THE

JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE

[*Published by Authority of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association.*]

SUPPLEMENT

OCTOBER, 1948.

## THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

### SCOTTISH DIVISION.

A MEETING of the Scottish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at Hartwood Mental Hospital on Friday, 23 April, 1948.

*Present.*—Dr. Kate Fraser (Chairman), Drs. Laura Mill, H. B. Craigie, W. N. J. Chapman, Angus MacNiven, David Ross, T. R. Spence, J. H. MacDonald, J. K. Grant, J. D. Uytman, Mary Knight, Laura Eickhoff, D. Glendinning, G. R. Duffies, R. Good, M. M. Whittet, J. C. Anderson, Hunter Gillies, C. A. Critchlow, W. W. Campbell, D. G. Munro, A. Hegarty, J. MacPherson, Ferguson Rodger, John M. McDougall, W. D. Chambers, W. Boyd, W. Mayer-Gross, Haigh Mitchell, A. A. Bell, T. Dymock, A. Dick, D. Stewart, J. Mathers, J. McComb, J. Campbell, J. Leyberg, J. H. MacDougall, J. C. MacDougall, James Milne, J. M. Rosie, Jean Bigger, J. A. Jenkins, E. O. Hagedorn, J. Cassells, E. J. C. Hewitt.

*Apologies for absence from* Sir David Henderson, Drs. Donald Ross, W. McAlister, M. M. Methven, G. M. Bell, P. K. McCowan.

*Application for admission* to the Association as an Ordinary Member was considered from Dr. J. F. McHarg, and after ballot he was unanimously elected.

Dr. MACNIVEN proposed that the nominations recommended by the Committee of Management be approved; this was seconded by Dr. CHAPMAN and carried by the Meeting.

The Office Bearers are:

Chairman: Dr. Kate Fraser.
Secretary: Dr. E. J. C. Hewitt.
Assistant Secretary: Dr. M. M. Methven.
Junior Representative Member of Council: Dr. J. Milne.

*Report from Committee of Management.*—The minutes of three Meetings were read and also a Memorandum prepared by Dr. Boyd. Two of the above meetings were held in conjunction with the Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Scottish Negotiating Committee of the B.M.A. to consider the question of: (1) Regional Psychiatrists. (2) Area Psychiatrists. (3) Mental Health Sub-Committees of Regional Hospital Boards.

The general results of these Meetings can be summarized as follows:

(1) *Regional Psychiatrists.*—Opinion against such appointments.

(2) *Area Psychiatrists.*—Opinion in favour of such appointments which would usually be held by Medical Superintendents acting in their own areas.

(3) *Mental Health Sub-Committee of Regional Hospital Boards.*—An expression of opinion had been forwarded to the D.H.S. to the effect that it was felt that there should be adequate and expert representation on the Mental Health Sub-Committees of Regional Hospital Boards. That appropriate bodies, such as the R.M.P.A., might be consulted regarding this, and that members appointed to this Sub-Committee under the power of co-option should have full power of voting.

During the discussion which followed Dr. MACDONALD thanked Dr. Boyd for his Memorandum and referred to his previous proposal in favour of Regional

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X48242580 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Psychiatrists, but he was, however, now prepared to accept the present recommendations.

Dr. FERGUSON RODGER explained the probable functions of an Area Psychiatrist.

Drs. BOYD, EICKHOFF, MAYER-GROSS and UYTMAN spoke about the position of Child Psychiatry, and the danger of this important subject being split up into two spheres of action as between Education and Health.

Dr. UYTMAN said he blamed the recent Memorandum prepared by the Child Guidance Committee of the Scottish Association for Mental Hygiene. He thought too much emphasis had been placed on the pre-eminence of the Psychiatrist. He now suggested that another meeting of the Sub-Committee on Child Psychiatry appointed by the Division should be held to discuss the matter.

After further discussion the Meeting approved of a suggestion made by Dr. FERGUSON RODGER that a meeting be arranged between the Sub-Committee of the R.M.P.A., The Association of Professional Psychologists and The Association of Psychiatric Social Workers to discuss further this important problem.

The CHAIRMAN then guided the Meeting back to the subject under discussion, and asked for their opinion on the views put forward in Dr. Boyd's memorandum on Area Psychiatrists. The Meeting were unanimous in approving the views expressed, and felt that the Memorandum should be forwarded to Regional Hospital Boards, Local Authorities and those holding teaching appointments.

*Any other Business.*—(*a*) The CHAIRMAN raised a point about sectional Meetings being arranged at times which did not coincide with quarterly Meetings, thus making it difficult for Members living at a distance to attend. The Meeting agreed on this and recommended that a letter be sent to the Honorary Secretary asking that the possibility of having such meetings at the same time or immediately before or after Quarterly Meetings might be considered.

(*b*) Dr. MACNIVEN referred to Section 5 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act, which allows of private patients coming into Hospitals being treated by a doctor nominated by the patient and not on the Hospital Staff. He felt that this would raise many serious administrative and clinical difficulties.

Did this clause in the Act refer to cases in Mental Hospitals ? There was some discussion on this point, but no Members were able to interpret the Act. It was agreed by the Meeting that Dr. MacNiven should prepare a short note and send it to the Secretary for transmission to the D.H.S.

Dr. TULLIS demonstrated a new type of Leucotome which he had devised himself as an aid to greater accuracy in leucotomy. This instrument was made by the hospital engineer. Members were very interested in this and expressed their admiration and approval.

Members were entertained to an excellent lunch by the kindness of the Lanarkshire Mental Hospitals Joint Committee and the Medical Superintendent, Dr. W. N. J. Chapman.

The CHAIRMAN, thanking the Committee and the Medical Superintendent, congratulated Dr. Chapman on behalf of the Members for the efficiency of all the arrangements and the excellent lunch.

After lunch the Meeting heard with much interest, a most informative Paper by Dr. RANKIN GOOD on **"The Psychology of the Revolutionary."** Dr. Good took the case of Charles Darwin and dealt very fully with this interesting personality.

The Medical Superintendent then showed Members round the Hospital, including a visit to Hartwoodhill Colony.

---

## SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE Spring, 1948, Meeting of the South-Western Division was held by kind hospitality of the Visiting Committee and Dr. T. J. Hennelly, at Cardiff City Mental Hospital, Whitchurch, Glamorgan, on Friday, 2 April, 1948.

Dr. R. G. McInnes was in the chair.

The following were present as Members : Drs. T. J. Hennelly, J. R. Hawkings, D. Lewis, D. E. Jones, G. M. King, J. P. Child, J. McGregor, G. O. Cowdy, J. Spillane, T. R. Thomas, M. W. Annear, W. R. Ashby, K. C. Bailey, T. E. Burrows, G. L. Hutton, F. Golla, W. Rees, R. E. Hemphill and the Hon. Divisional Secretary.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X48242580 Published online by Cambridge University Press