would represent the Division: Professor Malcom Millar, Dr. W. Boyd, Dr. M. Methven and Dr. W. Blachford Rogers. Consideration was given to a request from the recently set up Committee on the Adoption of Children, under the Chairmanship of Sir Gerald Hurst, Q.C., that the Scottish Division of the R.M.P.A. might wish to present a memorandum and thereafter be prepared to give oral evidence, if this was called for. After discussion, the meeting unanimously agreed that a memorandum should be prepared by the Child Psychiatry Committee and be submitted as soon as possible. It was realized that the Division might well not have an opportunity to see this prior to submission, but powers were given to the Committee and Chairman to authorize this on behalf of the Division, the Memorandum to be submitted at the next Divisional Meeting.

10. *Any other business.*—The Secretary read a letter recently received from Dr. Isabel Wilson, Hon. Sec. of the Study Tours Sub-Committee, intimating that a Study Tour of England would be arranged during September. This would be inexpensive, and any members wishing to participate might write to Dr. Wilson.

The next Divisional Meeting, on Friday, 19 June, 1953, would be held at Craig Dunain Hospital, Inverness, and it was hoped to make this largely clinical.

The paper by Dr. Adam Milne had to be cancelled owing to Dr. Milne's indisposition.

Members were most generously received by Dr. R. Stewart, and thanks to his excellent organization and bountiful hospitality the Spring Meeting was most successful. Members will wish to thank Dr. Stewart, his Board of Management and his staff for their kindness and hospitality.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the South-Western Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at Park Prewett Hospital, Basingstoke, on Thursday, 16 October, 1952, by kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. I. Atkin, Physician Superintendent.

1. *Minutes.*—The Minutes of the last meeting, which had already been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

The HONORARY DIVISIONAL SECRETARY said that the Division's Resolution on the Staffing of Mental Hospitals had been carefully considered by the Council of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association at their Meeting in May, 1952, and that, as the result, it had been decided by the Council to transmit their views on the matter to the British Medical Association. The outcome of this had been that the British Medical Association had suggested the setting-up of a Joint Committee, composed of members of the Psychological Medicine Group of the British Medical Association, and members from the Royal Medico-Psychological Association. The Royal Medico-Psychological Association, at their July Meeting, had appointed Drs. R. W. Armstrong, William Boyd, R. G. McInnes and G. M. Woddis to serve on this Committee. The Committee had not yet met.

2. Twenty-two members and one guest were present.

Apologies for absence were received from nine members.

3. The HONORARY SECRETARY reported that the Divisional Committee of Management had met before lunch. They had not received any nominations for the vacancies on the Committee of Management, and they therefore put forward as their own nominations the names of Dr. I. Atkin, Dr. W. E. W. Bridger and Colonel J. T. Robinson to fill the vacancies on the Committee.

The HONORARY SECRETARY reported that he had received through the General Secretary of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association an invitation from Dr. Elizabeth Casson, O.B.E., for the Division to hold a meeting at the Dorset House School of Occupational Therapy, which is now situated in Oxford. The Divisional Committee of Management had considered this invitation and recommended that it be gratefully accepted, with a suggestion that the Spring Meeting next year might be held at the Dorset House School.

The report of the Divisional Committee of Management was accepted, and the recommendations agreed.

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4. The recommendations of the Divisional Committee of Management having been accepted, Dr. Atkin, Dr. Bridger and Colonel J. T. Robinson were automatically elected to the vacancies on the Committee of Management.

5. The following candidates were unanimously elected to Ordinary Membership:

KELSEY, DENYS EDWARD REGINALD, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., Assistant Psychiatrist, Park Prewett Hospital, Basingstoke.

Proposed by Drs. I. Atkin, Leslie Ford and F. E. Kingston.

O'GORMAN, G., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Physician Superintendent, Borocourt Hospital; The Square House, Peppard, Oxon.

Proposed by Drs. R. W. Armstrong, Thomas Tennent and A. Walk.

6. *Any other business.*—The HONORARY SECRETARY said that he had received intimation from the General Secretary that the date of the May Meeting at Warwick in 1953 had been altered to 14 and 15 May. It was understood that the change had been unavoidable, and that any inconvenience caused was greatly regretted.

7. Dr. D. E. R. KELSEY read a paper on **"Natal and Pre-Natal Phantasies in Hypnoanalytic Therapy"** see April issue, p. 216. The material forming the subject of the paper had been collected from Dr. Kelsey's experience with patients under hypno-analysis. The technique consisted essentially of putting the patient under hypnosis, and then having him talk, by suggestion, of early periods of his life. Dr. Kelsey had found that it was possible to regress the patient far enough to obtain phantasies of intra-uterine life, and even of life at the stage of conception. Dr. Kelsey gave several clinical examples of these phenomena, and described how, in some cases, the re-living of the traumatic birth experiences, for example, had released the patient from persistent anxiety. In some cases the phantasies lived out by the patient under hypnosis had been confirmed from collateral sources as representing the actual birth experiences which the patient must have gone through. Dr. Kelsey expressed the opinion that these phantasies were the re-living of actual events and that, during them, there occurs a recall of genuine repressed memories, sometimes in a distorted form.

