the way visitors were received. He agreed with what was said as to the importance of the hall porter or telephonist. The way in which 'phone calls and letters were answered meant a great deal. There should be an appointments system for interviewing relatives. The discharge of patients to their relatives' care should only rarely be opposed. Finally much depended on the personality of the Medical Superintendent or Clinical Director.

Dr. Pilkington agreed that the hall porters were in some ways the most important people in the hospital. He would like to see the end of the old-time visiting-day routine. He liked the idea of inviting practitioners to the weekly case-conferences. He would also send copies of the hospital's Annual Report to the general practitioners of the district.

The W.V.S. scheme and the part-time nurses also provided community links. Relations with the Press were a subject that had not been fully studied yet. He was now cultivating the two local papers ; one was now prepared to publish helpful articles ; the other still needed a good deal of tactful education.

Dr. Kimber said that before the war he used to make a practice of taking the newly-joined nurses on a conducted tour of the hospital, and on these occasions he used to let them invite their friends or relatives to accompany them.

Professor Kennedy said that the papers read that day had shewn a healthy point of view. He thought the most important thing was that they should put their own house in order, by seeing that first-class work was done in the mental hospitals. The Regional System would help to break down the walls between psychological and physical medicine. Psychiatry must be presented to doctors in a better light. The teaching of psychiatry had gone through three stages : first there had been the asylum superintendent demonstrating cases of established psychosis ; next there had been teaching in out-patient departments. Now they must go further and present psychiatry, not as a speciality, but as a generality—the humanizing element in medicine.

As regards public relations, he urged that in trying to do good they should be careful not to do harm. Psychiatry had in some ways been over-sold—there were examples of this in what had been said of psychotherapy and of leucotomy. The psychiatrist should be presented as primarily a physician—not as a cranioclastic butcher, nor as a long-haired mystic, but a doctor in the fullest Hippocratic sense. If this were done, they need have no fear of public opinion.

Dr. Rees agreed with what had been said about hall porters. He welcomed Dr. Ferguson's paper and said he had watched with admiration the transformation of Netherne during recent years. He made a practice of seeing all visitors once a week, as a group; he gave them a talk, and then there were opportunities for criticism and discussion. Once a year he held a viewing week for the friends and relatives of hospital staff. He always welcomed medical practitioners as visitors. He blamed some of the teachers of psychiatry in medical schools—some knew nothing whatever of mental hospitals—for the ignorance still often shown by students and general practitioners.

Drs. McCartan, Ferguson and Bailey briefly replied to the discussion.

SPRING, 1948, QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE SPRING, 1948, QUARTERLY MEETING of the Association was held at Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, under the Presidency of Dr. W. GORDON MASEFIELD, *C.B.E.*, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., *J.P.*, on Wednesday and Thursday, 12 and 13 May, 1948.

The Minutes of the previous Quarterly Meeting had not yet been printed in the Journal, and it was agreed that the President should sign them in due course.

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Obituary.

The President announced with regret the death of the following members:

Erich Guttmann, M.D.Munich, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Edin., L.R.F.P.S. Glasg., an Ordinary Member since 1938.

Thordur Sveinsson, M.D., of Reykjavik, who had been elected a Corresponding Member in 1935.

Elizabeth Palmyre Wade-Evans, M.B., Ch.B., an Ordinary Member since 1944.

The members stood in silent tribute for a few moments.

Election of Members.

It was agreed to take the elections *en bloc*. Dr. H. Freize Stephens and Dr. R. G. Blake Marsh were appointed as scrutineers, and after the ballot had been taken the following were declared elected Ordinary Members of the Association:

Conitzer, Harry, M.D.Bologna, M.D.Dusseldorf, Ph.D.Berlin, Assistant Physician, Carlton Hayes Hospital, Narborough, Leicester.
Proposed by Drs. K. K. Drury, F. J. Napier and D. Cameron.

Cumming, Frederick Gordon, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., Assistant Medical Officer, Fife District Mental Hospital, Cupar, Fife.
Proposed by Drs. W. Boyd, J. Milne and E. J. C. Hewitt.

Landells, David Gordon, M.B., Ch.B.Glas., Assistant Medical Officer, Fife District Mental Hospital, Cupar, Fife.
Proposed by Drs. W. Boyd, J. Milne and J. R. B. Robb.

Matheson, Bernard, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., D.P.M., Medical Superintendent, South Ockendon Colony, South Ockendon, Essex.
Proposed by Drs. G. Somerville, M. J. Brookes and T. P. Riordan.

Shenkin, Arthur Manfred, M.B., Ch.B.Glasg., Assistant Psychiatrist, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow; Faraway, Newtonlea Avenue, Newton Mearns, Renfrewshire.
Proposed by Drs. Alexander Dick, W. S. Thomson and L. D. Gardner.

