THE

JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE

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SUPPLEMENT

MAY, 1939.

THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING.

THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING was held at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W.1, on Wednesday, February 22, 1939, under the presidency of Dr. J. R. GILMOUR.

The Minutes of the previous meeting, which had been published in the Journal, were taken as read and confirmed.

OBITUARY.

The PRESIDENT said that members would have heard with great regret of the death of Dr. William MacDougall.

Dr. T. S. GOOD said that he was probably associated with Prof. MacDougall for a longer period than most of those present. He knew him in pre-war days, and during the war they were working together. His death was a great loss to their specialty. He not only took a keen interest in the scientific side, but he was most considerate of his patients and treated every case as a human being. He remembered particularly the fortnightly discussions which took place among the hospital staff, and how MacDougall used to lead in the experiments and in the talk. He was one of the kindest men he ever came across—so kind, indeed, that very often during the war the Tommies imposed upon him. His death would be widely mourned among those interested in medical psychology on both sides of the Atlantic.

The members stood in silence.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The HON. SECRETARY read the Report of the Council as follows :

The Committee and Medical Superintendent of Great Barr Park Colony have invited all members of the Association to visit the Colony on June 8.

A notice regarding a forthcoming Study Tour to Canada and the United States will be circulated as soon as definite dates have been arranged.

Two candidates tied for the Campbell Clark Medal and Prize at the November, 1938, examinations. They were: Frank Holden, Smithdown Road Hospital, Liverpool, and Josephine Mary Burrow, Wilts County Mental Hospital, Devizes. The Council decided to award a Medal and Prize of three guineas to each.

Drs. A. A. W. Petrie, H. G. L. Haynes and F. Douglas Turner gave oral evidence on behalf of the Association before the Sub-Committee of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Recruitment and Training of Nurses.

The inaugural meeting of the Indian Division took place at Lahore on January 23 and 24. Dr. C. J. Thomas presented Lt.-Col. Lodge Patch with the Chairman's

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Badge and the illuminated address. Dr. Thomas will present a full report at the Quarterly Meeting in May.

Papers and discussion at the Annual Meeting (July 11) will be on "Early Treatment" and "The Epilepsies".

A letter has been received from the National Council for Mental Hygiene:

> "That the question of a recent ruling in connection with the new Divorce Act was under consideration. You will doubtless remember that a decree nisi on account of the insanity of the wife was refused as the patient had been allowed out of hospital on parole for short periods, and it was therefore contended that the relief allowed under the Act did not apply in this case.
>
> "My Committee felt that this ruling would have a considerable effect on mental hospitals' administration, and might result in patients not being allowed out on parole. I was therefore instructed to ask whether the Royal Medico-Psychological Association would be willing to sign a joint letter to the Press from this Council and the British Medical Association, protesting against the above ruling."

A letter had also been received from the British Medical Association stating that they did not feel that a protest in the Press would be the best way of dealing with the difficulty, and suggesting that representations be made to the Board of Control. The Council decided to co-operate with the National Council for Mental Hygiene and the British Medical Association in making representations to the Board of Control, with a view to securing that leave of absence on trial or on leave for short periods not exceeding three months in one period shall not be regarded as an interruption of "continuous care and treatment".

The following nominations have been made:

Dr. R. M. Stewart to represent the Association at the International Neurological Congess, Copenhagen, August 21–25, 1939;

Dr. A. Helen Boyle to represent the Association at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, Hastings, May 23–27, 1939; and

Dr. David Robertson to represent the Association at the Health Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Scarborough, July 3–8, 1939.

The Diploma in Psychological Medicine.

The Hon. Secretary also read the recommendations made by the Mental Deficiency Standing Committee on the position of medical officers in mental deficiency institutions, with regard to the Diploma in Psychological Medicine. The recommendations were as follows:

1. That all those bodies granting diplomas in psychological medicine be approached asking whether they would be prepared to allow a special examination in mental deficiency comparable to that held by the University of London.

This entails:

(i) A preliminary examination in anatomy, histology and physiology of the nervous system and in psychology. This is the same for all candidates.

(ii) A final examination:

(*a*) One paper and a clinical and oral examination in neurology.

(*b*) Two papers in psychological medicine:

(i) The first paper shall be of a general character to test the candidate's knowledge of neuroses, psychoses and mental deficiency and their social implications.

(ii) The second paper should have questions relating only to the branch of psychological medicine in which the candidate has specialized, and therefore would be of an advanced character.

(*c*) An oral and clinical examination in which emphasis is laid on the branch in which the candidate has specialized.

