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SUPPLEMENT

JANUARY, 1941.

THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

IRISH DIVISION.

THE SUMMER QUARTERLY and CLINICAL MEETING was held in the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows, on Thursday, July 25, 1940.

The following members were present:

Dr. C. B. Moloney in the Chair, Drs. Maud O'Mahony, May Fitzgerald, J. Fitzgerald, Evelyn O'Brien, P. J. Kelly, T. Foley, W. N. Eustace, R. Thompson, D. Brennan, R. R. Leeper, J. Dunne, W. Moore, P. Grace, D. Hegarty, and P. Moran (Hon. Sec.).

Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Drs. H. StGeorge Smith, D. Lothian, P. Courtenay, and J. J. Deane.

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

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the sympathy of the Division be extended to the relatives of the late Dr. Rutherford, who was for many years an active member of the Division, and to Dr. D. L. Kelly, R.M.S., Carlow, on the death of his wife. The Motion was passed in silence, all the Members standing.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Dr. D. Brennan, R.M.S., Mental Hospital, Ennis, setting out certain matters of Mental Hospital Administration which he wished discussed. It was decided to put the matter on the Agenda for next meeting, and to ask Dr. Brennan to open a discussion.

The following were, after ballot, declared elected Members of the Association:

CHARLES BOOTH ROBINSON, M.B., B.Ch., A.M.O., Belfast Mental Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. S. J. Graham, R. Thompson and D. Gardiner.

B. MCMACKIN RAMSAY, M.B., D.P.M., A.M.O., Mental Hospital, Letterkenny.
Proposed by Drs. P. Courtenay, T. Foley and P. Moran.

It was proposed to hold the Autumn Meeting on November 7, at the Royal College of Physicians in Kildare Street, Dublin.

The SECRETARY opened a discussion on "Mental Hospitals in War Conditions," and gave a summary of points which he suggested Members should discuss and on which a pooling of ideas would be useful.

Many Members described the steps being taken in their Hospitals to meet a possible emergency, and after a full discussion it was decided:

(1) To make representations to the Local Government Department in Dublin, "That Mental Hospitals should be included in any General Scheme of A.R.P. in both urban and rural areas."

(2) To ask whether the Hague Convention Sign for Civilian Hospitals or any other sign should be painted up.

(3) To ask for a direction as to what an R.M.S. would do with his patients if he got a Military Order to evacuate the Hospital.

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(4) To advise Medical Superintendents to prevent Members of Mental Hospital Staffs joining any part time force, such as L.S.F., and to discourage them joining permanent Military Forces.

A Member raised the question of food rationing in the Public Mental Hospitals in Eire, and after discussion it was agreed that in existing conditions no restriction of diet was warranted.

Clinical Meeting.

Dr. Denis Hegarty, A.M.O., Portrane Mental Hospital, read a paper entitled "The Role of the Personality in the Physical Life of the Individual."

The Chairman, speaking of the paper, congratulated Dr. Hegarty on the simplification of a very abstract and difficult subject. He made what was difficult and complicated seem simple, and clearly indicated the practical application of the remedies for disorders of the personality at the various stages in their development.

Many of the Members present spoke to the paper and congratulated Dr. Hegarty on an excellent paper.

Dr. Hegarty replied to points raised in the discussion and the Meeting then terminated.

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

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