who would be a journalist with a salaried part-time appointment; and the establishment of effective machinery for consultation between the College and Psychiatric Hospitals and Departments of General Hospitals over general matters of policy involving the improvement of public relations, and particularly a deserved increase of public confidence in the identification of the College with enlightened standards of individual patient care. Both these matters were minuted and extensively discussed at the last (7 February, 1968) meeting of the Committee.

The Secretary of the Committee accepted the role of liaison officer between this Committee and the *Bulletin* of the World Psychiatric Association. Active communication is in progress on this front. The Secretary has also undertaken to act as convener for the 7th International Congress on Mental Health, to be held in August this year, his specific contribution in this respect being the role of public information and communication in matters of mental health and sickness.

Report of the Psychotherapy and Social Psychiatry Section

At the Annual Business Meeting of the Section on 10 April, 1968, the following election results were confirmed: Chairman, 1968–69, Dr. T. F. Main; Hon. Secretary, Dr. I. S. Kreeger. Vacancies on the Executive Committee were filled by Drs. R. W. Crocket, D. H. Heard, M. Pines, W. L. Tonge. Dr. K. Weeks has agreed to serve as a co-opted member of the Committee.

Dr. T. F. Main and Dr. I. S. Kreeger were elected representatives of the Section on Council and Dr. I. S. Kreeger the representative of the Section on the Education Committee.

There were six meetings of the Section during the year.

The series of papers entitled "Towards Community Mental Health" presented under the Chairmanship of Dr. J. D. Sutherland, were completed in June and July, 1967, by Geoffrey Gorer speaking on "The Congruent Society" and Professor Norman Cohn on "The Myth of the Jewish World Conspiracy. A case study in collective psychopathology".

Four meetings have taken place under the Chairmanship of Dr. G. S. Prince. In November and December, 1967, Dr. H. H. Wolff and Dr. I. S. Kreeger read papers on "The Training of Psychiatrists in Psychotherapy. Practice, Problems and Principles". In February, 1968, Dr. T. F. Main with a Seminar Group of doctors from the Family Planning Association conducted a demonstration of a Seminar on Psychosexual Problems. In April, Dr. R. F. Hobson read a paper on "Psychodynamic Principles in the Diagnostic Interview".

The Executive Committee has met on six occasions. It has considered a number of issues concerning the future of the Section in the proposed new College, the policy of the *British Journal of Psychiatry* and the adequacy of the Section's representation on the Standing Committees of Council.

The Committee has, at the request of Council, nominated representatives of the Section to serve on Special Committees preparing evidence for the Ministry of Health on the Functions of a District General Hospital, and on the Health and Welfare Services for Epileptic People. It is also organizing a Special Interest Meeting on the Training of Medical Undergraduates in connection with the forthcoming International Congress on Mental Health.

On 1 January, 1968, there were 1,804 members of the Section.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

THE SPRING MEETING of the South-Western Division was held at Whitchurch Hospital, Cardiff, on Thursday, 4 April 1968, by kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. J. P. Spillane, Physician Superintendent.

Members visited the hospital, and were particularly interested in the Alcoholic Unit, the Professorial Unit, the Industrial Unit and the Geriatric Unit. Members were welcomed by Mr. Arthur Manley, J.P., the Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee; and after a pleasant lunch the Divisional Chairman, Dr. R. W. Simpson, expressed the appreciation of the Division for the excellent arrangements for the visit, especially as it might well be the last official visit of the Division to Wales, in view of the likelihood that a Welsh Branch would be formed in the near future.

Divisional Committee of Management

The Divisional Secretary reported that the Committee had met during the forenoon.

The Committee were informed that it had been agreed by Council that a sum of £50 per year would be available to Divisions and Sections towards meeting the travelling expenses of speakers at their meetings. It was decided that the host hospital at future meetings should be informed that this provision had now been made.

A full discussion had then taken place on Medical Organization in Hospitals, in the light of the recent

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so-called "Cogwheel" Report and that of the King's Fund. It was clear from the discussion that the subject was of considerable urgent importance to all members of the Association. A special Committee of the Parliamentary Committee was considering the matter and would appreciate the views of the Divisions.

