ROE, JAMES JOSEPH ARTHUR, M.B., B.S.(Calcutta), Junior Medical Officer, The Towers Hospital, Humberstone, Leicester.

Proposed by Drs. T. Wishart Davidson, R. W. Lennon and C. E. H. Turner.

A lengthy business session included discussions about Superannuation rights of Mental Health Officers, proposed procedure for obtaining nominations for Regional Boards and a detailed discussion on the memorandum, circulated by Council concerning the shortage of mental nurses. The discussion was centred on a questionnaire circulated by Professor Kennedy, Chairman of the Division.

CLINICAL SESSION

A very interesting paper was read by Dr. A. D. M. Douglas on "A Rare Complication of Electroplexy". The complication referred to was spontaneous haematuria and Dr. Douglas surveyed the literature, described the investigations and experimental work carried out to test the theory that the haematuria was due to hypoxia affecting glomerular filtration. The work was not yet complete.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at the University Department of Mental Health, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, on Thursday and Friday, 7 and 8 October, 1954. Forty-two members were present.

The Meeting opened with Dr. Wm. Boyd in the Chair, and members were welcomed by Prof. Dugald Baird on behalf of the University Medical School.

Dr. Boyd mentioned the sudden death of Dr. W. M. McAlister. Members paid their silent respects and the Secretary was asked to communicate their sympathy to Mrs. McAlister.

Dr. Boyd then installed Dr. H. B. Craigie, Senior Medical Commissioner of the General Board of Control, Scotland, in the Chair. Dr. Craigie paid tribute to the excellent work done by Dr. Boyd during his period of office and expressed the hope that he would continue to take an active interest in the affairs of the Division.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The following were duly elected Ordinary Members:

HENDERSON, JAMES GORDON, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar, Department of Psychological Medicine, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

Proposed by Drs. W. M. Millar, Max Valentine, G. E. Swinney.

KRAEMER, WILHELM GUENTHER PANE, M.D.(Vienna), Deputy Medical Director, Davidson Clinic.

Proposed by Drs. M. W. Rushforth, A. J. Bain, Jean Biggar.

ROBB, HAROLD PHILLIPS, M.B., Ch.B., Junior Hospital Medical Officer, Ladysbridge Certified Institution, Banff.

Proposed by Drs. T. Dymock, W. J. Raitt, H. C. S. Rowlands.

Report from Committee of Management. The Secretary noted that most of the business discussed would be dealt with later under the items of the agenda. It had been recommended that Dr. Boyd should be elected to the Committee of Management. Dr. Tait, speaking for the Association of Psychiatrists of the Scottish Western Region, asked if the Division would favour a memorandum prepared by them as a subject for discussion at the proposed future meeting of representatives of the Division with those of the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

The Meeting received the report and agreed to the proposals.

General Nursing Council—Regulations. The Secretary outlined the recent changes in some of the Regulations. There was no discussion.

Church of Scotland. Psychiatric Lectures to Chaplains. The Secretary informed Members of a recent discussion he had had with the Rev. Wm. MacIntyre. The Committee of Management had discussed this matter and had agreed to recommend that this important subject should be encouraged, but that any systematic teaching should be undertaken by the recognized teaching centres and that the Professors or

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X5524733X Published online by Cambridge University Press

Lecturers concerned should be officially approached about this. Dr. Ross advocated forming an *ad hoc* committee to advise and supervise.

After a short discussion the Meeting agreed to this proposal.

The Special Educational Treatment (Scotland) Regulations, 1954: Memorandum from the Child Psychiatry Committee. Dr. Blachford Rogers spoke and further explained some of the points of the memorandum. He had no information as to the outcome of the suggestions made.

National Health Service (Scotland) (Superannuation) (Amendment) Regulations. The Chairman explained that this was a long and complicated document which could not have been circulated to members. He had taken competent advice on the contents and was satisfied that there did not appear to be anything involved which might be detrimental to members' interests. There was no discussion and the meeting approved of the action taken.

Mental Health Officers. Retiring Age. The Hon. General Secretary (London) had asked for the views of the Division on the superannuation rights and retiring age of the Mental Health Officers. The meeting discussed this matter at some length and the majority of members appeared to feel that the existing rules should not be altered for Mental Health Officers unless there was any hope of combining the advantages of the existing retiring age with an option of continuing service.

