THE
JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE
[*Published by Authority of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association*]
SUPPLEMENT
JANUARY, 1958

THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION

THE AUTUMN DIVISIONAL MEETING OF THE NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION was held at Scalebor Park Hospital, Burley-in-Wharfedale, near Leeds, on Tuesday, 8 October, 1957, by kind permission of the Hospital Management Committee, and the Medical Superintendent, Dr. J. Valentine.

After touring the Hospital, Members were welcomed at lunch by the Chairman of the House Committee. In the absence of the Chairman, the Hon. Secretary thanked the hosts for their kind hospitality.

At the subsequent meeting Dr. J. Valentine took the chair, and 47 Members were present.

The following Candidates were elected to Ordinary Membership:

HAIGH, MABEL LOUIE, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D., Registrar in Psychiatry, Clifton Hospital, York.
Proposed by Drs. W. Fraser, M. C. Gordon and J. J. O'Riordan.

HOPKINSON, GEOFFREY, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar in Psychiatry, Parkside Hospital, Macclesfield.
Proposed by Drs. P. M. Crowe, C. Borg and R. M. Young.

JOHNSON, JOHN, M.B., Ch.B., Senior House Officer, Department of Psychiatry, Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester.
Proposed by Drs. Susanne Shafar, N. J. de V. Mather and R. Blair.

NEVILLE, JOSEPH GODFREY, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.P.M., Consultant, Children's Psychiatrist, Department of Psychological Medicine, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool.
Proposed by Prof. M. Roth, Drs. J. C. Little and B. Orton.

The Report of the Divisional Committee of Management was read by the Hon. Secretary who also gave a report from the Divisional Representatives on Council.

Vacancies on Regional Hospital Boards. The Hon. Secretary reported on the recommendations of the Committee, and these were approved by the Meeting:

Birmingham	Drs. J. J. O'Reilly and E. S. Stern.
Newcastle	Dr. T. M. Cuthbert and Prof. M. Roth.
Leeds	Drs. J. Valentine and W. A. L. Bowen.
Welsh Region	Drs. T. J. Hennelly and G. Williamson.

A paper was read by Dr. Frank Lake on **"Psychotherapy with L.S.D. in a Group Setting"**. He was assisted by Miss Aileen Tillotson, Psychiatric Social Worker, who interpolated a short paper on the dynamics of the development of the group as a group.

Dr. Lake's paper, aptly described by one member as having not only a literary but also a dramatic quality, dealt with his experiences with a small group of severely

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X58242771 Published online by Cambridge University Press

disturbed female obsessional neurotics. He confessed he had had no training or experience in analysis but he had learnt a lot from the patients. The childhood phantasies they laid out for him were so clearly Freudian that he had to accept the basic tenets of the psycho-analytical school.

Altogether there were 8 patients in the group but only 3 had been in continuously since the start. All were Out-patients. They received LSD once a week. In the morning there was discussion as a group, with, as far as possible, the same staff always present. They were then given LSD in doses of about 200 grammes and each had about an hour's individual psychotherapy while under its influence. Most of them receive 30 mg. intravenous methedrine as well.

Dr. Lake gave lengthy and detailed examples of the material produced, the development of resistances and transferences, their interpretation to the patients and later the patients' interpretation to each other. He drew attention to the various phases the group had gone through in the year since its inception, the development of role-taking, the tendency to fragment in the middle phase, and its relatively stable relationships now.

The advantages of group work with LSD as summarized by Dr. Lake were confirmed by the 3 patients who were subjected to questions at the end of the paper:

1. They all preferred group treatment to individual treatment.

2. They all felt that LSD made them *relive* and not just *recall* painful experiences. One of them said, "you can no longer run away or turn your back, you have to face these difficulties".

3. They all derived support from the groups because they saw that there were others with the same thoughts and feelings.

Generally they all felt great improvement not only in their own feelings but in their tolerance towards others, especially their children.

A very interesting discussion ensued in which many members took part.

Dr. Valentine concluded by drawing attention to the problems which such a therapeutic group brings up in the rest of the hospital community.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE SUMMER MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH DIVISION of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at Stratheden Mental Hospital, Cupar, Fife, on Friday, 21 June, 1957.

Thirty-three Members were present.

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The following were unanimously elected to Ordinary Membership:

BIRTWHISTLE, MARGARET HELEN, M.B., Ch.B., Senior House Officer, Stratheden Hospital, Cupar, Fife.
Proposed by Drs. D. Ross, J. D. Haldane and J. Murphy.

COOK, ALLAN MONTAGUE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, Stratheden Hospital, Cupar, Fife.
Proposed by Drs. D. Ross, J. Murphy and J. D. Haldane.

LIGERTWOOD, GEORGE MYRDDIN, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., Senior Medical Officer, Lennox Castle Institution.
Proposed by Drs. R. C. MacGillivray, J. Campbell and J. B. Methven.

SAXBY, JOHN RICHARD BABER, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., Registrar in Psychiatry, Stratheden Hospital, Cupar, Fife.
Proposed by Drs. D. Ross, J. D. Haldane and J. Murphy.

THOMSON, CHARLES DAVID, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., Senior House Officer, Craig Dunain Hospital, Inverness.
Proposed by Drs. M. M. Whittet, R. F. Caddell and E. J. Gow.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X58242771 Published online by Cambridge University Press