J. Kirkland, S. L. Last, J. B. S. Lewis, Thomas Lindsay, R. M. Macfarlane, N. McDiarmid, D. I. O. Macaulay, Anne Maddox, W. F. Menzies, Guy Millman, Doris Odlum, Norman Oliver, Anne Price, A. A. W. Petrie, B. Reid, E. D. T. Roberts, J. D. Richardson, J. A. Small, G. W. Smith, H. Pullar Strecker, R. Ström-Olsen, S. Tattersall, F. Douglas Turner, D. Whittaker, Lincoln Williams, Henry L. Wilson, I. Yates and Sir Laurence Brock.

The minutes of the Spring Meeting having been published in the Supplement of the Journal were taken as read and confirmed.

The following were unanimously elected Ordinary Members of the Association:

HARRIS, ARTHUR, B.A., M.D.Manch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, St. Bernard's Hospital, Southall; 94, Bryanston Court, George Street, W. 1.

Proposed by Drs. David Shaw, A. Walk and W. Ogden.

LARKIN, EDWARD HENRY, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., Deputy Medical Superintendent, West Ham Mental Hospital, Goodmayes, Essex.

Proposed by Drs. George Somerville, R. M. Macfarlane and W. Gordon Masefield.

Dr. KIMBER then read a most stimulating paper entitled **"Social Values in Mental Hospital Treatment"** (see *Journ. Ment. Sci.*, 1939, p. 29), in which he outlined the comprehensive mental health scheme which operates in the county of Hertfordshire, and of which Hill End Hospital and Clinic forms the centre. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. G. W. T. H. FLEMING and seconded by Dr. G. W. B. JAMES. A discussion followed in which the following took part: Drs. PETRIE, HEWITT, HELEN BOYLE, J. B. S. LEWIS, MACKEITH and HYSLOP THOMSON. Dr. KIMBER replied.

Members and their guests were then entertained to tea.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN 1938 MEETING was held, by kind invitation of the Committee of Visitors and Dr. J. W. Leech, at Wiltshire County Mental Hospital, Devizes, on Thursday, October 27th, 1938.

The Divisional Committee of Management met at 12.15 p.m.

Dr. R. W. Armstrong took the Chair at the meeting.

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

The following members were present: Drs. R. G. McInnes, P. W. Carruthers, G. de M. Rudolf, N. Moulson, T. Brownlees, J. W. Fisher, D. Prentice, A. Cox, P. L. Hemphill, Herbert Smith, W. R. Dawson, B. M. Mules, A. S. Mules, H. Astley Cooper, F. M. Stewart, J. S. Horsley, G. W. T. H. Fleming, F. Dudley, James M. Rutherford, E. Casson, Arthur Darlington, D. Menzies, R. W. Armstrong, J. M. C. Speer, I. Atkin, G. J. Bell, and S. Edgar Martin, Hon. Divisional Secretary.

The undermentioned attended as visitors: Drs. P. M. Brett, W. M. Pinkerton, D. M. McRae, A. A. White and D. H. H. Thomas, and the Rev. Canon E. A. Gowring (Chairman of the Visiting Committee) and Miss M. F. Awdry (Vice-Chairman).

Letters of apology for absence were received from Drs. C. Lovell, R. Eager, J. R. Gilmour and others.

The HON. DIVISIONAL SECRETARY reported that unfortunately their host that day, Dr. J. W. Leech, was ill, and very much regretted that he could not be present. He hoped that it would be a successful meeting. The members expressed their regret at Dr. Leech's absence and their wishes for his recovery.

The HON. DIVISIONAL SECRETARY reported that the Committee of Management had decided to nominate Dr. R. W. Armstrong as Chairman for the ensuing year, and Dr. R. Eager to serve with Dr. Armstrong as Representative Members of Council. Dr. S. Edgar Martin was nominated as Hon. Divisional Secretary.

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The following were elected as Ordinary Members:

CROOK, HUGH WALTER DOVER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Knowle Mental Hospital, Fareham, Hants.

Proposed by Drs. H. Wilfred Eddison, B. J. Mullin and R. A. Greenwood Penny.

MACGREGOR, JAMES MACWILLIAM, L.R.C.P.&S.E., L.R.F.P.S.G., Assistant Medical Officer, Worcestershire Mental Hospital, Barnsley Hall, Bromsgrove.

Proposed by Drs. A. Shepherd, J. L. Clegg and W. T. Chambers.

WHITE, ALBERT ARNOLD, M.B., Ch.B.Aberd., Assistant Medical Officer, Wiltshire County Mental Hospital, Devizes.

Proposed by Drs. J. W. Leech, J. M. C. Speer and S. Edgar Martin.

With regard to the Spring 1939 Meeting, the HON. DIVISIONAL SECRETARY reported that Dr. N. Moulson had kindly offered to have the Division at Cefn Coed, Swansea, on Saturday, April 29th, 1939, and it was unanimously agreed to accept the invitation.

The HON. DIVISIONAL SECRETARY also reported that Dr. G. W. T. H. Fleming would like to have the Division at Barnwood House, Gloucester, for the Autumn 1939 meeting, and it was agreed to accept his kind offer.

