NEWS AND NOTES

Supplement to the

BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY

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THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

SUMMER MEETING, 1972

At the Summer Meeting of the College, held in London on 3–6 July, the Registrar reported on the change in the pattern of transacting the College's business, which had been agreed by Council. Meetings of Committees were no longer being held immediately before Quarterly Meetings, but at convenient earlier dates, so as to enable written reports to be presented to Council or to its Executive and Finance Committee.

Dr. Monro also reported on the very successful joint meeting with the Canadian Psychiatric Association and the Quebec Psychiatric Association, recently held in Montreal.

The President, commenting on the Report, mentioned the steps that were being taken to arrange for representation of the Affiliates on Standing Committees. He referred to the acute problems arising from the fact that the College was confronted with tasks of huge proportions, with very few people to carry them out. Besides adequate office staff, the College needed to recruit psychiatric talent—vigorous, enthusiastic and able people from among its own members; an altogether bigger organization and a better home were necessities.

The Dean (Professor Rawnsley) reported on what was being done towards opening the list of Inceptors, and on the progress of the accreditation exercise. He mentioned that the survey carried out some time ago by Dr. Brook for the R.M.P.A. would be published as a Special Publication of the College. Referring to the symposium on post-graduate education held the previous day, he pointed out how inseparable were the problems of education and of man-power. It was greatly to be hoped that the Regional Divisions would assume a major role in training, in collaboration with university departments and training centres. Finally he stressed the importance of the quality of recruits to the specialty, and the relation of this to attitudes towards psychiatry in medical schools and in the country generally.

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https://doi.org/10.1192/S0007125072302357 Published online by Cambridge University Press