E.C.G. changes, which he regarded as significant. He then reviewed the mortality statistics, and suggested that although there had only been 90 deaths directly attributable to E.C.T. in a period of 8 years as reported by the Board of Control, giving a mortality rate of 1:2,300, deaths occurred after E.C.T. much more frequently. In his own series there had been 20 deaths within one year after treatment. Five of these could be excluded on other grounds, but 15 (9 per cent.) remained, in which E.C.T. could not be entirely absolved. He also drew attention to the increased risk in the older age groups and, in view of the possibility of myocardial damage, he considered that an E.C.G. should be a routine procedure in all cases over the age of 45. It was also suggested that the feeling of well-being following the treatment might lead to excessive physical activity and was a potential danger. Dr. Lister indicated that his findings had not been subjected to statistical control, and that pre-treatment E.C.G. records and serial records after treatment should be obtained.

"A Clinical Trial of Tofranil in Depressive States" was described by Dr. S. C. Macmillan, who reported that a positive response had been obtained in 46 out of 75 cases. There had been no serious side-effects and Tofranil treatment was regarded as suitable for out-patients (25 per cent. of the series). The scale of dosage, however, had been rather less than the range recommended by the manufacturers of the drug. In practice it had been found that 25 mg. twice or three times a day was sufficient. Dr. Macmillan concluded that Tofranil was a drug of distinct value in the treatment of depression and should be tried for a period of 14 days before regarding it as ineffective.

"Perspectives in Preventive Psychiatry." In the short time at his disposal Dr. Riordan gave a most interesting, comprehensive account of the developments which were taking place in Cefn Coed Hospital and in the area which it served. He drew attention to the value of socially orientated therapies and the benefits which had been derived from conferences and discussions within and outside the hospital involving all staff grades, general practitioners, and representatives of the local health authority. He described the Mental Health Centre which had been planned in Swansea, and mentioned that the sum of £9,000 had been provided by the Nuffield Provincial Trust Fund.

In view of the number of papers which were presented, discussions in each case had to be restricted to questions by members, but it was obvious that all the papers had stimulated great interest and would have been discussed at length if time had permitted.

Brigadier R. Phillipson proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers and recorded his appreciation of an excellent meeting.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION

THE AUTUMN DIVISIONAL MEETING was held at St. Luke's Hospital, Middlesbrough, on Tuesday 7 October, 1958, by kind permission of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent, Dr. T. M. Cuthbert.

Many members went on a conducted tour of the Hospital in the morning, being particularly impressed with the combined Reception Unit and Out-Patient Department.

Those who were not otherwise engaged were entertained by a W.H.O. film on Alcoholism.

Members were welcomed at lunch by the Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee in the absence of the Chairman through illness. Dr. McCoull thanked the hosts for their kind hospitality and a short speech was made by the Chairman of the Regional Hospital Board, who was accompanied by his Senior Administrative Medical Officer.

Twenty-nine members were present and apologies were received from 34 members.

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The Minutes of the last meeting were signed as correct.

Dr. T. M. Cuthbert was elected Divisional Chairman and was installed by the retiring Chairman, Dr. McCoull.

The Report of the Divisional Representatives on Council was given by the Divisional Secretary.

The following were elected Ordinary Members of the Association:

BERLYNE, NEVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Senior Medical Officer (Psychiatry), Stockport and District Hospitals.
Proposed by Drs. A. Pool, J. T. Leyberg, R. M. Young.

CASHMORE, ALAN ARTHUR, M.B., B.S., Consultant Child Psychiatrist, Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Proposed by Drs. T. R. Malloy, G. F. Vaughan, A. B. Monro.

FOWLER, DENYS BRIAN, M.B., B.S., Junior Medical Officer, Pastures Hospital, Mickleover, Derby.
Proposed by Drs. J. H. Colhoun, F. Berliner, H. B. Milne.

GITTLESON, NEVILLE LEON, M.A., B.M., Senior House Officer, Department of Psychiatry, Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Proposed by Drs. E. W. Anderson, J. Hoenig, L. Grimshaw.

Dr. Alfred Minto, Senior Registrar, St. Luke's Hospital, Middlesbrough, read a paper on **"Alcoholism"**.

He pointed out that his paper was not an attempt at a scientific evaluation of the problem, but a clinical description of the attempt at finding a rapid treatment programme for cases coming under the Hospital's purview.

Many speakers took part in a lively discussion which followed the paper.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at Murthly Hospital, Murthly, on Friday, 9th October, 1959.

The following was elected an Ordinary Member of the Association:

RUSSELL, SHEILA MARGARET, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar, Dundee Group Mental Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. I. R. C. Batchelor, J. C. Scott, H. C. Fowlie.

The names of Dr. Angus MacNiven and Dr. R. C. MacGillivray were put forward for membership of the Scottish Health Services Council.

The following names were put forward for membership of Regional Hospital Boards: North-Eastern, Professor W. M. Millar; Eastern, Dr. Harry Stalker; Northern, Dr. M. M. Whittet.

The Committee of Management reported that Dr. R. C. MacGillivray had been nominated as representative on the Scottish Association for Mental Health.

It was mentioned that the question of the Scottish D.P.M. was still under active consideration.

Dr. P. G. Aungle gave an interesting talk on the Younghusband Report on Social Workers and Dr. A. B. Sclare gave a lively and interesting commentary on the issues arising from the Report. This was followed by a stimulating discussion.

All those who were present will wish to thank Dr. MacDougall and Dr. Harry Stalker and their staff at Murthly Hospital for the excellent arrangements and hospitality. Our thanks are also due to the Board of Management of the Hospital.

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