Dr. MALLOY, of Cheddleton, spoke on the Medical Planning Committee of the B.M.A.

The discussion was continued by Dr. POOL, of the Retreat; Dr. YOUNG, of Lincoln; Dr. RADCLIFFE, of Notts City Mental Hospital; Dr. DRURY, of Leicester County Mental Hospital.

Councillor Miss FORTEY, Vice-Chairman of Humberstone Hospital Committee, spoke on the overlapping between mental deficiency and mental hospital committees, and asked as to the views of those present on the subject, whether there should be one mental health committee for both. In relation to this Dr. Pilkington, Warwick, spoke on the reports of the Faversham Committee and the B.M.A. report on mental health, and urged their study.

Dr. DAVIDSON, Dr. STERN and Dr. WHILES replied.

F/O. Davies, of Humberstone, R.A.F.V.R., who had treated cases with insulin and cardiazol when on the staff of the hospital, spoke on the results of the treatment. The appraisement of the criteria of improvement, e.g. cessation of destructive conduct, may be regarded as an improvement, but it may represent increased dementia.

The meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

IRISH DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN QUARTERLY and CLINICAL MEETING of the Irish Division was held in the Royal College of Physicians Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows on Thursday, November 7, 1940.

The following members were present:

Dr. C. B. Moloney in the Chair, Drs. P. J. Aird, S. Blake, D. Brennan, P. J. Courteney, W. J. Coyne, J. F. Fitzgerald, T. Foley, J. V. Glass, D. Hegarty, J. Kearney, J. V. Kelly, R. R. Leeper, D. Lothian, C. J. McCarthy, J. Meenan, N. Moore, Evelyn O'Brien, J. O'Connor, C. B. Robinson, H. St. G. Smith, R. Taylor, and P. Moran (Hon. Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the following: Drs. B. Honan, P. J. Kelly and R. Thompson.

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

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the sympathy of the Division be extended to the relatives of the late Dr. Deane, who was one of the most active Members of the Division, and to Dr. John Fitzgerald on the death of his mother.

The Motion was passed in silence, all the Members standing.

The SECRETARY read a letter from the Department of Local Government, Dublin, which stated:

> "It is not at present prepared to recommend the use by Civilian Hospitals and similar Institutions of any particular distinctive sign."

The following nominations (for election at Spring Meeting) were handed in: Divisional Secretary, Dr. P. Moran; Representative Members of Council, Dr. C. B. Moloney and Dr. S. Blake.

It was decided to hold the Spring Meeting at the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin, and to hold it on the third Thursday of April to meet the wishes of Members whose Committee met on the first Thursday.

The question of representation on the G.N.C. again gave rise to a prolonged discussion, in the course of which the whole position and the correspondence with the Minister, the G.N.C., and the Medical Association of Eire was again reviewed.

Dr. LEEPER said that from an educational point of view the position was so ridiculous that he thought it should be brought to the notice of the Minister for Education. Dr. McCarthy, the Secretary, and other Members gave details of the methods adopted by the G.N.C. in setting and marking papers and in the general conduct of the Examination.

The SECRETARY stated that as far as he knew the Advisory body appointed by the Division had never been asked to advise

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Dr. KEARNEY, Inspector of Mental Hospitals, stated that all vacancies on the Council were fully filled at the moment, and that the Minister was favourably disposed to meet their views and to appoint one of their Members when a vacancy occurred.

Dr. S. BLAKE proposed " that in view of the anomalous position at present existing with the Medical Staffs of Hospitals responsible for teaching and training one-third of the Nurses taking G.N.C. examinations not represented on the G.N.C., the Minister be asked to take special steps to rectify the anomaly."

Dr. R. R. LEEPER seconded and the Motion was passed. The Secretary was directed to write to the Ministry and also to the G.N.C., pointing out that the services of the Association's Advisory Body were available when called for.

Dr. D. BRENNAN, R.M.S., Clare Mental Hospital, Ennis, opened a discussion on " Staffing and Other Problems of Mental Hospital Administration." Dr. Brennan complained of the difficulties provided by the lack of uniformity in such matters as recruitment of staff, standard of education of recruits, proportion of Staff to Patients, rates of pay, hours of duty, diet scale, etc., and suggested that the Division might draw up a list of recommendations on these matters for submission to the Committee of Management of the Public Mental Hospitals.

A long discussion followed Dr. Brennan's address, in the course of which many useful ideas and views on administration were exchanged. Dr. KEARNEY, Inspector of Mental Hospitals, said that Superintendents should continually urge necessary reforms on their Committees, who in present circumstances were the responsible Authorities. He felt that when the County Managers took over control it would be much easier to secure some degree of uniformity and a more reasonable attitude to recommendations put forward by Superintendents or by the Association.

Dr. C. J. MCCARTHY asked for the views of Members on " Summer-time," with particular reference to its effect on Children. After short discussion it was decided that it was more a matter for Public Health and Child Welfare specialists.

CLINICAL MEETING.

Dr. EVELYN O'BRIEN read a report on three cases and Dr. C. J. MCCARTHY on two cases which displayed symptoms of special interest and importance from the point of view of prognosis and treatment. The papers gave rise to an interesting discussion and many Members cited similar experience and similar difficulties.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Dr. O'Brien and Dr. McCarthy for their very able description of an interesting series of cases, and both doctors replied to queries made and points raised by the various participants in the discussion.

