disclosed in Court. In such cases a sealed envelope marked Confidential should be used in forwarding these reports. Members of the Division were concerned that a similar confidentiality had not been given to psychiatric records and instructed the Secretary to draw up a brief note of protest to the Department on this topic.

Adjourned Annual General Meeting. A report was presented on the Adjourned Annual General Meeting of the Association which had been held in London on 11 February, 1966.

During the course of the morning, members were shown the new Andrew Duncan Clinic and Professorial Unit and the new University Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. T. A. Munro and Dr. A. A. Bell presented a most interesting historical exhibition of the history and work of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, which was on display throughout the day.

In the afternoon, following the Business Meeting, Dr. J. R. Smythies presented a paper on **"Biochemical Research on the Aetiology of Schizophrenia"** in which he reviewed recent work in this field. The questions and discussions which followed demonstrated how Dr. Smythies had stimulated Members' interest in the subject.

IRISH DIVISION

THE SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING of the Irish Division was held on Wednesday, 9 March, 1966, by kind permission of the President and Fellows, at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin.

A paper entitled **"The Dilemma of the Human Family—a Cycle of Growth and Decay"** was read by Dr. Ivor Browne.

Dr. Browne compared the situation of the human family to the living organism, which is in a constant state of struggle—situations constantly changing, etc. When this struggle relaxes, something is wrong. Dr. Browne showed slides of growth of normal healthy families, and of other families which did not show this normal evolution, due to various causes.

Dr. Browne mentioned that very often the family was not the best environment for schizophrenic patients. The present day trend was to send the patient back to the family as soon as he was showing reasonable progress. Very often the home which was quite appropriate for a three-year-old boy might be highly pathological for a 30-year-old schizophrenic.

Dr. Browne pointed out that very little was ever said to parents about the vital job of preparing their children to separate from them, or to children to help them towards this separation. Yet it seemed that this was where parents—given the nature of the family—were most likely to run into difficulty. The circumstances of life, in fact, often aided this separation unwittingly, but there should be much more conscious awareness of this, and graded opportunities for separation should be built into our educational system.

The paper was discussed by Drs. Moore, P. O'Malley, H. Lloyd, McQuaid, Hayes, Moran, J. Sullivan, McGrath, Glass, Bradley and Meehan.

A Sub-Committee was formed to discuss the proposed formation of a College of Psychiatrists, consisting of the following: Drs. McGrath, Lynch, K. Walsh, T. Egan, I. Browne, Gath, and the Chairman and Secretary.

A letter was received from the Department of Health, asking for a nomination from the Division to the National Health Council. Dr. Ivor Browne was nominated.

THE SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE IRISH DIVISION was held on Saturday, 14 May, 1966, by kind invitation of the Board of Governors and Dr. Moore, at St. Patrick's Hospital, James's Street, Dublin.

The President of the Association, Professor T. Ferguson Rodger, was present and opened the meeting.

Dr. D. J. DOORLY and Dr. P. J. MEEHAN gave short accounts of **"Comparative Trial of Unilateral and Bilateral Electroplexy"**. They agreed that mental disturbance was less in unilateral E.C.T., and in some cases the apprehension was less. However, patients usually needed a larger number of treatments.

The paper was discussed by Drs. Drury, Pringle, Barrett, Shea, Rahill, Glass Browne and Mr. Stevens.

DR. MELIA read a paper on **"A Pilot Study of the Use of Lithium Carbonate in Recurrent Affective Disorders"**. He had treated a group of 29 recurrent manic-depressives with lithium. Of that group, 4 did not continue treatment, and the best results were obtained in 8 patients.

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The paper was discussed by Drs. Barrett, Haran, Fahy, McGrath, Bradley, Lynch, Glancy, Meehan and Professor F. Rodger.

Members were entertained to lunch by the Board of Governors of St. Patrick's Hospital and Dr. Moore. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Glass.

In the afternoon DR. KILPATRICK gave a report on **"A Pilot Industrial Therapy Unit"** in St. Patrick's Hospital.

MR. V. C. MCDONNELL, Rehabilitation Consultant to the National Organization for Rehabilitation, reported on **"The Organization of Industrial Therapy in Ireland".** He said that patients in mental hospitals were now more receptive, calm and alert, and were ready for some personal response. The missing link was a truly realistic re-employment training. Psychiatric patients required specialized rehabilitation organization, procedure and methods. They should have their work graduated and no patient should be left too long on simple jobs.

Mr. Joseph Malone, Chairman, National Organization for Rehabilitation, spoke on **"The Future of Rehabilitation in Ireland".**

Dr. T. Lynch opened the discussion, in which the following took part: Drs. Ramsay, Browne, Dolphin, Weir, Gath, Fahy, McQuaid, Father Nolan, Mr. Bermingham, Mr. Cahill and Miss Prendergast.

At the Business Meeting held later in the afternoon, the following Officers were elected:

Chairman	Dr. V. Glass
Secretary	Dr. Mary Sullivan
Junior Representative on Council	Dr. M. Heffernan

Dr. Moore read the Report of the Sub-committee on Designation of Hospital Medical Staff, and it was decided to discuss this report further at the next meeting.

Some aspects of the proposed College of Psychiatry were discussed. A number of members expressed considerable anxiety at the suggested criteria for Foundation Membership. It was pointed out that in the Republic of Ireland the designation of psychiatrists was quite different from that in Britain. The terms Consultant and Registrar were not used by the Health Authorities which employed most of the psychiatrists in the mental hospital service.

Dr. Moore reported that he had raised this matter at the meeting of the Council in Nottingham on 12 May. He conveyed the assurance that due consideration would be given to the position of members working in Ireland. and the advice of the Division would be sought as to their status and eligibility. Over and above this, anyone who felt that he had been unjustly passed over could appeal to the Court of Electors.

A letter was read from the Department of Health regarding the Care of the Aged, and it was decided to circulate this to members.

The next meeting was fixed for the first week in October, 1966, date and venue to be arranged by the Secretary.

In the evening, members were entertained to dinner in the Shelburne Hotel at the kind invitation of Messrs. Geigy.

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