SULLIVAN, JOHN DANIEL, M.R.C.P.I., D.C.H., Junior Medical Officer, Warlingham Park Hospital, Warlingham, Surrey.
Proposed by Drs. T. P. Rees, W. H. Shepley, and M. M. Glatt.

WORSWICK, JOHN COWGILL, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Junior Medical Officer, Friern Hospital, N.11.
Proposed by Drs. Pauline Stirling, A. Walk, and R. W. Armstrong.

NOMINATIONS TO REGIONAL BOARDS

It was decided to recommend for re-nomination to the East Anglian Board, Dr. S. MacKeith, and to the South West Metropolitan Board, Dr. L. Minski.

The President, Dr. Noel Harris, requested consideration by the Meeting of a point arising out of the Association's preparation of evidence to be presented to the "Committee on Homosexuality and Prostitution". The majority were in favour of agreeing that homosexual relations between consenting adults in private should no longer be illegal, and that the "age of consent" should be eighteen.

The following papers were then delivered:

Dr. A. Hyatt Williams, M.D., D.P.M., gave a most interesting paper on **"The Extremes of Out-Patient Psychotherapy"**. He illustrated his thesis by giving clinical accounts of three cases, the first, a paranoid disorder which was rapidly dealt with by verbal direct interpretation, the second, a sexual neurosis which required deeper investigation into unconscious motivation, and the third, a case of drug addiction which demanded a very prolonged analytic management over a number of years and involved the problem of transference. He discussed from the examples given the possibilities of out-patient psychotherapy from a practical point of view.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Dr. W. H. L. Haynes, his paper on **"The Development of an Observation Ward as an Active Treatment Centre"** was given by Dr. Roberts, of Oakwood Hospital. In the discussion which followed Drs. Walker and Aldridge took part.

The President, Dr. Noel Harris, proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers and to Dr. McLaren for his most admirable arrangements for the Meeting, and this was seconded by the Chairman of the Division, Dr. J. G. Hamilton.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION was held on Tuesday, 26 April, 1955 at Cheadle Royal Hospital, Cheadle, Cheshire, by kind permission of Dr. W. V. Wadsworth, Medical Superintendent and the Committee of Management.

Members were shown round the Hospital in the morning and were most impressed by the air of comfort and the pleasant decorations. Members were then entertained to a sumptuous luncheon in company with the Chairman of the Management Committee. There were present some 105 Members and Guests.

BUSINESS SESSION

The Chair was taken by the President of the Association.

The following Candidates were elected to Ordinary Membership:

CHURCH, IAN COCHRANE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, De la Pole Hospital, Willerby, East Yorks.

FISHER, HILDEGARD CATHERINE, M.D.(Frankfurt), L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.(Ed.), L.R.F.P.S.(Glas.), D.P.M., Assistant Psychiatrist, Lancaster Moor Hospital, Lancaster Moor.

GALBRAITH, DOROTHY JOYCE, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar, The Retreat, York.

LEVESON, IVAN, M.D., D.P.M., Consultant Psychiatrist, United Liverpool Hospitals and Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X55247407 Published online by Cambridge University Press

The following were elected to Office on the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:

Chairman: Dr. G. McCoull.

Hon. Secretary: Dr. G. M. Woddis.

Assistant Secretary: Dr. E. U. H. Pentreath.

Junior Representative on Council: Dr. R. M. Martlew.

Drs. W. A. L. Bowen, J. P. Child, T. W. Davidson and W. V. Wadsworth.

Clinical Session

Two extremely interesting papers were given:

(1) By Sir Geoffrey Jefferson on **"Psychiatric Aspects of the Third Ventricle Tumours".**

(2) By Professor Anderson on **"Psychiatric Indications for Therapeutic Abortion".**

Owing to the lateness of the hour it was not possible to hold a Discussion after these papers.

IRISH DIVISION

The Spring Quarterly and Clinical Meeting of the Irish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held on Wednesday, 23 March, 1955, at Kylemore Clinic, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin, by kind invitation of the Council and the Chairman, Dr. H. J. Eustace.

Twenty-seven members were present.

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

The date of the Summer Meeting was arranged to coincide with the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held in Dublin in July.

The previous year's Officers were unanimously re-elected as follows:

Chairman: Dr. H. J. Eustace.

Divisional Secretary: Dr. J. N. P. Moore.

Junior Representative Member of Council: Dr. J. FitzGerald.

After ballot the following new members were elected:

Dr. Howard Hilton Stewart, 18 Malone Road, Belfast.

Dr. Patrick J. Meehan, Sligo Mental Hospital, Sligo.

Dr. Daniel J. O'Sullivan, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin.

Dr. John Joseph Fennelly, St. John of God Hospital, Dublin.

Dr. Edward Allen Martin, St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin.

The Secretary read a reply from the Inspector of Mental Hospitals to his letter about the procedure for making mentally ill patients Wards of Court. After discussion it was decided to set up a sub-committee to examine the matter and to report back to the Division. Dr. Coyne was appointed Chairman of the Sub-committee whose members are: Dr. O'Higgins, Dr. FitzGerald and Dr. O'Sullivan.

Dr. O'Higgins drew the attention of the Division to Section 225 of the Mental Treatment Act which states that casebooks of a mental hospital should be made available from time to time to the Mental Hospital Authority. Since the Mental Hospital Authority is a lay body, he felt that this Section was not compatible with the traditional rules of medical secrecy. After discussion it was decided that the Secretary should write to the Inspector of Mental Hospitals suggesting that this Section should be revised when the amendments to the 1945 Mental Treatment Act were being made.

The Secretary was also asked to write to the Secretary of the Irish Medical Association suggesting that when having discussions with the Department of Health on problems of medical secrecy, this Section should be discussed.

The Secretary was asked to write a letter of congratulation to Dr. Helen Boyle of Hove, who will have been a Member of the Association for 50 years next month.

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