Maudsley Lecture

The Thirty-sixth Maudsley Lecture was given in the Barnes Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, by Professor J. Z. Young, Professor of Anatomy, University College, London. The Lecture was entitled **"Memory Mechanisms of the Brain"**. [*See Journal,* March 1962, p. 119.]

At the conclusion of the lecture a vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Derek Richter, and carried with acclamation.

Seminars

Seminars were held on 14 November, at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School. Subjects and speakers were as follows:

"The Treatment of Crime and the Prevention of Delinquency." Dr. J. D. W. Pearce.

"Example of a Therapeutic Consultation with a Child." Dr. D. W. Winnicott.

"Psycho-Boloney." Dr. R. A. J. Asher.

"Psychotomimetic Drugs and Model Psychoses." Dr. Humphrey Osmond.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

The Winter Meeting of the Scottish Division was held at Rosslynlee Hospital, Rosslyn Castle, Midlothian, on Friday, 8 December, 1961, under the Chairmanship of Prof. T. Ferguson Rodger. Thirty-nine members and several visitors were present.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The following was elected an Ordinary Member of the Association:

Knox, Richard Sydney, M.D., Member of Medical Research Council Unit, Department of Psychological Medicine, University of Edinburgh.

Proposed by Dr. W. I. N. Kessel, and seconded by Dr. C. Kidd and Professor G. M. Carstairs.

Dr. A. C. Tait. Assistant Honorary Secretary, read the Report of the Committee of Management.

"With regard to the Divisional Meetings it was felt that some experiments might be tried and among the recommendations were:

1. That the Winter and Spring Meetings might be held in the cities, rather than at hospitals, to diminish transport difficulties.

2. That the Committee of Management should endeavour to meet some two weeks before each Divisional Meeting, so that more time would be available, and a more detailed agenda would be prepared and circulated for the Divisional Meetings.

3. That independent Sectional Meetings, held on occasions other than the Divisional Meetings, should continue to be encouraged.

A letter had been received from Dr. A. B. Monro accepting the proposal that requests emanating from Scotland for speakers on psychiatric subjects should be referred to the Division. A letter had also been received from the Registrar of the General Nursing Council for Scotland saying that our request for information and the opportunity to offer advice on possible changes in nursing training would be laid before her Council.

It was considered likely that the British Medical Association would prefer to give separate evidence to the two National Committees mentioned in our last Minutes. It was therefore recommended that our representatives—Dr. H. Stalker, Dr. K. R. H. Wardrop, Dr. M. Methven and Dr. H. S. Ross be constituted as a Sub-Committee for preparing our evidence and strengthened by the addition of Dr. J. D. Haldane, Dr. J. B. McWhinnie and Dr. W. J. W. Rae; Dr. Stalker to act as

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convener and to have full discretion in this matter, reporting to the Committee where practicable.

The Committee considered what action was needed in regard to the Wright Committee, which is set up broadly to consider the application of the recommendations of the Platt Committee to Scotland. It was obvious that this was a matter of the greatest importance. Dr. A. K. M. Macrae was a member of the Wright Committee, and he addressed the meeting, informing it of the principles under which this Committee would operate. It was agreed that a special Sub-Committee of the Division should be formed to offer evidence to the Wright Committee, and the names were put forward of Professor Rodger, Dr. Whittet, Dr. Tait, Dr. Batchelor, Dr. Devlin and Dr. Timbury. It was agreed that this was representative of all interests, and no further names were suggested. It was noted further that a special Divisional Meeting might ultimately be required to discuss this matter.

Representatives of the Department of Health had met out delegates, in both general psychiatry and mental deficiency, to discuss the detailed implementation of the Scottish Mental Health Act. Further meetings were to be arranged, and would be reported later.

Dr. Thomas Freeman, Scottish representative on the Committee of the Psychotherapy and Social Psychiatry Section, had written to ask the Division's views on holding, in Scotland, a week-end residential meeting of that Section. This suggestion was welcomed, and a number of points were put forward for Dr. Freeman's consideration.

