The following were elected to Office on the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:

Chairman: Dr. G. McCoull.

Hon. Secretary: Dr. G. M. Woddis.

Assistant Secretary: Dr. E. U. H. Pentreath.

Junior Representative on Council: Dr. R. M. Martlew.

Drs. W. A. L. Bowen, J. P. Child, T. W. Davidson and W. V. Wadsworth.

Clinical Session

Two extremely interesting papers were given:

(1) By Sir Geoffrey Jefferson on **"Psychiatric Aspects of the Third Ventricle Tumours".**

(2) By Professor Anderson on **"Psychiatric Indications for Therapeutic Abortion".**

Owing to the lateness of the hour it was not possible to hold a Discussion after these papers.

IRISH DIVISION

The Spring Quarterly and Clinical Meeting of the Irish Division of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association was held on Wednesday, 23 March, 1955, at Kylemore Clinic, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin, by kind invitation of the Council and the Chairman, Dr. H. J. Eustace.

Twenty-seven members were present.

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

The date of the Summer Meeting was arranged to coincide with the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held in Dublin in July.

The previous year's Officers were unanimously re-elected as follows:

Chairman: Dr. H. J. Eustace.

Divisional Secretary: Dr. J. N. P. Moore.

Junior Representative Member of Council: Dr. J. FitzGerald.

After ballot the following new members were elected:

Dr. Howard Hilton Stewart, 18 Malone Road, Belfast.

Dr. Patrick J. Meehan, Sligo Mental Hospital, Sligo.

Dr. Daniel J. O'Sullivan, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin.

Dr. John Joseph Fennelly, St. John of God Hospital, Dublin.

Dr. Edward Allen Martin, St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin.

The Secretary read a reply from the Inspector of Mental Hospitals to his letter about the procedure for making mentally ill patients Wards of Court. After discussion it was decided to set up a sub-committee to examine the matter and to report back to the Division. Dr. Coyne was appointed Chairman of the Sub-committee whose members are: Dr. O'Higgins, Dr. FitzGerald and Dr. O'Sullivan.

Dr. O'Higgins drew the attention of the Division to Section 225 of the Mental Treatment Act which states that casebooks of a mental hospital should be made available from time to time to the Mental Hospital Authority. Since the Mental Hospital Authority is a lay body, he felt that this Section was not compatible with the traditional rules of medical secrecy. After discussion it was decided that the Secretary should write to the Inspector of Mental Hospitals suggesting that this Section should be revised when the amendments to the 1945 Mental Treatment Act were being made.

The Secretary was also asked to write to the Secretary of the Irish Medical Association suggesting that when having discussions with the Department of Health on problems of medical secrecy, this Section should be discussed.

The Secretary was asked to write a letter of congratulation to Dr. Helen Boyle of Hove, who will have been a Member of the Association for 50 years next month.

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The Meeting then proceeded to the Clinical Session and Dr. T. McCracken presented his communication entitled "Psychotherapy".

In a thoughtful paper Dr. McCracken outlined some of the fundamental problems of psychotherapy. He pointed out how much we can learn from the giants of the past —Déjerine, Freud, Jung, Adler, Stekel, Coué, Janet—and he felt that most of us nowadays, rather than accepting the teaching of any of these workers in its entirety, try to learn something from each.

Dr. McCracken gave his own reflections on the day to day problems of the psychotherapist as a result of his experience in dealing with the neuroses and the problems of child psychiatry. He dealt at some length with the intricacies of the transference situation and stressed the need for the therapist to have insight into his own psychological mechanisms.

The paper produced a lively discussion in which the following took part: Drs. Eustace, Moran, FitzGerald, McEvoy, O'Higgins, O'Brien, O'Sullivan, Dunne and Moore.

The Members were then entertained to tea.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH DIVISION was held at the Murray Royal Hospital, Perth, on Friday, 25 March, 1955.

Thirty-seven Members were present.

1. The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

2. *Election of Office Bearers* for the ensuing year:

Chairman: Dr. E. J. C. Hewitt.

Secretary: Dr. G. M. Bell.

Assistant Secretary: Dr. M. M. Whittet.

Representative on Council: Dr. J. F. McHarg.

3. *Election of Committee of Management:*

The Secretary reminded the meeting that in past years the Committee of Management was composed of the Office Bearers and the Chairman and Secretaries of the five Committees or Sections—these all being ex-officio. The retiring Chairman and Drs. A. Milne and R. A. Y. Stewart were elected (or re-elected) last year and the latter two were eligible for re-election. The Meeting agreed unanimously that the Committee for the ensuing year be:

Professor Ferguson Rodger and Drs. E. J. C. Hewitt, G. M. Bell, M. M. Whittet, P. K. McCowan, M. Methven, Kate Fraser, H. Stalker, W. G. B. Roger, A. Tait, J. B. Methven, *ex-officio*; and Drs. H. B. Craigie, A. Milne, R. A. Y. Stewart, *elected.*

4. *Election of Ordinary Members:*

DEVLIN, MATTHEW, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., L.R.F.P.S.Glas., D.P.M., Deputy Physician Superintendent, Bellsdyke Hospital.

Proposed by Drs. A. P. Russell, R. A. Y. Stewart and E. J. C. Hewitt.

MUCHA, JEAN MURIEL, M.B., Ch.B., Fellow, Crichton Royal, Dumfries.

Proposed by Drs. P. K. McCowan, James Harper and Allan Tait.

WILSON, WILLIAM DOUGLAS, M.B., Ch.B., House Officer, Crichton Royal, Dumfries.

Proposed by Drs. P. K. McCowan, James Harper and Allan Tait.

PRINGLE, EDITH PATRICIA, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., Junior Hospital Medical Officer, Rosslynlee Hospital.

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

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