SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE WINTER MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow on 7 December, 1962. Forty-three members were present, with Dr. Angus MacNiven in the Chair.

The following were elected Ordinary Members of the Association:

CASTOR, Ursula Schroeder James, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Registrar, Glasgow Royal Mental Hospital, Glasgow.

Proposed by Drs. Angus MacNiven, W. L. Flanagan, J. Moffat.

YOUNG, Bryce Gilmour, M.B., Ch.B., Senior House Officer in Psychiatry, Southern General Hospital, Glasgow.

Proposed by Drs. I. M. Ingram, I. R. Sherret, G. C. Timbury.

It was agreed that the Spring Meeting would be held in the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, on Friday, 8 March, 1963.

Dr. James Milne raised certain points relating to the care of Secretary of State patients and points arising from Statutory Forms as they affect the day to day practices in mental hospitals. He also raised the question of the advisability of regular meetings with the Mental Welfare Commission. After discussion it was suggested that Dr. Milne and the Secretary should take this matter up with the Commission.

Dr. Timbury and Dr. Mowbray gave a Paper on **"The Diagnosis of Schizophrenia by Scottish Psychiatrists".**

Dr. Harrington gave a Paper on **"Physiological Speculation on the Nature of the Neuroses and Psychoses".**

Dr. Forrest gave a Paper on **"A Critique of Tranquillizers".**

All these Papers raised points of interest and discussion.

Special note must be made of the Bibliographical Demonstration of historical books bearing on psychiatry from Hippocrates to the beginning of the eighteenth century, from the Library of the Royal College. This demonstration, which was of outstanding interest, was arranged by Dr. A. A. Bell, and all Members will wish to record their great appreciation to Dr. Bell in this regard.

IRISH DIVISION

THE SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING of the Irish Division was held, by kind permission of the President and Fellows, at the Royal College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, 27 February, 1963. Forty-eight members and one guest were present.

Apologies were received from two members.

The Chairman (Dr. C. B. Robinson), welcomed Dr. G. K. Sturup, Director of the Herstedvester Institution, Denmark, who read a paper on "The Psychology of Murderers".

In Denmark there were about 20–25 homicide cases a year, which was a little more than twice as many as in England, but in U.S.A. there were six times as many.

Dr. Sturup reviewed the cases sent to his Institution from Courts or prisons from 1933–1953. As most of these cases had been in hospital or prison for some time after the crime they were emotionally cool by the time they reached Herstedvester.

Dr. Sturup described the behaviour of the homicidal in the period just after the crime—some reacted with anxiety and depression, and some with amnesia.

The speaker read a number of case histories—some with secondary blunted reactions and some without.

The paper was discussed by Drs. Moore, Robinson and McGrath, and Professor Dunne, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Dr. Sturup.

The following was elected a Member of the Association:

LAMBE, Mary, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, St. Brigid's Hospital, Ardee, Co. Louth.

Proposed by Drs. J. O'Connor, M. Rahill, Mary Sullivan.

The evidence to be given by the Division to the Commission on Mental Health was discussed, and it was decided the Parliamentary Sub-Committee should meet again to draw up final recommendations to the Commission.

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