and in organizing meetings for junior psychiatrists in the major areas of the Division. Relevant resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee encompass the nomination of trainees for the regional Panel of Visitors in the Royal College Approval Exercise; the recognition of full voting rights for trainees at Committee meetings; and the acceptance of a maximum two-year term of office for representatives.

The general rule that trainees of high calibre tend to obtain well-deserved early promotion remains valid in the North-East, so that all the original representatives have proceeded to Consultant posts or Lectureships. Their successors include Dr D. P. Flannery in Leeds, and Drs J. A. Mullaney, A. Robinson, and T. Berney in Newcastle.

ALAN STEPHENS, *Hon Secretary*

Scottish Division

Since the inception of the College in 1971 the Scottish Division has continued the practice of the RMPA and has held four meetings each year. These take place on the first Friday in December, second Friday in March, third Friday in June and fourth Friday in September. The Division tries to hold its meetings in different hospitals so that over a five-year period most of the mental hospitals in Scotland play host. Occasional meetings are also held in the premises of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

The Scottish Division has active sub-sections in all the major specialties in psychiatry, and each of these meets at least twice a year. Liaison is maintained between the sub-sections and the Specialist Sections of the College.

The mailing list of the Division is now around 400, and attendance at quarterly meetings varies from 50 to 100. The Executive Committee meets on the day of the quarterly meetings and usually on two further occasions each year. The Committee has a very full programme of business, as nearly all the Government reports referred to the College in London for opinion are referred also from the Scottish Home and Health Department to the Scottish Division and there is frequently a distinct Scottish viewpoint on such reports. This reflects the different legal practices in Scotland, the different level of provision of psychiatric services, as well as differences in the local and national organization of the National Health Service.

In the last few years a Conference of Colleges and Faculties in Scotland has been established, and the Chairman of the Scottish Division is a member of that Conference.

With the reorganization of the Health Service, a National Medical Consultative Committee (MNCC) has been formed and there is a psychiatric sub-committee on which five members, directly nominated by the College, sit. Five other College members are on the Committee nominated by the NMCC, and from this Committee the views of Scottish psychiatrists can be transmitted to the Scottish Health Services Planning Council or directly to the Chief Medical Officer (see also *News and Notes*, December 1975, p 17).

The Scottish Health Services Planning Council has recently established a Mental Disorder Planning Committee and once again College members are taking an active part.

The Division is now planning an annual social event at which new members can be welcomed and entertained. Every effort is made to involve trainees in Divisional business and at the scientific meetings.

A recent development in the administrative arrangements for the Division has been the designation of a member of the Executive Committee as the 'Meetings Secretary'. Dr W. D. Boyd now carries out this task and has been responsible for arranging very successful meetings and has plans for equally interesting meetings in 1976.

On 12 March 1976 the Division will meet at the magnificent new Ninewells Teaching Hospital at Dundee, which houses the University Department of Psychiatry. The theme of that meeting will be the relationship of psychiatry to other branches of medicine. The Summer meeting will be held on 17 June 1976 at Dykebar Hospital, Paisley, where a new 300-bedded extension has recently been opened, and on 24 September 1976 the Division will return to one of its favourite meeting places, the Crichton Royal Hospital at Dumfries, where the present Divisional Chairman, Dr A. C. Tait, will be host. The new President of the College has already spent a day with the Division, and members of other Divisions who may be in Scotland on business or on holiday would be extremely welcome at any of our future meetings.

G. C. TIMBURY, *Divisional Secretary*

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