PAPERS

Subject: **"Discussion on the Report of the Royal Commission on the Law Relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency"**

Opening Speakers: Dr. Alexander Walk
Dr. Noel H. M. Burke, *O.B.E.*

The Association's Memorandum of Comments on the Report is printed on page 9.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION

THE AUTUMN DIVISIONAL MEETING was held at Goodmayes Hospital, Ilford, Essex, on 29 October, 1957, by kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. George Somerville, the Physician Superintendent.

Members of the Association and guests were received by Dr. Somerville and the Medical Staff. Parties were shown round various wards and departments of the hospital. Of particular interest were the Gloucester Occupational Therapy Clinic which had been formally opened the previous Thursday by H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, the Day Hospital under the direction of Dr. T. P. Riordan and the EEG Department under the direction of Dr. J. E. Glancy.

About 80 members and guests were entertained to lunch. The Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee, Dr. J. A. Moody, welcomed the party and expressed the satisfaction of the Hospital Management Committee that this meeting was being held at Goodmayes. The Divisional Chairman, Dr. Walk, thanked the Chairman and Dr. Somerville for the hospitality extended to the Division and recalled the first meeting of the Division at Goodmayes in 1904. At that time the Medical Superintendent was Dr. Hunter, who later became Divisional Secretary; the then Secretary was Dr. Ernest White, of Stone House, and the main paper was by Dr. Thomson, a Cane Hill man; to-day their Secretary was again a Goodmayes man, the Assistant Secretary came from Stone House and the Chairman from Cane Hill. Dr. Somerville also spoke and said that the medical staff deemed it an honour that this meeting should be held at Goodmayes. He referred to the new Occupational Therapy Clinic, the gift of the King Edward's Hospital Fund, which he hoped everyone would visit.

1. *The Minutes of the last meeting* held at Banstead Hospital on 18 April, 1957, were confirmed and signed.

2. *Apologies for Absence* were received.

3. *The names of those present* were recorded.

4. *Divisional Committee of Management.* The Secretary reported on nominations for Regional Boards as follows:

East Anglian	Drs. J. V. Morris and D. H. Clark.
North-East Metropolitan	Drs. E. B. Strauss and G. Somerville.
North-West Metropolitan	Drs. J. B. S. Lewis and O. W. S. FitzGerald.
South-West Metropolitan	Drs. T. P. Rees and A. B. Monro.

and for the Board of Governors of Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospitals—Dr. J. G. Hamilton. Dr. T. P. Riordan was nominated as Divisional Representative for the Psychotherapy and Social Psychiatry Section Executive Committee.

Arrangements for Future Meetings:

Spring, 1958	Fulbourn Hospital, Cambridge.
Autumn, 1958	Hellingly Hospital, Sussex.

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5. *Election of Candidates to Ordinary Membership.* The following were duly elected:

FOGARTY, JOHN PHILIP FRANCIS, M.D., M.R.C.P.E., D.P.M., D.C.H., Senior Psychiatric Registrar, Addenbrooke's and Fulbourn Hospitals, Cambridge.
Proposed by Drs. Margaret Methven, J. G. Howells and A. Walk.

HEASMAN, GERALD ARCHIBALD, M.B., B.S., Registrar, Claybury Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. J. S. Harris, J. S. Pippard and D. V. Martin.

KENT, ROGER PETER, M.D., Psychiatric Registrar, Banstead Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. E. P. H. Charlton, J. C. Barker and G. A. Asghar.

KREEGER, IRVING SEYMOUR, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., Assistant Psychiatrist, Department of Psychological Medicine, King's College Hospital, S.E.5.
Proposed by Drs. D. Hill, I. J. MacDonald and H. A. C. Mason.

LE VAY, MARJORIE KATHERINE, M.B., B.Ch., Locum Tenens Psychiatric Registrar, Warlingham Park Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. H. K. Rose, H. M. McBryde and Barbara Salisbury.