The Forensic Section met in the forenoon, and Dr. A. McQuaid of the Department of Psychological Medicine, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, gave a talk on his work at H.M. Prison, Barlinnie.

The Meeting was reminded that there was now no Chairman for the (Scottish) Research and Clinical Section. The Meeting was asked if it wished to nominate a Chairman, and decided that Dr. Sinclair-Gieben be deputed to convene with Dr. McHarg a meeting at which a permanent Chairman should be appointed."

The date of the next Meeting was confirmed as Friday, 2 March, 1962, at a place in Glasgow to be arranged later.

Dr. J. B. Baldwin, who is making a survey of bed usage on behalf of the North-Eastern Regional Hospital Board, was introduced to the Meeting, and members asked to collaborate in his enquiry.

The Meeting then heard a series of papers on new plans for Research in Mental Health Statistics. Professor Carstairs succinctly and lucidly surveyed present diagnostic classifications, feeling that the problems involved here could be over-estimated, and that Scotland as a national unit would present a good opportunity to use operationally defined criteria. Dr. Alwyn Smith outlined the reasons for statistical studies, these being both administrative and epidemiological, the latter potentially of aetiological significance; he offered a reasoned critique of certain recent papers, and then went on to outline the new statistical return which was scheduled to replace the present cards—it included treatment data, and might ultimately be extended to cover out-patient information; he hoped it would be practicable to offer hospitals a service of information regarding their own intake. Professor Millar, referring to a recent visit to the U.S.A., offered the possibility of joint comparative epidemiological studies with that country; he stressed the need for reliability in the primary data, and pointed out that information was not only of value centrally, but was likely to be useful for immediate planning purposes.

A lively discussion took place, with a number of criticisms being offered, and responded to by the platform. It was felt by a number of members that they might reasonably welcome a preliminary glance at the kind of information sought by the Department.

Owing to the lateness of the hour it was impracticable to show Dr. Hegarty's film, but the meeting expressed a wish to see this at a future date.

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All those present will wish to thank Dr. Hegarty, and his Board of Management and Staff, for the excellent arrangements and the kind hospitality extended to them on the occasion of the Winter Meeting.

WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Lima, Peru, 6-10 August, 1962

Theme:

OFFICIAL AND VOLUNTARY PARTNERSHIP FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN THE COMMUNITY

Related topics which will receive special attention are:

The impact of urbanization and industrialization on hitherto agricultural communities;

The insecurity and other problems of children in newly developing countries.

Membership: The Annual Meeting will be open to professional workers in psychiatry, psychology, education, nursing, social work, public health administration and allied fields; and to non-professional people interested in the promotion of good mental health and human relations throughout the world.

Requests for further information should be addressed to:

World Federation for Mental Health,
19 Manchester Street,
London, W.1.

NOTICES BY THE HONORARY LIBRARIAN

The Library is open to members between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m. and 12 noon. Books are issued to borrowers during these hours.

The Hon. Librarian will endeavour to obtain, as far as possible, any books on psychiatry and allied subjects required by members.

Library Lending Department Regulations

1. Books shall be lent to members within the United Kingdom and Eire who are not in arrears with their subscriptions.

2. No member may borrow from the Library more than three volumes at one time.

3. Books and journals are sent carriage paid from the Library, but members are responsible for the books from the time they leave the Library until they are received back, and for the return postage.

4. Books damaged or lost while in possession of a member will be repaired at his expense or must be replaced by him.

5. A member shall be entitled to retain a book or periodical borrowed from the Library for a period of twenty-eight days (or longer by special arrangement), unless the book is required by another member, in which case it can be recalled by the Librarian at the expiration of fourteen days.

6. In the event of a member failing to return any book or periodical within seven days after receiving notice from the Librarian (on the expiration of the period referred to in Rule 5), the Library Committee shall be at liberty to purchase another copy, the cost to be charged to such member, who shall not be allowed to borrow another book until the sum thus expended shall have been paid.

7. All communications should be addressed to "The Librarian, Royal Medico-Psychological Association, 11 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1".

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