Dr. R. E. HEMPHILL exhibited a short film on "**Some Attitudes and Activities in Mental Patients,**" and also spoke on the subject.

Dr. ELIZABETH CASSON read a short paper on "**Rehabilitation from the Psychological Viewpoint.**"

Dr. ELIZBAETH CASSON proposed a vote of thanks to Alderman Wise for his Committee's kind hospitality, and for attending the meeting.

IRISH DIVISION.

AUTUMN, 1942, MEETING.

The AUTUMN QUARTERLY AND CLINICAL MEETING of the Irish Division was held at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows, on Thursday, November 5, 1942.

The following members were present: In the Chair, Dr. J. Dunne; Drs. C. B. Moloney, W. J. Coyne, J. F. Fitzgerald, R. Taylor, P. J. Cassin, F. W. H. Weir, E. O'Sullivan, W. R. Wright, P. Moran (Hon. Sec.), C. J. McCarthy, B. Blake, T. J. Conlon, R. Clifford, Evelyn O'Brien, H. Eustace, P. J. Aird, J. Kearney.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

The Secretary reported that owing to paper shortage and printing difficulties he had not sent out Preliminary Notices. Nominations for membership had come in too late to appear on the Agenda.

The CHAIRMAN said that the rules prevented the Division from proceeding to elect new members whose names had not appeared on the Agenda, and it was decided that election would have to be postponed to next meeting.

The Secretary reported that transport difficulties during the summer months were so great that after consultation with as many members as he could get in touch with he decided not to call a Summer Meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that travelling facilities were now better and they should try to hold their regular meetings even if very many members cannot manage to attend.

Apologies for inability to attend were sent by Drs. B. Honan, D. Lothian and S. Blake.

Nominations for officers of the Division for election at the Spring Meeting were handed in.

The reconstitution of a Research Sub-Committee was discussed.

The Secretary read the names of members of a previous Research Sub-Committee and a report of the last meeting held.

It was decided to appoint a Sub-Committee as follows: Drs. J. Dunne, H. Eustace, Evelyn O'Brien, C. B. Moloney, John Fitzgerald, C. J. McCarthy, D. Geraghty, H. Thompson, W. J. Coyne. The Chairman and Secretary for the time being to be *ex officio* members.

The Chairman undertook to call the Committe together as soon as feasible, and it was agreed that they should elect their own Secretary.

A long discussion ensued on the aims and objects of this Sub-Committee, and it was agreed that it should direct, control and co-ordinate all the special work done in the various mental hospitals and clinics and allocate special zones for special research on particular subjects.

The recent Departmental circular from the L.G.D., Dublin, *re* Conditions of Employment and Service of Mental Nurses was discussed. There was a considerable difference of opinion on the age limits and physical standards laid down, but there was general agreement on the other items in the regulations.

The Spring Meeting was fixed for Thursday, April 5, 1943. Dr. J. Dunne, Chairman of the Division, very kindly invited the Members to hold their Meeting at Grangegorman Mental Hospital, and to be his guests at luncheon on that date.

Dr. L. CLIFFORD read a paper on "**Mental Deficiency in Eire.**" The paper described the results of his investigation into the incidence of mental deficiency among school-children in this country. He explained in detail the aims of the survey, the methods employed, the analysis of the results to date and the tentative conclusions to be drawn from them.

The CHAIRMAN, in declaring the paper open for discussion, thanked Dr. Clifford and complimented him on the thorough wholehearted way in which he approached the subject.

The paper excited great interest and gave rise to a long discussion in which many members took part and Dr. Clifford later replied to queries raised and comments made.

The CHAIRMAN (Dr. Dunne) then read notes on a medico-legal case, in which he was recently called to give evidence, and opened a discussion on "**Sexual Delinquencies in Pre-Senile Cases.**" He said that it was his experience that more than 70 per cent. of cases charged in the criminal courts with these offences later developed psychotic symptoms, and that this fact should be taken into consideration when members were called to give evidence in such cases.

A long discussion on this and other relevant Court problems ensued and it was the general feeling that there should be a State Psychiatrist—just as there was State Pathologist—to give unbiassed evidence in such cases.

