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SUPPLEMENT

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JULY, 1952.

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THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE WINTER QUARTERLY MEETING of the Association was held on 14 February, 1952, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W.1, under the Presidency of Dr. P. K. McCowan.

DEATH OF H.M. KING GEORGE VI.

The President stated that the Council at their meeting that afternoon recorded their grief on the death of H.M. King George VI. Appropriate messages of sympathy had been conveyed to H.M. The Queen and H.M. The Queen-Mother and the following telegram, addressed to the President, had been received in reply :

" The Queen desires me to send her sincere thanks to you and all who joined with you in your kind message of sympathy. *Private Secretary.*"

When the date of His Majesty's funeral was announced arrangements for R.M.P.A. meetings on 15 February were cancelled, and the Quarterly Meeting was convened for this afternoon to conduct routine business set out on the circulated Agenda.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Autumn Quarterly Meeting held on 15 November, 1951, to be published in a forthcoming Supplement, were taken as read, approved and signed by the President.

OBITUARY.

The President announced with regret the death of the following member of the Association :

ROBERT DURWARD CLARKSON, B.Sc., M.D., C.M., F.R.C.P.E., Little Cambus, Doune, Perthshire ; Chairman, Scottish Division, 1935-36 ; an Ordinary Member since 1907.

ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

After the ballot had been taken the President declared that the following had been elected to Ordinary Membership :

DOUST, JOHN WILLIAM LOVETT, B.Sc., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., A.K.C., Senior Lecturer in Psychophysical Relationships, University of London Institute of Psychiatry ; The Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.

*Proposed by* Professor A. Meyer, Drs. F. K. Taylor and T. C. N. Gibbons.

HALL, STEPHEN BARTON, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Consultant Psychiatrist, Royal Liverpool United Hospital and Liverpool Psychiatric Clinic ; Director of Studies in Psychological Medicine, Liverpool University ; 41, Rodney Street, Liverpool, 1.

*Proposed by* Drs. J. Erskine Howie, George Egan and S. G. James.

LINDSAY, JOHN SPENCER BONAR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Registrar, St. Clement's Psychiatric Unit ; St. Clement's Hospital, 2a, Bow Road, London, E.3.

*Proposed by* Drs. Henry Wilson, J. S. Harris and G. F. Peters.

LYKETSOS, GEORGE, M.D., Dip.N.Psych., Athens, Director of IIIrd Psychiatric Clinic, Dromokaetion Mental Hospital, Athens; 16a, Roosevelt Street, Athens.  
*Proposed by* Drs. W. M. McIntyre, D. E. Sands and F. H. Taylor. (Approved by Council, 14 November, 1951.)

THOMAS, WILLIAM DAVID CRAWFORD, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, Cane Hill Hospital, Coulsdon, Surrey.

*Proposed by* Drs. Alexander Walk, Harry Stalker and S. D. Mitchell.

WHYTE, JAMES HARVEY STRACHAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, St. Augustine's Hospital, Chartham Down, nr. Canterbury.

*Proposed by* Drs. C. E. A. Shepherd, A. K. McCowan and F. L. Scott.

MOORE, DAVID ROBERT, M.B., B.S.Sydney, Junior Hospital Medical Officer, Warlingham Park Hospital, Warlingham, Surrey.

*Proposed by* Drs. T. P. Rees, D. V. Martin and R. D. Scott.

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Report of the Council, as follows, was read by the General Secretary, and approved: It was hoped that papers on "Projective Techniques in Psychiatry" arranged for 15 February would be given at the November, 1952, meeting.

The Council had great pleasure in reporting that the Treasurer notified a surplus in the general accounts of the Association for 1951 in the region of £1,000, most of it being at present absorbed in the special number of the Journal, i.e., *Recent Progress in Psychiatry*, Vol. II.

The Treasurer was authorized to inform certain members in arrears with subscriptions of the terms of Bye-law 23.

At the last of the Association's nursing examinations held in November, 1951, there were 45 passes in mental nursing and 8 in mental deficiency nursing.

The written part of the D.P.M. examination will in future be held on the third Monday in May and November each year, the third written paper in Part II being completed the following morning; vivas will, as a rule, take place not later than the Wednesday; provision has been made for both parts to be taken together should the occasion arise.

On the recommendation of the Education Committee further D.P.M. training schools were approved. (See Appendix to these Minutes.)

Papers at the Annual Meeting at Northampton this year will be on Occupational Therapy and Industrial Psychiatry, and it is hoped that Dr. Slater will speak on his recently published *Study on Twins*.

The reduced currency allowance has made necessary careful reconsideration of the proposed Swiss Study Tour this year. Members will be notified as soon as a final decision is reached.

The Council agreed to co-operation with the British Psychological Society on lines which will be submitted to them for approval.

The B.M.A. Committee (on which R.M.P.A. members were co-opted) has submitted its Memorandum to the Royal Commission on Marriage and Divorce.

A resolution from the Northern and Midland Division regarding medical representation on the Whitley Council was considered, and the reply from the Staff Side of the Whitley Council will be forwarded to the Division.

Various nominations for service on Hospital Management Committees, the Standing Mental Health Advisory Committee and the Central Health Services Council were approved.