Dr. Kelsey had observed that the phantasies took place in the logical sequence of regression as the re-lived experiences had actually occurred; that there were unmistakable memories of parental intercourse; that the phantasies had a quite clear symptomatology, and that there was sometimes striking clinical improvement as the result of the procedure.

A discussion followed in which the HONORARY SECRETARY and Dr. LEITCH took part.

Dr. Kelsey was warmly thanked for his interesting paper by Dr. G. W. T. H. FLEMING, the President Elect, who said that it had been very carefully prepared and very well delivered.

The CHAIRMAN, in closing the Meeting, proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Atkin. He said that the Meeting had been a very happy and comfortable one, and that these features of it were due to the excellence of the arrangements which had been made by Dr. Atkin and his staff. He expressed the thanks of the members to Dr. Atkin, to the Hospital Management Committee, and to all who had contributed to the success of the Meeting.

THE SPRING MEETING of the South-Western Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at Dorset House School of Occupational Therapy, The Churchill Hospital, Headington, Oxford, on Thursday, 19 March, 1953, by kind invitation of the Governors and Dr. Elizabeth Casson, O.B.E., Medical Director.

1. *Minutes.*—The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

2. There were 18 members present and 4 guests.

Apologies for absence were received from 11 members.

3. The Divisional Committee of Management nominated Dr. Andrew Shepherd as Chairman, and Dr. R. G. McInnes as Honorary Divisional Secretary. In the absence of other nominations these became the findings of the Meeting.

The Divisional Committee of Management expressed the opinion that since Dr. P. R. H. Davis was now a Senior Hospital Medical Officer, he was no longer eligible as Junior Representative on the Council. Since no other nominations were forthcoming for this office it was decided to postpone the filling of it until another meeting.

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4. Dr. Shepherd, having been duly elected Chairman, was inducted into office by the retiring Chairman, Dr. S. M. Allan, who, on investing him with the Chairman's badge, wished him a happy term of office.

5. The following candidates were elected unanimously to Ordinary Membership:

BEARCROFT, ROSALIND IRENE, B.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.S., "Redlands," 116, Cardiff Road, Llandaff, Cardiff.
Proposed by Drs. G. M. King, D. Ellis Jones and W. T. Wales.

McGHIE, JOHN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Lt.-Col. R.A.M.C., Officer-in-Charge, Psychiatric Wing, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hampshire.
Proposed by Drs. S. Sharman, L. J. F. Warnants and R. L. Jillett.

ROWE, ARTHUR JOHN EDGCOMBE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Psychiatric Registrar, Park Prewett Hospital, Basingstoke, Hampshire.
Proposed by Drs. I. Atkin, Leslie Ford and D. E. R. Kelsey.

SWINSON, ARTHUR EDWARD PERCY, M.B., B.Ch., Medical Officer, Mendip Hospital, Wells, Somerset.
Proposed by Drs. W. E. W. Bridger, A. Darlington and A. Leitch.

6. THE HONORARY SECRETARY read a letter from Dr. Isabel G. H. Wilson, drawing attention to a Study Tour which would be held for younger members in this country in September.

7. Miss E. M. MACDONALD, T.M.A.O.T., read a paper entitled "**Occupations in the Treatment of Mental Illness.**" She said that there was some confusion between the means of carrying out the craft and the therapy as an aspect of treatment, and she maintained that the occupational therapist, by reason of being trained in a particular kind of attitude to treatment, differed from the art teacher, the musician, and even the nurse. Miss Macdonald drew a distinction between the function of the nurse and the occupational therapist. She said it was desirable to know whether the doctors wanted craftsmen or experts in therapy in their occupation therapy departments, and she advocated a greater degree of understanding between the medical staff and the occupational therapists.

She showed, by means of charts, a plan of the functions and relationships of occupational therapists in psychiatric hospitals, and also the range of their therapeutic usefulness with patients in various kinds and degrees of psychiatric illness.

With regard to training methods, it was suggested that there was room for improvement, but that further complication was to be avoided and that, after all, grace and knowledge inculcated in the student during training were perhaps the most important aspects, although not the most visible.

In the brief discussion which followed, Dr. BAILEY mentioned the difficulty of getting adequate funds from Regional Hospital Boards, who perhaps did not fully understand occupational therapy.

On the question of mixed classes, Miss MACDONALD expressed the view that men and women should certainly be mixed in the occupational therapy departments.

Dr. PILKINGTON favoured refresher courses for occupational therapists. Miss MACDONALD agreed with this, especially as a means of promoting the right kind of relationship between occupational therapists on the one hand, and matrons and head male nurses on the other.

Following the paper and discussion, members and guests were taken round the various departments of the Dorset House School, in small groups. Students of the School acted as guides. A very happy informal hour was spent in seeing at first hand the training methods and the curriculum which the students went through.

Dr. SHEPHERD, from the Chair, then thanked Miss Macdonald for her very interesting and stimulating address, and the meeting responded warmly to his remarks.

Before the close of the Meeting Dr. SHEPHERD expressed the thanks of the Division to Dr. Casson, Miss Macdonald and the Governors of the Dorset House School for their hospitality, and for the arrangements which had been made for a very successful and instructive meeting.

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