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SUPPLEMENT, MAY 1969

THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING adjourned on 10 July, 1968, was reconvened and met in London on 6 February 1969. The President, Dr. Francis Pilkington, was in the Chair.

Presidency 1969–1970

The President announced with pleasure that the Ad Hoc Committee had nominated Dr. Martin Cuthbert as President for 1969–1970. The meeting unanimously confirmed his election.

Report of Special (Petition) Committee

The President read the following report:

'We have now received, through our legal advisers, a long letter from the Privy Council raising numerous useful and essentially constructive suggestions about the Petition, Charter and Bye-Laws, which need careful consideration. There are two or three points about which it has been agreed to seek clarification from the Privy Council, and it is felt it would be premature to seek the views of the whole Council/Association until this has been done and the whole position can be given. It has been proposed that a Presidential Letter be addressed to all members bringing them up to date as soon as possible.'

Amendments to Proposed Bye-laws

The following amendments to proposed bye-laws 9(i) and 132 were proposed by Dr. G. A. Low-Beer, seconded by Dr. Isabel Wilson and carried *nem. con.*:

9(i). Membership is a mark of professional standing awarded only after a period of training and after examination, except as provided for in sub-section (ii) of this Bye-law to those medical practitioners who have attained an advanced level of professional experience and responsibility. Membership is a higher qualification which the possessor is entitled to use in self-description in a manner prescribed by Council so long as in doing so he does not imply that he is a Member of any other organization.

132. There shall be a Court of Electors charged with the duty of approving training programmes, carrying out the examination for admission to Membership, and electing to the Fellowship those qualified by bye-law 11; the Court shall be empowered to make the necessary regulations, subject to the overall control of Council. The Court may appoint sub-committees to carry out such parts of the above functions as the Court may direct.

(*These proposed Bye-laws previously read as follows:*
9(*i*). *Membership is a mark of professional standing awarded after examination only, except as provided for in sub-section (ii) of this Bye-law to those medical practitioners who have attained an advanced level of professional experience and responsibility. Membership is a higher qualification which the possessor is entitled to use in self-description in a manner prescribed by Council so long as in doing so he does not imply that he is a Member of any other organisation.*
132. *There shall be a Court of Electors charged with the duty of designing and carrying out the examination for admission to Membership and to elect to the Fellowship those qualified by Bye-law 11; they shall be empowered to make the necessary regulations, subject to the overall control of Council. The Court may appoint sub-committees to carry out such parts of the above functions as the Court may direct*).

The President reported that he had had a very useful and helpful meeting with representatives of the unofficial 'petition group', as a result of which the above Bye-laws had been drafted. Dr. Low-Beer, on behalf of the 'petition group', said how gratified the group were at the satisfactory conclusion to the discussions, and paid tribute to Dr. Pilkington's handling of the meeting, which had been a discussion within one party rather than a discussion between opposing parties.

The Adjourned Annual Meeting was again adjourned.

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