The Secretary had been asked to approach Dr. E. B. O. Smith to inquire whether the Autumn Meeting might be held at the Seymour Clinic at Swindon. It had also been agreed provisionally to accept the invitation which the Division had received from Dr. Alan Heaton Ward to hold the next Spring Meeting at Stoke Park Hospital, Bristol, to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Hospital.

The Committee had been informed that the library facilities in certain hospitals were gravely inadequate. It was suggested that in such cases the setting up of a Library Committee would be valuable, which could press for the needs to be met. If difficulties persisted, the matter could be referred to the Chairman of the Education Committee of Council, who would be able to make suitable recommendations.

The following candidates were elected unanimously to Ordinary Membership:

BLACK, ANGUS WILLIAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Consultant in Neuropsychiatry, Princess Alexandra's R.A.F. Hospital, Wroughton, Wiltshire.
Proposed by Drs. P. J. O'Connor, J. Harper, J. M. Penman.

HEBDITCH, JOHN GRAHAM, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.R.C.O.G., Senior House Officer, St. Lawrence's Hospital, Bodmin, Cornwall.
Proposed by Drs. D. D. Ellis, L. F. W. Rowe, J. M. Pencheon.

WESOLKOWSKI, JACEK MARIA, M.D., Registrar, Morgannwg Hospital, Bridgend, Glamorgan.
Proposed by Drs. M. W. Annear, H. Rosenberg, K. S. Jones.

ZAMAN, MD. ASADUZ, M.B., B.S., Registrar, Morgannwg Hospital, Bridgend, Glamorgan.
Proposed by Drs. W. E. Fine, S. P. Banerjee, P. K. Bhattacharya.

The following Office-Bearers were elected:

Chairman	Dr. R. Wallace Simpson
Divisional Secretary ..	Dr. E. B. McDowall
Assistant Secretary ..	Dr. H. J. Crow
Junior Representative on Council	Dr. T. C. Waters

Dr. Wallace Simpson informed the Meeting of the current drive to encourage individual membership of the World Psychiatric Association with the aim of involving the psychiatrist more personally with the work of the Association. He outlined the purpose, structure and activities of the W.P.A.; the subscription is £5 for the first year and thereafter £3 per annum; and forms are obtainable from Dr. Simpson at the Old Manor Hospital, Salisbury or from Dr. J. V. J. Bancroft, the Individual Secretary, at the Maudsley Hospital, London.

Papers and Discussions

(a) *Psychosomatic Aspects of Obesity*

PROFESSOR K. RAWNSLEY delivered a paper on the psychosomatic aspects of obesity.

Obesity is a topic which was regularly considered in the early texts of psychosomatic medicine. Special emphasis was placed on the psychodynamic aspects of the problem, e.g. disturbances during the oral phase of psychosexual development; specific configurations of personality.

Studies of the eating response during or following an emotionally disturbing situation indicate wide variation between individuals. Many inquiries into the association between weight and personality may be criticized on grounds of inadequate or biased sampling. Furthermore, interpretation of the meaning of correlations between obesity and aspects of personality from cross-sectional studies presents many difficulties. The need for longitudinal studies, beginning in early childhood, and extending to adult years, is apparent.

Obesity furnishes an example of the way in which modes of thinking in psychosomatic medicine have shifted away from theoretically based psychodynamic formulations to an interest in psychophysiological and metabolic mechanisms. There is also a growing awareness of the value in this field of using modern epidemiological techniques. The approach is becoming more empirical both in the research section and in therapeutics.

Many members took part in the brisk discussion which followed, in which obesity in many contexts was considered—stopping smoking, phenothiazine therapy, mongolism, and certain anomalous cases of anorexia nervosa who become obese and anxious after treatment. The need for longitudinal studies and further research became very evident in the course of this discussion.

(b) *Chronic Schizophrenia in Cardiff and District*

DR. I. G. PRYCE presented a paper prepared in collaboration with DR. A. C. BROWN.

In a review of the rehabilitation of hospital patients with chronic handicaps over the past two years, Dr. Pryce considered the pool of patients suffering from schizophrenia in the population of some 370,000 in the catchment area. He described the collection of data from various sources, and showed

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how the point prevalence rate for schizophrenics under hospital and Local Authority care is 1·8 per 1,000. The review was incomplete since there was no knowledge of those under the care of the general practitioners—a number which other studies have suggested is about 2·8 per thousand not known to specialist services.