MARGOLIS, BERYL, M.B., B.Ch., Psychiatric Registrar, Friern Hospital, New Southgate, N.11.
Proposed by Drs. I. Sutton, Pauline Stirling, and J. M. Crawford.

MYERS, EDWARD DAVID, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P.E., D.T.M.&H., Psychiatric Registrar, Banstead Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. E. P. H. Charlton, J. C. Barker and A. A. Baker.

SCANLAN, EILEEN PEARSE, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.Obstet.R.C.O.G., D.P.M., Registrar, Leavesden Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. E. W. Shepherd, Jane Buchanan and W. W. Campbell.

STOTT, HECTOR JOHN, L.R.C.P.&S.(Ed.), L.R.F.P.S.G., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Assistant Psychiatrist, St. Ebba's Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. A. Walk, Daphne Smedberg and A. Graham.

WHITEHEAD, BERNARD FREDERICK, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.M., Assistant Child Psychiatrist, Addenbrooke's Hospital and East Anglian Regional Board.
Proposed by Drs. R. E. Glennie, A. Orwin and B. Zeitlyn.

WHITLOCK, FRANCIS ANTONY, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Senior Registrar, Maudsley Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. C. P. Blacker, D. L. Davies and W. H. Allchin.

Re-Election (*Resigned, 1947*):

TOMPKINS, VICTOR HARRY, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Group Captain Royal Air Force, Principal Specialist in Neuropsychiatry; 74 Wendover Road, Aylesbury, Bucks.
Proposed by Drs. R. Doherty, J. L. Swift, and P. Roper.

6. *Papers.*

"Goodmayes Day Hospital"

By Dr. T. P. Riordan

Goodmayes Day Hospital opened in February, 1956, to provide treatment in a unit within the mental hospital grounds for twenty patients of both sexes.

Selection follows psychiatric, psychological and social assessment and is limited to patients who would otherwise need in-patient care.

The *programme* comprises reductive, educative and social group psychotherapy. Physical treatment and individual psychotherapy is also provided.

A *follow-up* study of fifty-five patients shows:

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1. Seventy-five per cent. are now working; many have wider interests and improved relationships.
2. A significant relationship exists between improvement and an I.Q. of 100 and above.
3. Some success is achieved in all diagnostic categories and age groups, but anxiety states and depressions do best and there are more failures among psychopathic personalities.
4. Evidence supports the use of reductive psychotherapy and the participation of relatives in treatment.

Future Development:

The Day Hospital should *identify* with the general community and use its social, recreational and occupational resources. The staff team should be joined by General Practitioners and Local Health Authority personnel if the Day Hospital is to develop fully as a treatment centre and a focus of community care.

"Five Years of an EEG Department"

By Dr. J. E. Glancy

Four thousand, four hundred and forty-seven patients (a third under fifteen) at Goodmayes Hospital were examined and 5,555 records made. One thousand, four hundred and seventy-five were referred by psychiatrists; 40 per cent. came from Goodmayes Hospital and its Clinics, the remainder from over fifty sources. In the usual psychiatric groupings the incidence of expected abnormalities was somewhat higher than in comparable series. However, more inadequate psychopaths than aggressive ones had abnormal EEGs. The great majority of idiopathic epileptics were gravely disturbed personalities.

In epileptics with anterior temporal lobe foci severe personality disorder was associated with bilateral discharges and frequent seizures. Only rarely was there a history of aggression but psychopathy in the family was common.

"Evolution of a Non-Statutory Unit for Treatment of Neurosis"

By Dr. E. Waller

A short survey was given of the growth and development of a female Neurosis Unit of 15 beds within the grounds of Goodmayes Hospital. The Unit was started in 1949 and made non-statutory in 1956. From its initiation up to October, 1957, 608 patients had been treated. Methods of treatment were described. One of the outstanding features of this Unit is the economy in staff, only one trained nurse being on duty at any one time. One doctor has been in charge throughout, giving a total of 16 hours per week.