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2. That the Association circularize all these bodies asking them to accept residence in a recognized mental deficiency institution for the purpose of qualifying for entry for the mental deficiency examination.

3. That the Association should make a strong appeal to local authorities and other bodies responsible for mental deficiency institutions to grant study leave with full pay to medical officers in these institutions who wish to obtain the diploma.

4. That the authorities holding courses should be approached and asked to hold a course for mental deficiency candidates. The course would include special instruction in the psychology and pathology of mental defect, psychometrics, educational problems, and extra clinical demonstrations of the physical types of defect.

On the motion of Dr. GORDON MASEFIELD, seconded by Dr. A. A. W. PETRIE, the report was adopted.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

The following were elected members of the Association :

SENNECK, BERYL, M.B., B.S., D.P.M., Resident Medical Officer, Marston Green Division, Coleshill Hall, Coleshill, Birmingham.
Proposed by Drs. H. Freize Stephens, A. M. McCutcheon and W. A. Potts.

MARSHALL, JOHN KEMSLEY, D.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Long Grove Hospital, Epsom, Surrey.
Proposed by Drs. F. G. L. Barnes, J. R. A. Madgwick and J. McConnell.

MACAULAY, JOSEPH LANGHAM, M.D., L.C.P.&S.Quebec, Medical Superintendent, Bishopstone House, Bedford.
Proposed by Drs. J. R. Whitwell, G. W. T. H. Fleming and W. Gordon Masefield.

VAN DAM, LUCIE, M.B., Ch.B.Glasgow, Assistant Physician, The Mental Hospital, Grahamstown, South Africa.
Proposed by Drs. L. S. Penrose, F. Douglas Turner and T. A. Munro.

SUTTON, ISAAC, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.Vict., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.Vict., Assistant Medical Officer, County Mental Hospital, Prestwich, Lancs.
Proposed by Drs. J. Gifford, G. Talbot and A. McGlashan.

HARRIS, CYRIL ROBERT, M.B., B.Ch.Dubl., D.P.M., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, Surrey.
Proposed by Drs. J. G. Hamilton, C. Rutherford and W. Gordon Masefield.

MORTON, RICHARD BERTRAM, M.B., B.S.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, County Mental Hospital, Brentwood, Essex.
Proposed by Drs. W. Gordon Masefield, J. R. Whitwell and R. M. Macfarlane.

SMALL, DORIS KATHLEEN, L.R.C.P.I., L.M. & L.R.C.S.I., L.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Heigham Hall, Norwich, Norfolk.
Proposed by Drs. A. Helen Boyle, O. G. Connell and J. A. Small.

BUCKLE, DONALD FERGUS, M.B., B.S.Melbourne, D.P.M., Assistant Medical Officer, Caterham Hospital (L.C.C.), Caterham, Surrey.
Proposed by Drs. T. Lindsay, C. J. C. Earl and T. B. Jones.

SANTYANAND, DAVID, M.B., B.S., Assistant Deputy Medical Superintendent, Punjab Mental Hospital, Lahore, India.
Proposed by Drs. C. Lodge Patch, R. S. Sharma and Banarsi Das.

HALDANE, FREDERICK PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., Assistant Physican, Runwell Hospital, Wickford, Essex.
Proposed by Drs. R. Ström-Olsen, S. M. Coleman and M. B. Brody.

PAPER.

A paper entitled "**The Present Status and Functions of the Child-Guidance Movement in Great Britain, and its Possible Future Developments**"

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was read by Dr. D. R. MacCalman, M.D., Ch.B., Crombie-Ross Lecturer in Psychopathology, Aberdeen University (see *Journ. Ment. Sci.*, 1939, p. 505).

MIDLAND MENTAL PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Tenth General Meeting of the Midland Mental Pathological Society was held in the Anatomy Department of the New Medical School, Birmingham University, on Wednesday, March 8, Sir Gilbert Barling (President) in the Chair, 22 members and 2 visitors being present.

Dr. E. G. T. Liddell, M.A., M.D., of Oxford, gave a lecture on **"The Integration of Muscle Posture"**. He described, with the aid of lantern-slides and graphs, the paths taken by tendon and sensory impulses at the various levels of the central nervous system, and the resultant effect upon the plastic tone of the muscles. During the discussion which followed, the relations of his findings to clinical cases of post encephalitis and Parkinsonism and to various clinical phenomena were the subjects of many questions, to which Dr. Liddell replied.

Dr. J. L. Berry proposed and Prof. P. C. P. Cloake seconded a vote of thanks.

NOTICES BY THE HON. LIBRARIAN.

The Library is open to members between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 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.

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