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SUPPLEMENT

MARCH, 1937.

THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

QUARTERLY MEETING, NOVEMBER, 1936.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the Association was held at 11, Chandos Street, W. 1, on Wednesday, November 25, 1936, the President, Dr. M. ABDY COLLINS, *O.B.E.*, M.D., in the Chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having already been published in the Journal, were taken as read, approved and signed.

OBITUARY.

The PRESIDENT referred sympathetically to the death, since the last meeting, of Dr. T. W. McDowall and Dr. Edith Limmex. The last-named lady had only been a member since 1935, and was assistant medical officer at Winson Green. She unfortunately met her death in an accident.

Dr. McDowall had been a member of the Association for sixty-six years, and was its President in 1897–98. He had done a great deal of work for the Association, and it would be remembered that after his retirement he spent a great deal of time in compiling the general index to the Journal.

Members stood in silence in their places as a gesture of respect for the deceased members.

MATTERS ARISING OUT OF COUNCIL MEETING.

Dr. MASEFIELD (Hon. General Secretary) said it had been agreed at the meeting of the Council that an increase of 6*d*. should be made in the examination fee for the Nursing Certificate to cover the additional cost of supplying examination books.

With regard to the questionnaire on the subject of voluntary sterilization, i.e., as to whether members were or were not in favour of it, 898 cards were sent out, and 495 replied. These replies were: for, 362; against, 126; neutral, 7. It was resolved to send the figures to the Chairman of the Board of Control, the Minister of Health, the Medical Committee of the House of Commons, and to the introducer of the Sterilization Bill in the House. No corporate expression of opinion would be passed.

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The Parliamentary Committee, at their meeting, passed the following resolution:

"That a protest be made by the Association as to the present constitution of the Board of Control, especially as to the fact that there are few members who are experienced in the treatment of mental disorder and the management of mental hospitals; and also pointing out that there is no representative of the consulting staffs of general hospitals on the Board. We consider that the emoluments offered are quite inadequate for the responsibilities of the position."

The Council agreed that a copy of this resolution should be sent to the Chairman of the Board of Control, the Minister of Health, the Medical Committee of the House of Commons, and to the Chairman of the Scottish Board of Control and the Secretary for Scotland.

On the recommendation of the Research and Clinical Committee it was decided to form a small but influential sub-committee, with powers to negotiate, to watch events and to put forward the needs of psychological medicine in this country when Universities and other bodies are discussing schemes of research in connection with medicine; and they were given power to co-opt anyone, as long as the objects of the Sub-Committee are achieved.

The Mental Deficiency Committee had appointed a Sub-Committee to go into the difficulties experienced in the new mental deficiency institutions.

On the Report of the Mental Health Services Committee, and the questionnaire regarding the formation of a new group of the British Medical Association, 30% of the Association voted on this subject.

The Council had appointed a Finance Sub-Committee to consider the financial position of the Association generally, and to go into the question of the establishment of a central office for the preparation and maintenance of a live Register of Nurses. The Sub-Committee was appointed as follows: The President, the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Haynes, Dr. Brooks Keith, Dr. Fleming and the Hon. General Secretary.

In future the Secretaries of Divisions, of Committees and Sub-Committees will be asked to send all printing matter through the Association's Central Office, not direct to Adlard & Son.

It was agreed that the February Quarterly Meeting should be held on the 16th and 17th of that month, and the Annual Meeting would be at Ayr in July.

The PRESIDENT said with regard to the sixpence increase in the nurses' examination fee, that the use of examination books had been found necessary owing to the occurrence of a number of cases of collusion.

The Report from the Council was agreed to without discussion.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS.

The following were unanimously elected members of the Association:

LECKIE, JAMES, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., Assistant Physician, Royal Mental Hospital, Aberdeen.

Proposed by Drs. R. Dods Brown, W. J. Raitt and W. McAlister.

HARKE, WILFRED VAUGHAN, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.P.M., Honorary Medical Officer, Milford-on-Sea War Memorial Cottage Hospital; "Burwood", New Milton, Hants.

Proposed by Drs. J. S. Harris, N. Roberts and J. S. Lloyd.

HAYNES, WILLIAM NOEL LANKESTER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lieutenant R.A.M.C., Littleton Hall, Brentwood.

Proposed by Drs. H. G. L. Haynes, J. R. Whitwell and W. G. Masefield.

THE MAUDSLEY LECTURE.

The Maudsley Lecture was delivered in the Barnes Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine by Sir Walter Langdon Brown, M.D., F.R.C.P., late Regius Professor of Medicine in the University of Cambridge (see January, 1937, p. 1).

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A vote of thanks to Sir Walter Langdon-Brown was proposed by Dr. NATHAN RAW and seconded by Dr. R. A. NOBLE. It was carried by acclamation, and Sir WALTER briefly responded.

QUARTERLY MEETING, FEBRUARY, 1937.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the Association took place at No. 11, Chandos Street, W. 1, on Wednesday, February 17, 1937, the President, Dr. M. ABDY COLLINS, *O.B.E.*, in the Chair.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were taken as read and approved.

COUNCIL MATTERS.

Dr. MASEFIELD (Hon. General Secretary) reported to the meeting the following items from the Council meeting:

Campbell Clark Medal and Prize.—Two candidates having obtained equal marks the Council had decided to award two medals and prizes.

Study tour.—Arrangements were being made to organize a tour in Fifeshire, Perthshire, Argyll and Ayrshire, to take place in the five or six days preceding the Annual Meeting, for the purpose of observing the system of boarding-out mental patients in family care.

Papers to be read at the Annual Meeting.—It had been decided that the subject for discussion at the Annual Meeting would be " The Circulatory System and the Psychoses ", to be dealt with under different headings. A paper would also be read on " Prophylaxis of Dysentery in Mental Defectives ".

Refresher Course.—Arrangements were being made to hold a Refresher Course at the Central Pathological Laboratory of the L.C.C. during the second week of November.

Departmental Committee on Cost of Hospitals and Other Buildings.—A Sub-Committee of this Committee had asked the Council to appoint representatives to meet them, in order to discuss with them matters concerning floor space of day-rooms and dormitories in mental hospitals and mental deficiency institutions. The Council had appointed the following: For mental hospitals, Dr. Collins, Dr. Skottowe and Dr. Masefield; for mental deficiency institutions, Dr. Turner, Dr. Lindsay and Dr. Morris.

Handbooks.—A Committee had been appointed to consider and report to the Council on the best method of revising or otherwise dealing with the two Nursing Handbooks published by the Association. The members of the Committee were Drs. Menzies, Petrie, Duncan, Walk, Smith, Ross, Rees Thomas, Earl and McCowan.

Deputation to Board of Control re *Constitution of that Board.*—The deputation had waited upon the Board and had been favourably received. The matter was under consideration.

Board of Control Advisory Committee on Scientific and Ancillary Mental Health Services.—The Association was asked to nominate a member to represent it on this Committee when it was originally appointed in 1931; owing to the financial crisis the Committee had not met. It had now been reconstituted, and the Council had appointed as the Association's representative Dr. Petrie.

Royal Institute of Public Health Congress at Margate.—The President had been appointed to represent the Association at this Congress.

Royal Sanitary Institute Congress at Birmingham.—It had been decided to ask Dr. Graves to represent the Association.

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