A careful follow-up of all patients showed a striking number of successes.

The domestic work is all done by patients who work on a rota.

"Review of Epileptic Patients Admitted to Goodmayes Hospital During the 20-Year Period 1 January, 1937–31 December, 1956"

By Dr. B. Gordon

Total number of patients were 188 (102 men and 86 women) accounting for 286 admissions. They were 3·8 per cent. of all admissions.

Two classes of patient are distinguished—the long-stay and the short-stay. In the former aggression is the main presenting symptom, and in the latter it is confusion. There were EEG abnormalities in 70 per cent of the short-stay group and in 95 per cent of the long-stay group, and in this second group the abnormalities were more pronounced.

There was a high association of epilepsy with borderline defective intelligence and mental deficiency.

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Suicidal intentions were prominent among the reasons for admission.

Eighty-seven per cent. of the patients were idiopathic epileptics and 13 per cent. were symptomatic. Where seizures commenced before the age of 20, 96 per cent. were idiopathic, but where seizures started after that age only 67 per cent. were idiopathic.

In 80 per cent. of cases the primary illness was an epileptic psychosis, and in 20 per cent. epilepsy was incidental.

There was a greatly increased risk of death by disease, accident and suicide.

When the epileptic patients were nursed in an open ward as opposed to a closed ward the average number of seizures decreased by 11 per cent.

The Chairman, Dr. Walk, concluded the proceedings of the day by expressing appreciation to Drs. Riordan, Glancy, Waller and Gordon for their practical and informative papers and generally recorded thanks to the hospital staff who had contributed to the organizing of a most successful meeting.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Scottish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held at the Glasgow Royal Mental Hospital, Gartnavel, Glasgow, on Friday, 20 September, 1957. Fifty-one Members were present.

The following were unanimously elected to Ordinary Membership:

GABRIEL, RONALD MAURICE, L.R.C.P.&S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.G., D.P.M., Psychiatric Registrar, Bangour Village Hospital, Broxburn, West Lothian.

Proposed by Drs. Betty Magill, F. G. Lassalle and W. J. Abel.

INCH, THOMAS DOUGLAS, *C.B.E.*, *M.C.*, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.H., Medical Officer, Department of Health for Scotland.

Proposed by Drs. E. J. C. Hewitt, H. B. Craigie and M. M. Whittet.

JOHNSTON, WILLIAM, M.B., Ch.B., Deputy Medical Superintendent, Royal Scottish National Institution, Larbert.

Proposed by Drs. J. B. Methven, A. P. Russell and M. Devlin.

MCWHINNIE, JAMES BARR, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar, Department of Psychological Medicine, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh.

Proposed by Drs. Margaret Methven, H. B. Craigie and M. M. Whittet.

The Secretary reported, in relation to the Scottish D.P.M., that he had written to both the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh and the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, and the letters had been acknowledged.

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on Friday, 6 December, 1957, at Lennox Castle Institution, provided that this was suitable to Dr. MacGillivray and his Board of Management.

Dr. Craigie gave a brief résumé of the findings of the Royal Commission on Mental Health Law (England and Wales), comparing them with those of the Scottish White Paper.

The afternoon Meeting was taken up with a lengthy discussion, the main findings of which were summarized and circulated to the Division. It was agreed that the main findings of the Mental Deficiency Section should be incorporated in the final summary and this has been done. This summary has been sent, as was decided at the Meeting, for submission to the Secretary of State, together with a request for a future meeting with representatives of the Division to discuss the matter further. The Division appointed the following committee to represent them in the event of such a meeting taking place:

Drs. Angus MacNiven and P. K. McCowan, and Professors T. Ferguson Rodger, W. M. Millar, Drs. K. R. H. Wardrop, G. Matthew Fyfe, R. C. McGillivray and M. M. Whittet.

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