On the suggestion of a Canadian member the Council will try to increase the Canadian membership of the Association.

The General Secretary would be glad to learn of any member proposing to attend the Congress of French Alienists and Neurologists at Luxembourg from 21 to 28 July, 1952, with a view to appointment as the Association's delegate.

The Dutch Federation for Mental Health have sent preliminary notice of Mental Health Tours in the Netherlands as follows—

*1st Tour—25 to 30 August, 1952—*for those especially interested in the work with problem children.

*2nd Tour—1 to 6 September, 1952—*for those interested in institutional and social care of mental patients and mental defectives.

Applications to join tours should reach The Dutch Federation for Mental Health, Prinsengracht 717, Amsterdam-C., by 15 May, 1952.

#### SEMINARS.

The following Seminars were arranged at The Tavistock Clinic on 14 February and were well attended.

Neurotic Difficulties and Inter-Personal Relations as seen in—

- (1) Group treatment (Dr. J. Kelnar).
- (2) Marital relationships (Dr. H. V. Dicks).
- (3) The child patient and the family (Dr. Dugmore Hunter).

*Appendix.*

## DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

## 11th List of Training Schools approved in categories shown :

*Mental Deficiency Hospital* : Little Plumstead Hall, Norwich.

## 12th List of Training Schools approved in Categories Shown.

*Mental Hospitals* : Dundee Mental Hospital.

Long Grove Hospital, Epsom.

*Child Clinics* : Norfolk County } in association with Little  
Great Yarmouth } Plumstead Hall.

## IRISH DIVISION.

THE SPRING QUARTERLY AND CLINICAL MEETING of the Irish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows on 20 February, 1952, under the chairmanship of Dr. B. F. Honan.

There were 24 members and 1 guest present.

Apologies for absence were received from 6 members.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read, approved and signed.

After ballot the following were declared elected to Ordinary Membership of the Association.

MCAULEY, WILLIAM FERGUS, M.D., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, Downshire Hospital, Downpatrick, Co. Down.

*Proposed by* Drs. D. B. M. Lothian, R. Dougal and J. N. P. Moore.

KILPATRICK, ALEXANDER JOHN EAKINS, M.B., B.Ch., Assistant Medical Officer, St. Patrick's Hospital, James Street, Dublin.

*Proposed by* Drs. J. N. P. Moore, M. O'C. Drury and H. J. Eustace.

Dr. W. J. Coyne was elected Chairman of the Division for the ensuing year and Drs. J. N. P. Moore and H. J. Eustace were re-elected as Divisional Secretary and Junior Representative on Council, respectively.

The Summer Quarterly Meeting was fixed for Wednesday, 28 May, 1952, the place to be arranged by the Secretary.

Dr. FITZGERALD mentioned that Dr. Arthur Finegan, a previous Secretary and Chairman of the Irish Division, and donor of the Finegan Nursing Prize, had died at the age of ninety-nine. The Secretary was requested to convey the sympathy of the meeting to his relatives.

After discussion it was suggested that the following items should be considered at the next meeting—

- (i) The desirability of giving the District Mental Hospitals new names.
- (ii) Method of obtaining clinical material for the Quarterly Meetings.

The meeting then proceeded to the clinical session. Dr. MOORE read his report on a Follow-up Study of 71 cases of Prefrontal Leucotomy.

After introductory remarks he described three main types of case : (i) 50 chronic schizophrenics, of whom 13 recovered, 10 were much improved, 15 improved, and 12 were unchanged ; (ii) 9 chronic affective-psychoses, of whom 6 recovered, 2 were much improved, and 1 untraced ; (iii) 7 cases of obsessional neurosis, of whom 2 were recovered, 3 much improved, and 2 unchanged ; (iv) finally 1 case of anorexia nervosa complicated by pulmonary tuberculosis. On the whole the follow-up had been gratifying in that all but 1 case had been traced. Two cases had died during the operation, and 2 cases subsequently died from intercurrent illness. In general the findings of the study corroborated those of a similar type recently reported. The most definite conclusion arrived at was that in selecting patients for the operation the most important single prognostic consideration is the quality of the premorbid personality. In recovered groups in this series all the patients had been well-integrated personalities and successful at their work before the onset of their illnesses. In the unchanged groups all but one patient could be described as inadequate personalities before the onset of their illnesses.

Dr. DRURY then read his communication entitled "Some Reflections on the Theoretical Basis of Leucotomy."

The earlier part of Dr. Drury's paper consisted of a clear and masterly review of recent work on neuro-physiology, especially that of Lashley. He described numerous experiments and their results which had bearing on the problem of cerebral localization and more remotely on the reason for improvement after prefrontal leucotomy. His main thesis was that mental illness affects the transmitting apparatus of the mind and in reality does not affect the personality, merely cripples its mode of expression. Prefrontal leucotomy, by damaging the morbid processes in the transmitting apparatus, gives the intact personality a fresh chance of expressing itself in a healthier manner.

The papers gave rise to a considerable amount of discussion in which the following members took part : Drs. DUNNE, MORAN, McLAUGHLIN, CASSIN, FITZGERALD, FOLEY and the Chairman. The speakers replied and the meeting adjourned.