The meeting then concluded.

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Spring, 1943, Meeting.

The Spring Quarterly and Clinical Meetings of the Irish Division were held at Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, by kind invitation of Dr. J. Dunne, on Thursday, April 8, 1943.

The following members were present: In the Chair, Dr. John Dunne; Drs. B. Honan, J. Kearney, P. Grace, P. J. Cassin, John Fitzgerald, J. T. Fitzgerald, S. Blake, D. Geraghty, H. Ingouville Williams, W. J. Coyne, C. B. Moloney, T. McMenamin, H. J. Eustace, W. R. Wright, D. McM. Ramsay, T. F. Conlon, T. Foley, J. O'Sullivan, Mary P. Gallagher, Barbara Moran, H. St. George Smith, P. J. Aird, D. C. Flattery, J. R. Shea, F. W. H. Weir, R. Taylor, B. Blake, M. K. Mellet, Mary C. Lydon, Evelyn O'Brien, E. O'Sullivan, and P. Moran (Hon. Sec.).

Non-members present were Dr. Shiela Heney, Dr. Ethna T. Brennan, Sister Winifred Price and Dr. J. J. O'Connor.

The members and visitors were entertained to luncheon and welcomed to the Hospital by the Manager, Mr. O'Mahoney.

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

Arising from the Minutes the Chairman suggested that the members of the Research Sub-Committee of the Division who were present should consult after the meeting and arrange for a meeting at a convenient date.

The following were, after ballot, elected members of the Association:

John Shea, L.R.C.P.&S.I., D.P.M., A.M.O. Mental Hospital, Ballinasloe.
Proposed by Drs. C. J. McCarthy, T. Foley and J. Delaney.

P. Pierce Mallie, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.M., A.M.O., St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin.
Proposed by Drs. R. Taylor, J. Dunne and C. J. Aird.

V. J. Dolphin, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., A.M.O., St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin.
Proposed by Drs. R. Taylor, P. J. Aird and D. Geraghty.

James Rutherford, F.R.C.S.I., R.M.S., Farnham House, Finglas, Dublin.
Proposed by Drs. J. Dunne, P. Grace and P. Cassin.

Desmond Hayes, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., A.M.O., Mental Hospital, Killarney.
Proposed by Drs. E. O'Sullivan, L. Clifford and B. Honen.

Mary John Murphy, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., A.M.O., Mental Hospital, Castlebar.
Proposed by Drs. A. Sheridan, V. Kelly and P. Moran.

Mary C. Lydon, L.R.C.P.&S.I., D.P.M., 1, Clarinda Part, E., Dun Laoghaire.
Proposed by Drs. J. Dunne, P. J. Aird and D. Geraghty.

Mary P. Gallagher, M.D., L.M., D.P.M., 149, North Circular Road, Dublin.
Proposed by Drs. Dunne, P. J. Aird and D. Geraghty.

Before proceeding with the election of officers for the coming year the Chairman said he wished to pay a tribute to the outgoing Secretary, and to say how sorry he was that he could not continue in office. Other members joined in the tribute and Dr. Moran suitably replied.

There was only one nomination for the post of Secretary, and before asking for a proposition that he be elected, the Chairman explained that Dr. O'Higgins was absent owing to a family bereavement, and proposed that the sympathy of the Division be extended to him on the death of his brother. The motion was passed in silence, all the members standing. The Secretary was directed to convey to Dr. O'Higgins the sympathy of the Division.

On the proposition of Dr. P. Grace, seconded by Dr. C. B. Maloney, Dr. Niall O'Higgins, A.M.O., Mental Hospital, Mullingar, was unanimously elected Secretary of the Irish Division.

Drs. John Dunne and Stanley Blake were unanimously re-elected Representative Members of Council.

On the motion of Dr. Coyne, seconded by Dr. Moloney, Dr. John Dunne was elected Chairman of the Division for the year 1943–44.

The existing Advisory Committees to the General Nursing Councils of Eire and Northern Ireland were re-elected. The Secretary told the meeting that these Committees were never called on by the General Nursing Council in Dublin to give advice, and Dr. Weir stated that the same position existed in Belfast.

