALD and the Management Committee. On behalf of the Division, Dr. J. B. S. LEWIS gave thanks for hospitality and Dr. Fitzgerald replied.

The Minutes of the Autumn Meeting were read by Dr. J. G. HAMILTON in the absence by illness of the Secretary, Dr. T. P. Rees, and they were confirmed.

The following candidates were elected to ordinary membership:

ENGLER, MARKUS, M.D. (Vienna), Assistant Medical Officer, St. Lawrence's Hospital, Caterham, Surrey.

Proposed by Drs. T. Lindsay, A. A. W. Petrie and M. J. Brookes.

KERWOOD, LIONEL ANTHONY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Heckingham Institution, Hales, near Norwich, Norfolk.

Proposed by Drs. R. G. Blake Marsh, E. O. Lewis and C. G. Millman.

MORGAN, GEORGE DOUGLAS, M.A., M.R.C.P., Physician in Psychiatric Department, Bromley Hospital; Clinical Assistant, Child Guidance Department, University College Hospital; 44, Albion Street, London, W.2.

Proposed by Drs. L. C. Cook, R. F. Tredgold and Duncan Whittaker.

TYLDEN, ELIZABETH, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Physician in Psychiatric Department, Bromley Hospital; Clinical Assistant, Psychiatric Department, West London Hospital; 44, Albion Street, London, W.2.

Proposed by Drs. L. C. Cook, R. F. Tredgold and Duncan Whittaker.

It was agreed that the Autumn Meeting should be held at the Three Counties Mental Hospital, Arlesey, Bedfordshire, at a date to be fixed later.

The Report of the Divisional Committee of Management, including its nominations for office bearers, was read and approved.

Nominations were as follows:

Chairman: Dr. J. B. S. LEWIS.

Secretary: Dr. T. P. REES.

Assistant Secretary: Dr. J. G. HAMILTON.

Junior Representative on Council: Dr. E. P. H. CHARLTON.

Committee of Management: Drs. J. M. CRAWFORD, J. D. SUTHERLAND, J. S. NIGHTINGALE, JOAN MACKWORTH, W. McCARTAN, R. STRÖM-OLSEN, O. W. S. FITZGERALD, N. McDIARMID, C. LAMORNA HINGSTON, E. C. DAX, D. PENELOPE FIRMIN, IAN SKOTTOWE.

Papers were read as follows :

"Recent Experiences in the Use of the Curare and Pentothal Modification of E.C.T.," by Dr. P. D. W. SHEPHERD.

"The Divisional System in Mental Hospital Organization," by Dr. B. M. C. GILSENAN.

A lively discussion ensued in which the following and others took part :

Drs. BARDON, McCULLEY, REID, McKEITH, HAYWARD, RUSSELL, FITZGERALD and J. B. S. LEWIS.

This well-attended meeting concluded with tea at the Mansion.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE SPRING MEETING, 1949, of the South-Western Division was held by kind hospitality of Mrs. FOX and Dr. G. O. COWDY at Brislington House, near Bristol, on Thursday, 12 April, 1949.

Dr. R. E. HEMPHILL was in the Chair.

Nineteen members were present, and apologies for absence were received from seven members.

No other nominations having been received by the Divisional Secretary, the names of members recommended by the Divisional Committee of Management were reported to the meeting, and the following were unanimously elected :

Divisional Chairman : Dr. T. J. HENNELLY.

Divisional Secretary : Dr. R. W. ARMSTRONG.

Junior Representative on Council : Dr. DELFUN LEWIS.

Dr. HENNELLY was installed as Divisional Chairman by the retiring Chairman, Dr. R. E. HEMPHILL.

The following were elected to ordinary membership :

FARR, JOHN, M.B., B.Ch.(Wales), M.B., B.S.(London), D.P.M., Deputy Superintendent, Cefn Coed Hospital ; "Fairfield," Cefn Coed Hospital, Swansea.

Proposed by Drs. N. Moulson, I. M. Davies and J. P. Spillane.

PETIT, DINSHAW JEHANGIR, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Barrister-at-Law, Assistant Psychiatric Physician, Cefn Coed Hospital, Swansea.

Proposed by Drs. N. Moulson, I. M. Davies and K. K. Drury.

The Divisional Secretary reported that he had received an invitation from Dr. Allan for the next Divisional Meeting to be held at Exminster on a date to be arranged later. It was unanimously agreed to accept this kind invitation.

Dr. D. PRENTICE then opened a discussion on the work of the Psychiatric Advisory Panel of the South-Western Region. He gave an account of the composition of the Panel and its functions. A discussion followed in which the Chairman, Drs. BARBOUR, HEMPHILL, BAILEY, LEWIS, DAVIS, ALLAN and the SECRETARY took part. Comparisons of the procedures in other Regions were made, and some criticisms were expressed of the arrangements now in force in the South-Western Region for professional advice being made available to the Regional Hospital Board.

Dr. BAILEY then opened a discussion on the question of Mental Aftercare as provided by Local Authorities, and this subject was taken up and developed by Dr. SCOTT FORBES. It was felt that a closer degree of co-operation between all those concerned with mental aftercare was highly desirable, and the following resolution, proposed by Dr. BAILEY and seconded by Dr. SCOTT FORBES, was unanimously approved :

Resolution.—That in view of the difficulties of aftercare work in psychiatric cases, the Council of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association be asked to seek a joint discussion on this subject with the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

The Meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by the Divisional Chairman, to Mrs. Fox and Dr. Cowdy for their extremely kind hospitality, and for arranging a most enjoyable meeting at Brislington House.