The Meeting then terminated.

THE SPRING QUARTERLY and CLINICAL MEETING of the Irish Division was held in the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, by kind permission of the President and Fellows on Thursday, April 17, 1941, at 2 p.m.

The following members were present :

Dr. C. B. Moloney in the Chair, Drs. P. J. Aird, P. J. Cassin, W. Coyne, J. O'C. Donelan, H. J. Eustace, T. Foley, D. T. Geraghty, B. Honan, P. J. Kelly, J. V. Kelly, H. P. Moore, M. F. Mulligan, H. St. G. Smith, R. Taylor, F. O'C. Walshe, Williams, and P. Moran (Hon. Secretary).

Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Drs. Grace, Greene, Leeper and Lothian.

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

The SECRETARY read correspondence with the Matron, Kilmacud Domestic Economy School *re* the organization of Craft teaching in the new Central Technical School in Dublin.

The Meeting agreed that it was a most desirable development, and felt that there would be a considerable demand among mental nurses for such facilities if they were provided. The Secretary was directed to so inform the Matron.

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BARBARA MORAN, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., Pathologist, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, Dublin, was, after ballot, declared elected a member of the Association.

The Meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the year 1941–42.

The following were unanimously elected: Divisional Secretary, Dr. P. Moran. Representative Members of Council, Dr. S. Blake and Dr. C. B. Moloney.

On the Motion of Dr. MORAN, seconded by Dr. CASSIN, Dr. C. B. Moloney was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Division.

Mental Nursing Advisory Committees to the General Nursing Councils were re-elected as follows:

For Southern Ireland: Drs. S. Blake, J. O'C. Donelan, P. Grace, R. R. Leeper, C. J. McCarthy and the Secretary.

For Northern Ireland: Drs. D. Gardiner, W. B. Graham, M. J. Nolan, R. Thompson and J. Watson.

Panels of Examiners for the R.M.P.A. Nursing Examinations were nominated as follows:

Final: Drs. T. Foley, P. J. Kelly and N. Moore.

Preliminary: Drs. T. Conlon, H. J. Eustace and F. O'C. Walshe.

Dr. MOLONEY said that if travelling facilities improved he would be very pleased to have the Division hold its Summer Meeting at Enniscorthy Mental Hospital.

It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Chairman and Secretary to decide if a Meeting at a provincial centre would be a success in existing conditions, and, if they decided that it was unlikely to be, to hold the Summer Meeting in Dublin at the same venue.

CLINICAL MEETING.

Drs. AIRD and GERAGHTY, of Grangegorman Mental Hospital, produced a series of clinical notes principally on patients who had shock therapy and a few treated with sodium amytal.

They produced X-ray pictures showing cases of fractures which occurred with patients in cardiazol fits, and stressed the danger of this therapy, which was only now being fully realized.

The notes gave rise to a long discussion during which the whole field of shock therapy was discussed, most of the members present taking part in the discussion.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Drs. Aird and Geraghty for their excellent contributions to the Clinical Meeting, and asked them to convey to their superintendent the thanks of the Division for making his hospital notes and reports so readily available for Meetings.

The Meeting then terminated.

THE SUMMER 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, July 3, 1941.

The following members were present:

Dr. C. B. Moloney in the Chair, Drs. P. J. Aird, B. Blake, P. J. Cassin, W. J. Coyne, P. Doherty, J. Dunne, H. J. Eustace, T. Foley, D. T. Geraghty, T. Greene, J. Kearney, Barbara Moran, F. O'C. Walshe, J. Williams, W. J. Wright, and P. Moran (Hon. Secretary).

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

A letter from the General Secretary recommending Divisions to carry out as far as possible their usual programme of meetings was read.

It was decided to carry on with the present arrangement of Meetings until transport facilities improve.

The SECRETARY read correspondence with the General Nursing Council (Dublin) *re* the organization and conduct of the mental nursing examinations. A series of suggestions was drafted, and the Secretary was directed to transmit them to the Registrar of the General Nursing Council.

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It was agreed that the standard of marking for the final examination was somewhat lower than that prevailing for the R.M.P.A. examination, and it was decided to ask the General Nursing Council to raise the standard.

It was decided to hold the Autumn Meeting on Thursday, October 30.

Clinical Meeting.

Dr. C. B. Moloney read the clinical reports on a series of cases seen by him at the out-patient clinic of the Wexford County Hospital.

Dr. Dunne expressed the thanks of the Meeting to Dr. Moloney for the very interesting and instructive reports and congratulated Dr. Moloney on the excellent results achieved. These cases proved the need for the extension of out-patient clinics. Many of the cases reported on would, eventually, have to be certified but for the timely help and guidance received at the clinic.

Dr. W. J. Wright read the clinical notes on and the results of the treatment of a series of cases of G.P.I.

He described the excellent results achieved by malarial therapy in some cases and the reasonably good results in other cases treated with bismogen, which showed that when malarial therapy is not available or inadvisable the prognosis is not always hopeless.

Several members discussed the cases described by Dr. Wright, who replied to any queries raised.

Owing to the late hour it was not found possible to take the "Notes on Clinical Cases" by other members, and this item on the Agenda was deferred.

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.

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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."

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