found admissible; when the views of the Commission are known Section 65 will be reviewed. At present about 16 per cent of Review Tribunal recommendations on Section 65 cases are rejected, but such patients are given special further attention by the Home Office.

The names of the members of various boards and committees were given on 7 July. On the Parole Board list are the names of Drs A. Falla, M. A. Penry Williams, D. Anton Stephens, J. E. Duffield, E. Jacoby, A. Storr, T. G. Tennent and J. Cleobury. The Advisory Committee on Sexual Offences includes Professor Trevor Gibbens.

Drugs

On 24 June the Home Secretary, in a written answer, set out the recommendations of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs in relation to *cannabis*. The definition of cannabis is to be extended to include all parts of the plant. Later a review of the Misuse of Drugs Act will provide for changes in the penalties attached to the possession of the drug.

On 20 June a Modification Order to the Misuse of Drugs Act was laid before the House of Lords. This extends the provision of the Act to all derivatives of tryptamine and certain derivatives of phenethylamine.

Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland

Items of psychiatric interest relating to parts of the United Kingdom other than England are apt to be scarce in the pages of *Hansard*, but during the period here reviewed all three countries were represented.

For *Scotland* the hospital building programme was set out on 2 May. About two dozen items are for improvements, extensions and redevelopment of psychiatric hospitals, or in a very few cases for psychiatric units elsewhere.

For *Wales* a number of questions were asked about progress in the development of services; the routine replies did not suggest any outstanding achievement demanding special mention here.

There were a few questions, of local interest only, about mentally handicapped persons in *Northern Ireland*.

Miscellaneous

Particulars were given on 23 June of Government grants to *voluntary* organizations. Among these, the N.A.M.H. ranks as the recipient of one of the largest grants, and others being helped are the Institute of Mental Subnormality, the National Council on Alcoholism, the National Schizophrenia Fellowship, and the Samaritans.

A statement was made by Mr Ennals on 18 July on the Government's decisions relating to the Merrison Report. A Bill will be introduced when time can be found to provide for the reconstitution of the GMC, but more comprehensive legislation must await the results of further discussions.

ALEXANDER WALK

PSYCHOTHERAPY SECTION

The following Open Meetings will be held in 1977–78:

Wednesday, 12 October, at 8.15 pm

Dr Anthony Ryle	A Common Language for the Psychotherapies? Psychoanalysis and Behaviourism in the light of Cognitive Psychology	The Tavistock Clinic, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3.

Tuesday, 15 November, in conjunction with the Quarterly Meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in York

Dr Tom Main	Psychiatric defences against close encounters with patients	

Wednesday, 14 December, at 8.15 pm

Dr Isaac Marks	Coping and Self Regulatory Forms of Treatment	Venue in London to be arranged

Wednesday, 11 January, at 8.15 pm

Dr John Steiner	Borderline States	Venue in London to be arranged

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