Dr. P. L. HEMPHILL, Assistant Medical Officer, Bristol Mental Hospital, then read his paper on "**Some Considerations of Physical Factors in Delusional States**" (see *Journ. Ment. Sci.*, 1939, p. 119), and in the discussion which followed the following took part: Drs. ARMSTRONG, HORSLEY, RUDOLF and RUTHERFORD. Dr. HEMPHILL replied.

Dr. J. M. C. SPEER, Deputy Medical Superintendent, Wilts County Mental Hospital, Devizes, then followed with "**Some Remarks on Cardiazol Treatment**".

In the course of his paper, Dr. Speer mentioned an innovation designed to facilitate the injections by covering the arms of the patients in flannel sleeves an hour or so before convulsion time, so keeping the arms warm and making the veins more prominent.

As regards complications or sequelæ of the convulsions, he had seen dislocations of the jaw in four patients, but so far had had no fractures. Some patients required a little assistance to breathe reflexly. One man, after four fits, developed tachycardia, which did not settle down for more than a week.

He found that, as a rule, a few fits would brighten up a patient and allow of a more satisfactory examination of his mental state. In only one stuporose case did he fail to produce this effect.

He believed, however, that convulsion therapy alone was not sufficient to produce the best results and that suggestion, persuasion and occupational therapy used concurrently were essential to achieve the desired end.

As regards the way in which convulsion therapy produced its effects, he drew attention to work done by Pavlov on conditioned inhibition. The latter's description of the state of an animal in which conditioned inhibition has spread to the whole cortex might almost serve as that of a case of catatonia in a patient. "The animal maintains an alert posture; it stands with wide open immovable eyes, head up, extremitus extended, not seeking support in the loops, remaining motionless for minutes, and sometimes for hours. On changing the position of an extremity it retains the new position. The presentation of food brings about no reaction." This was not unlike the posture that some of our patients adopt, making due allowances for anatomical and physiological differences.

Were these somewhat similar attitudes adopted by some of their patients produced by series of inhibitory stimuli? And again were not these patients who assumed certain postures those who responded best to cardiazol treatment?

According to Pavlov the inhibited animal failed to react to extraneous stimuli, unless exceptionally powerful. Was cardiazol not just a powerful extraneous stimulus destroying inhibition, and the other physiological changes concomitants of its action?

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The following members joined in the subsequent discussion: Drs. R. W. ARMSTRONG, FLEMING, MOULSON, HEMPHILL, RUTHERFORD, etc., Dr. SPEER replying.

A vote of thanks from the Chair was passed by acclamation to Drs. Hemphill and Speer for their most interesting papers.

During the day members were able to inspect the Hospital, and also to see cardiazol treatment of schizophrenia taking place.

The members and visitors were kindly entertained to lunch and tea. Dr. ARMSTRONG (the Chairman) proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Dr. Leech and the Committee of Visitors for their kind hospitality, to which the Rev. Canon GOWRING replied.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Division was held, by the courtesy of Dr. D. N. Parfitt, at Warwickshire and Coventry Mental Hospital, Hatton, nr. Warwick, on Friday, October 28, 1938.

Present: Dr. M. A. Archdale (Chairman), Drs. Back, Bain, Barbour, Campbell, Crowe, Davidson, Dove Cormac, Drury, Fischgold, Fox, K. Graves, T. C. Graves, Gillman, Harrison, Jackson, M. Jeffrey, Kennedy, Ladell, Malloy, Macarthur, Mackenzie, D. Macmillan, D. M. Macmillan, MacDonald, McKeith, McGuinness, Napier, O'Reilly, Parfitt, Pentreath, Pickworth, Pool, Potts, Richards, J. I. Russell, Selkirk, Smith, Stern, Thorpe, Wishart.

Eight visitors also attended.

During the forenoon members were privileged to visit the insulin treatment unit. This provides for the treatment of 18 patients and was instituted in June, 1937, a total of 75 cases having been treated. A demonstration of technique was given, and a bedside discussion of the treatment was held. The exceptional efficiency of the nursing staff engaged in this department and the excellent general arrangements of the whole unit were the subjects of very favourable comment, and the visit was highly instructive.

The Nurses' Home, which provides all modern advantages for 150 nurses, was also visited.

Members were afterwards entertained to lunch, and a vote of thanks to Dr. Parfitt was proposed by Dr. Archdale.

The meeting opened at 2.15 p.m., Dr. Archdale presiding.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been published, were confirmed and signed.

The following, after ballot, were elected ordinary members of the Association:

FRANK WEBSTER FURNISS, M.A.Cantab., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent, Whittington Hall Institution, Old Whittington, Chesterfield.

Proposed by Drs. Lewis, Evans and Russell.

BENEDICT FINKLEMAN, M.B., Ch.B., M.Sc.Vict., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Lancashire County Mental Hospital, Winwick, Warrington.

Proposed by Drs. Nicole, Howie and Quine.

MARY COX, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Assistant Medical Officer, Rubery Hill Mental Hospital, Birmingham.

Proposed by Drs. Graves, Pickworth and Graves.

THOMAS PATRICK DIAMOND, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., Junior Assistant Medical Officer, Rubery Hill Mental Hospital, Birmingham.

Proposed by Drs. Graves, Pickworth and Graves.

LILIAN ANN HAYWARD, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., D.P.M., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Warwickshire and Coventry Mental Hospital, Hatton, near Warwick.

Proposed by Drs. Parfitt, MacKeith and Russell.

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