Vujic, Vladimir, M.D.Prague, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Belgrade; Marsala Tita 6, Belgrade, Yugoslavia.
Proposed by Professor A. J. Lewis, Drs. Emanuel Miller and E. Guttmann.

Report of the Council.

The General Secretary read the Report of the Council as follows:

The Council had agreed that the rooms at Chandos Street should be made available for the International Congress on Mental Health on two afternoons in August next and that tea would be provided.

The Treasurer had pointed out that as, by the terms of our lease at Chandos Street, we were only entitled to the use of the committee rooms during our Quarterly Meetings, secretaries of meetings held at any other times would have to make their own arrangements direct with the Medical Society of London, whose charge would have to be met by those attending them. The growing use of the Library for meetings was deprecated as it excluded members from reading there. The Treasurer had also mentioned that teas provided at other times than Quarterly Meetings could not be accepted as a charge on the Association.

In reply to a letter from the G.N.C., regarding R.M.P.A. trained and certificated nurses resident abroad, it was proposed to write expressing the wish and hope that the G.N.C. would register all such nurses living in Scotland and Ireland, as well as England and Wales, and that applications for State registration from our nurses living abroad should be favourably considered.

It was also agreed to ask those in authority in training hospitals to remind their nurses to apply for State registration.

The draft Superannuation Regulations to amend chiefly Regulation 29 had been approved by the Council. The amendment was one that the Association had been pressing for for some time.

Drs. Masefield and Petrie had been nominated as members of the Board of Governors of the group comprising the Maudsley and Bethlem Royal Hospitals.

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Drs. Cook, J. R. Rees and T.P. Rees had been nominated to a joint committee of the R.S.M. in connection with the International Congress on Psychiatry to be held in Paris in 1950.

The Divisions report as follows :

South-Eastern Division.—Number of members belonging to the Division, 404. Two meetings have been held since the last Report, at which 146 members attended. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, J. B. S. Lewis ; Secretary, T. P. Rees ; Junior Representative, M. B. Brody.

South-Western Division.—Number of members belonging to the Division, 151. Two meetings have been held since the last Report, at which 20 members attended. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman R. E. Hemphill ; Secretary, R. W. Armstrong ; Junior Representative, D. Lewis.

Northern and Midland Division.—Number of members belonging to the Division, 251. Two meetings have been held since the last Report, at which 27 members and 23 guests and 30 members and 5 guests respectively attended. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, H. Freize Stephens ; Secretary, T. M. Cuthbert ; Assistant Secretary, J. R. Murray ; Junior Representative, Fenton Russell.

Scottish Division.—Number of members belonging to the Division, 139. Six meetings have been held since the last Report, at which 145 members attended. The names of the office bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, Kate Fraser ; Secretary, E. J. C. Hewitt ; Assistant Secretary, M. M. Methven ; Junior Representative, J. Milne.

Irish Division.—The Report of this Division was not to hand, but has been added subsequently. Number of members belonging to the Division, 108. Three meetings have been held since the last Report, at which 23, 23 and 17 members attended respectively. The office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, P. J. Cassin ; Secretary, J. N. P. Moore ; Junior Representative, P. Moran.

Indian Division.—A motion to be placed on the agenda for the Annual Meeting, to dissolve this Division, has been approved by Council.

The Sections report as follows :

Research and Clinical Section.—Number of members, 400. Six meetings have been held since the last Report, in conjunction with the Path. Bact. and Biochem. and the Clinical Psychiatry Sub-Committees. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, F. L. Golla ; Secretary, P. K. McCowan ; Representatives on Council, Chairman and Secretary ; Representative on Education Committee, L. C. Cook ; Representatives on the Library Committee, E. C. Dax and M. B. Brody.

Mental Deficiency Section.—Number of members, 160. Two meetings have been held since the last Report, and three meetings of the Executive Committee. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, E. O. Lewis ; Secretary, R. G. Blake Marsh ; Representatives on Council, Chairman and Secretary ; Representative on Education Committee, D. Prentice ; Representatives on Library Committee, L. T. Hilliard and K. C. L. Paddle.

Child Psychiatry Section.—Number of members, 220. Six meetings have been held since the last Report. The names of the office-bearers for the year 1948–9 are : Chairman, A. Maberly ; Secretary, H. M. Capes ; Secretary Elect (and Asst. Sec.), J. E. Mackworth ; Dr. M. M. Methven was also elected Vice-Chairman ; Representatives on the Council, Chairman and Secretary ; Representative on Education Committee, K. Soddy ; Representatives on Library Committee, J. E. Mackworth and F. Bodman.

No Report has been received from the Social Psychiatry Section.

Papers.—**"The Personality of Dean Swift,"** by Mr. JOHN HAYWARD ;

"A Ten-Years' Survey of Physical Methods of Treatment," by Dr. J. DUNNE ;

"Addiction Under the Mental Treatment Act, Eire, 1945," by Dr. H J. EUSTACE.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the organizers of the meeting, and for the great hospitality extended to the Association.

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