In hospital the elderly group (over 65) is disproportionately large and two-thirds of these are women. Prognostic assessment of those under 65 involved primary handicaps resulting from the disease itself and secondary handicaps arising from prolonged residence in hospital. The chronic in-patient schizophrenic tended to form a static group, numbering some 250 patients of whom 150 were under 65 and thus suitable for long-term rehabilitation methods.

The Whitchurch Day Centre provides sheltered employment for some 57 men and 27 women, who also form a fairly static group. Motor underactivity is the main handicap, and discharge from the Centre is limited. It provides for those who can live at home or in hostels and travel on public transport, but are too handicapped for outside employment.

Finally Dr. Pryce discussed the exchange of schizophrenics between the three areas of care. Little information is available, but there appears to be a short-stay group of 50–60 patients, younger and less handicapped, who are discharged to the care of the general practitioner or the Local Authority. A follow-up study of those under the Local Authority would provide useful data in this group.

In the subsequent discussion, Dr. Pryce and Dr. Brown developed their views on the nature of community care, and considered the administration of drugs, the keeping of records, the passage of information from one service to another, the readmission rate, and points arising from the Census procedure and the collection of statistical data.

Dr. J. P. Riordan, in proposing a vote of thanks, referred to Professor Rawnsley's penetrating examination of obesity, although he clearly had no vested interest in the subject. Studies such as Drs. Pryce and Brown had presented were of outstanding value, and should be an automatic feature of every-day work. The idea of a central register was, in fact, being studied in Camberwell. Dr. Riordan congratulated both speakers on their able and useful papers which had led to a most interesting afternoon's discussion.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION

THE SPRING MEETING of the Northern and Midland Division was held at St. Luke's Hospital, Huddersfield, and Storthes Hall Hospital, Kirkburton, on Thursday, 11 April 1968, by kind permission of the Hospital Management Committee.

The meeting began with a tour of inspection of the Psychiatric Unit, St. Luke's Hospital.

It was reported that Council had agreed to allow each Division and Section £50 per year towards the travelling expenses of speakers at Divisional and Section Meetings. This did not include any fees.

The Divisional Committee of Management reported that the Autumn Meeting would take place at Carlton Hayes Hospital, Narborough, near Leicester.

A discussion took place on the further progress towards the formation of the Royal College. The Chairman counselled the Meeting that, at this stage, any publicity on this issue could be harmful to the granting of a Royal Charter. Dissatisfaction was expressed regarding certain Bye-Laws approved by the Adjourned Annual General Meeting of the Association in February, 1968 and it was resolved:

"That this Meeting regrets that there was not sufficient time for consideration and discussion of the proposed Bye-Laws by the membership prior to the Adjourned Annual General Meeting."

The Secretary was asked to request that the matter be raised with Council.

The following were elected to Ordinary Membership:

AINSWORTH, PATRICIA, M.B., Ch.B., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.C.H., Trainee Registrar in Psychiatry, United Manchester Hospitals.
Proposed by Drs. J. Hoenig, B. H. Burns, M. W. Atkinson.

AL-NAJJAR, MUFID, M.B., Ch.B., Senior House Officer, Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale.
Proposed by Drs. S. Falk, J. T. Elliott, A. West.

BARTRAM, GRAHAM FRANK, M.B., B.S., Registrar, Central Hospital, Hatton, near Warwick.
Proposed by Drs. C. Tetlow, T. L. Dunn, V. S. Nehama.

BEDI, MYLAPORE SHUNMUKHASUNDARAM VASANTHA, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., Psychiatric Registrar, Deva Hospital, Chester.
Proposed by Drs. K. S. R. Bedi, R. H. Boardman, R. Viswanathan.

BHATTACHARYYA, SAMBHU NATH, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.E., D.P.M., Senior Registrar in Psychiatry, Oldham and District General Hospital.
Proposed by Drs. S. Levine, J. G. Maden, N. Berlyne.

BLACK, DOROTHY, F.M., M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., Clinical Assistant, Psychiatric Unit, Walton and Scarsdale Hospitals, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.
Proposed by Drs. A. R. Jones, W. L. Tonge, J. D. Stirland.

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