

## PAPERS.

*Subject* : " **Hospitals and the State.**" A joint session was held with the Medical Superintendents' Society at which the discussion was opened by Miss Hornsby-Smith, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health ; speakers following were Dr. H. M. C. Macaulay, Senior Administrative Medical Officer, North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and Dr. Joshua Carse, Medical Superintendent, Graylingwell Hospital, Chichester.

*Subject* : " **Education and Mental Health.**" In the afternoon the Association met at the Physiology Lecture Theatre, Cardiff Medical School, and the discussion on " Education and Mental Health " was opened by Dame Olive Wheeler, D.Sc., Emeritus Professor of Education, University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire.

## SEMINARS.

The following Seminars were held in the Lecture Hall, Whitchurch Hospital, on 14 May:  
 " Psychological Aspects of Skin Disease " (Dr. GEOFFREY HODGSON).  
 " Psychological Relationships in Asthma " (Dr. LINFORD REES).

## SECTION MEETINGS.

The following papers were read at Section Meetings held at Whitchurch Hospital on 14 May.

" **The In-Patient Treatment of Maladjustment in Children,**" by Dr. J. P. SPILLANE (Child Psychiatry Section).

" **The Significance of the Brain Acetylcholine,**" by Dr. J. CROSSLAND, and  
 " **The Functions of the Brain Cephaline,**" by Dr. DEREK RICHTER (Research and Clinical Section).

## HOSPITALITY.

The Meeting ended with expressions of thanks by the President to the numerous bodies who entertained the Association and provided such excellent accommodation and hospitality.

*Appendix.*

## DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

*13th List of Training Schools approved in categories shown.*

*Mental Hospital* : Powick Mental Hospital.

*Adult Clinics* :

Worcester Royal Infirmary	} in association with Powick Mental Hospital.
Evesham General Hospital	
Kidderminster General Hospital	

## SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN, 1951, MEETING of the South-Western Division was held on Thursday, 1 November, at Roundway Hospital, Devizes, by the kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. J. M. C. Speer, Medical Superintendent.

Fifteen members and three guests were present.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed and signed.

The Honorary Secretary reported that the Divisional Committee of Management had met before lunch, and presented their report as follows :

(a) It was recommended that the Division should ask Dr. Logan, of Coney Hill and Horton Road Hospitals, Gloucester, whether he would be willing to have the Spring Meeting at his Hospital.

(b) The Secretary had received no nominations for the Divisional Committee of Management, and the Committee now nominated the following as members of the Divisional Committee of Management :

Dr. R. W. Armstrong, Professor F. L. Golla, Drs. Delfun Lewis, D. Menzies, F. E. Pilkington, J. Russell, R. Sessions Hodge, and J. M. C. Speer.

(c) The Committee also reported that they had considered Dr. Delfun Lewis's suggestion with regard to special meetings for younger members, and the Committee recommended that the Division should await the effect of the special arrangements for younger members which were now being made for the Quarterly Meetings, before taking any further action.

The Report of the Divisional Committee of Management was accepted and approved,

The following candidates were unanimously elected to Ordinary Membership of the Association, on the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Dr. R. W. Armstrong :

BICKFORD, JAMES ARSCOTT RALEIGH, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, Dundee Royal Mental Hospital, Dundee.

*Proposed by* Drs. G. D. Fraser Steele, D. F. Early, and F. G. Grant.

CADDELL, RONALD FORRESTER, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., House Officer, Crichton Royal, Dumfries.

*Proposed by* Drs. P. K. McCowan, James Harper and J. M. Rosie.

KEMP, MOYRA STRACHAN MORTIMER, M.B., Ch.B., Junior Hospital Officer, Royal Mental Hospital, Aberdeen.

*Proposed by* Drs. A. M. Wyllie, W. J. Raitt and Helen C. S. Rowlands.

RUSHFORTH, MARGARET WINIFRED, M.B., Ch.B., Honorary Medical Director, The Davidson Clinic, Edinburgh.

*Proposed by* Drs. Jean Biggar, A. J. Bain and Professor T. F. Rodger.

STANSFIELD, ROBERT NORMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Senior Assistant Psychiatrist, Herrison Hospital, Dorchester, Dorset.

*Proposed by* Drs. A. C. Sinclair, E. S. Foote and R. W. Armstrong.

Dr. ATKIN raised the question of the difficulty in obtaining medical staff and said he thought it was due to differences in the standard of grading and establishments between one region and another. He pleaded for more uniformity in these matters. This subject was debated at some length, and arguments were advanced against an increase of central direction. It was also thought that it would be difficult to establish uniform criteria throughout the country, in view of the urgent needs of individual hospitals. In the course of the discussion, Dr. Pinkerton suggested the creation of a new post between that of Junior Hospital Medical Officer and Senior Hospital Medical Officer. This idea was supported by Dr. Speer and others.

Arising out of the discussion, Dr. PINKERTON proposed :

“ That the Council of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association be asked to take appropriate steps to secure greater elasticity in the establishments of medical staffs of mental hospitals, especially with a view to securing the creation of non-registrar posts, between those of Junior Hospital Medical Officers and Senior Hospital Medical Officers.”

This Resolution was seconded by Dr. Atkin, and passed *nem. con.* The Honorary Secretary was instructed to forward it to the General Secretary of the Association.

Dr. E. H. HARE, of Barrow Gurney Hospital, Bristol, then read a paper entitled “ The Attitude of the Psychiatric patient to Hospital Experience.” Dr. Hare said that they had made a survey of 100 male and 100 female patients by interviewing them just before discharge. Their answers had been rated on a three-point scale, and the subjects covered included attitude to conditions in the wards and day-rooms, attitude to meals and food, attitude to the more seriously ill patients, attitude to ward work and entertainments, and attitude to discussions with other patients. An attempt was also made to assess the total degree of satisfaction. The answers received from the patients covered many practical points, such as noise, insufficient explanation of procedures, seeing other patients in physical treatments, and inadequate privacy. It was interesting to note that in the attempt to assess the total degree of satisfaction, it appeared that talks with the doctor were the most helpful single item, except in the case of those who had received a specific form of physical treatment. It also emerged that unhelpful factors in the patient's hospital experience were contact with severe cases, seeing and hearing physical treatments, restrictions, the feeling of stigma, boredom, and ignorance of the nature of the hospital and of the meaning and timing of treatments. Dr. Hare concluded that patients might derive more benefit if certain aspects of hospital environment were more carefully controlled.

In the discussion which followed, warm appreciation of the great interest and practical value of Dr. Hare's paper was expressed by many members. Dr. Hutton suggested group methods as a means of dealing with many of the difficulties which had been mentioned in the paper. Dr. Armstrong thought that the ward sister was the key person in explaining to the patient what the hospital was trying to do and how the patient could best co-operate. Many others took part in the discussion, including Dr. Atkin, Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Speer. The Chairman concluded the discussion by expressing his interest in and appreciation of Dr. Hare's paper, adding some observations from experience in his own hospital. The meeting accorded Dr. Hare a hearty vote of thanks, which was proposed in felicitous terms by Dr. Russell.

THE CHAIRMAN, in closing the meeting, proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Speer, which was responded to enthusiastically by the members. The Chairman stated that the arrangements for the meeting had been admirable, the hospitality generous, that all the members had had an enjoyable day, and that the Division was most grateful to Dr. Speer and his staff for their work in making the meeting a success.