Shortage of Mental Nurses: Report by Special Committee of Council. This report had been circulated to members. After a short discussion it was agreed to endorse the findings and recommendations of the memorandum. Dr. Adam Milne spoke of the importance of this subject and requested that still further consideration should be given to it, especially in relation to teaching and examination. It was agreed to call a meeting of the Committee of Management to discuss this matter further.

It was announced that the next (Winter) Divisional Meeting would be at Bellsdyke Hospital, on Friday, 3 December.

Scottish Health Services Council—Nominations. Of those members due to retire on 31 December, 1954, there was one representative from the Division, Dr. P. K. McCowan, and the Department of Health now asked for nominations. After discussion it was agreed to nominate Dr. P. K. McCowan for re-election provided he was agreeable. Alternatively, it was decided to submit the name of the Divisional Secretary, Dr. E. J. C. Hewitt.

Nominations in respect of other bodies. The Secretary pointed out that requests for nominations were often received at times when it was impossible to obtain the opinion of members at a Divisional Meeting. The Committee of Management had considered how best such requests could be met. The suggestion of a list of names from which the Chairman or Secretary could select a name was not considered satisfactory. It was suggested that under such circumstances an emergency meeting of the Committee of Management should be called and that the Division should grant their Management Committee the power of selection for such nominations. The Meeting unanimously agreed to this suggestion.

Committees or Sections. It was agreed that the five Committees should annually elect or re-elect their Chairmen and Secretaries, and this should take place at the Winter Meeting.

The following papers were read:

"Results of Leucotomy", by Dr. W. J. Raitt.

Tea.

"Psychological Aspects of Uterine Dysfunction," by Dr. Wm. C. Crammond.

Members and guests were entertained at a Sherry Party given in the Council Chamber of the Town House by the kind invitation of the Lord Provost and the Corporation.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X5524733X Published online by Cambridge University Press

On the following day, Friday, 8 October, the following functions took place:

Meeting of Papers and Discussions Committee.

Meeting of the Forensic Psychiatry Committee.

Paper, **"Bodily responses in Psychiatric Interview,"** by Dr. Max Valentine.

Papers, **"Studies in Model Psychoses—Mescaline and Lysergic Acid,"** by Dr. A. Ardis.

Visit to Aberdeen Royal Mental Hospital.

Tour of the School of Medicine, Foresterhill, including the Department of Mental Health. Tour of the Educational Authority Child Guidance Clinic, The Mental Health Association Social Club and the Woodlands Home.

Reception by Board of Management of Kingseat Hospital followed by dinner.

This two-day Meeting was favoured by excellent weather and must be acclaimed a striking success. All members who were present will wish to record their appreciation for the excellent arrangements made by Professor W. M. Millar, Dr. Adam Milne and their medical staff and for the generous hospitality of the University, the Board of Management of the Mental Hospitals and the Corporation of Aberdeen.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE WINTER MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at Bellsdyke Hospital, Larbert, on Friday, 3 December, 1954.

Thirty-one Members were present.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBER

The following was unanimously elected an Ordinary Member of the Association:

IRWIN, DAVID, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Senior Medical Officer, Hartwood Mental Hospital, Shotts, Lanarks.; Hon. Visiting Psychiatrist, Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic, Glasgow.

Proposed by Drs. W. N. J. Chapman, J. S. Dawson, J. Cassells.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The Committee had met twice since the last Divisional Meeting, in Glasgow on 19 November and at Bellsdyke on 3 December (prior to present Divisional Meeting). At both meetings further consideration had been given to the recent memorandum on the shortage of mental nurses as decided at the Autumn Divisional Meeting.

A. *Shortage of Mental Nurses.* At the last Divisional Meeting the members present had endorsed the recommendations of the Memorandum but Dr. A. Milne and other members had asked for further discussion and consideration on this important subject. At the two meetings of the Committee of Management the following opinions were expressed :

(*a*) Too much emphasis had been placed on the policy that we must be content with a minimum number of trained nurses. It was felt that mental nursing is a vital part of the essential nursing service. It was a mistake to thus imply that it can be reduced to any minimum figure.

(*b*) Concerning salaries it was felt that an important factor should be to ensure a steeper rise on the later increments. This particularly affected married male nurses.

(*c*) Student wastage: further research was again needed into this important subject. It was felt that this research could include, in mental hospitals, a direct and personal approach to all student nurses leaving the service. Possibly in the past too much stress had been laid on opinions expressed at official levels. This point was made in the Wood report on recruitment and training of nurses (1947, Chap. VII, para. 97).

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X5524733X Published online by Cambridge University Press