The existing Examiners for the R.M.P.A. Nursing Certificate were also re-elected. The Secretary explained that owing to war conditions, censorships and difficulty of communications, the Irish members of the panel were not being asked to function at present.

Dr. T. Conlon called the attention of the meeting to some of the questions on the Final paper for Mental Nurses at the recent General Nursing Council Examinations in January, and suggested that the paper was rather unsuitable.

A long discussion ensued and various opinions were expressed. Some members pointed out that as they had only recently asked the General Nursing Council to raise the standard, they could hardly now start to point out that the standard was too high. It was generally agreed that while they wanted the standard kept up Examiners who were members of the Association should try and keep the examinations a real test of nursing proficiency.

Dr. Coyne suggested that we should ask for a National Entrance Examination for the Public Mental Hospitals on Civil Service lines, but no action was taken to try to meet this suggestion.

Drs. John Dunne and C. B. Moloney were appointed Representatives of the Irish Division of the Central Research Sub-Committee.

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The Summer Meeting was fixed for July 22, 1943, at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin.

Dr. E. O'SULLIVAN read a paper on "**Re-Educational Therapy.**" He said that the best work in this line was being done in U.S.A. and Canada, and textbooks were appearing in these countries. He said we had much leeway to make up over here. He described the rationale as applied to mental patients and detailed the 24-hour schedule for patients under this form of treatment in his hospital. He described the benefits gained and said that "rehabilitation" was now regarded as of such importance in both general and mental hospitals that we should all aim to have a trained expert on our hospital staffs.

Dr. DUNNE, in declaring the paper open for discussion, said that Dr. O'Sullivan was recognized as the leading authority on Occupational Therapy in this area, and his paper showed he had a deep interest in and a wide knowledge of all forms of re-habilitation measures.

Many members took part in the discussion, and Dr. O'Sullivan replied to points raised. He undertook to send a copy of his "daily schedule" to any member who asked for it.

Dr. C. B. MOLONEY opened a discussion on "**Electrical Convulsion Therapy.**" He described the advantages over other forms of convulsion therapy, detailed its dangers, and gave a guarded estimate of its therapeutic value.

Other members described their experiences with this form of treatment and gave details of complications, accidents and difficulties. There was considerable diversity of opinion as to its merits, but it was generally agreed that it gave its best results with involutional melancholics, and that with schizophrenia it rarely provided any dramatic improvements.

Dr. MOLONEY replied to questions and criticisms made by members and the meeting closed.

After the meeting the members were entertained to tea by Mrs. Dunne.

NOTICES BY THE HON. LIBRARIAN.

The Library is open to members between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Books are issued to borrowers between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and between 2.30 and 4.30 p.m.; Saturdays, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon.

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

Library Lending Department Regulations.

1. Books shall be lent only to members within the United Kingdom and Eire who are not in arrears with their subscriptions.

2. No member may borrow from the Library more than three volumes at one time.

3. Books and journals are sent carriage paid from the Library, but members are responsible for the books from the time they leave the Library until they are received back.

4. Books damaged or lost while in possession of a member will be repaired at his expense or must be replaced by him.

5. A member borrowing a book or periodical from the Library shall be required to sign and return to the Librarian a form of receipt for the same, which will be regarded as an acceptance of these Regulations.

6. A member shall be entitled to retain a book or periodical borrowed from the Library for a period of twenty-eight days, unless the book is required by another member, in which case it can be recalled by the Librarian at the expiration of fourteen days.

7. In the event of a member failing to return any book or periodical within seven days after receiving notice from the Librarian (on the expiration of the period referred to in Rule 6), the Library Committee shall be at liberty to purchase another copy, the cost to be charged to such member, who shall not be allowed to borrow another book until the sum thus expended shall have been paid.

8. All communications should be addressed to "The Librarian, Royal Medico-Psychological Association, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W. 1."

Circulation of Journals.

The following journals are available at the Library:

American Journal of Psychiatry.
The Psychological Review.
Journal of Neurology and Psychiatry.
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis.
Journal of Abnormal Psychology.
Mental Hygiene.
Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases.
Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry.
Journal of Comparative Psychology.
Psychiatric Quarterly.

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