Paper and Discussion.

"**Casualties in Mental Hospitals,**" by Dr. Otho W. S. FitzGerald.
The discussion was opened by Dr. The Hon. W. S. Maclay, *O.B.E.*

Maudsley Lecture.

The Twenty-fifth Maudsley Lecture was given in the Barnes Hall, Royal Society of Medicine, by Prof. Aubrey Lewis, M.D., F.R.C.P., on "**Henry Maudsley: His Work and Influence.**" (See p. 259).

On the motion of Dr. Otho FitzGerald a vote of thanks to Prof. Lewis was carried by acclamation.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the President and Committee of the Royal Society of Medicine for their courtesy in granting the use of the Barnes Hall.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

The Autumn Meeting of the Division was held on Friday, 27 October, 1950, at Mapperley Hospital, Nottingham, by kind permission of the Management Committee and of Dr. Duncan Macmillan, the Physician Superintendent.

During the morning members were shown various parts of the Hospital, especially the Children's Unit at St. Ann's Hospital. Members sat down to luncheon at 1 p.m. The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Brackett, welcomed the Division, and the Chairman of the Division, Prof. D. R. MacCalman, replied in an amusing speech.

Business Meeting.

The Business Meeting commenced at 2.30 p.m.

1. The President of the Association, Dr. K. K. Drury, exercised his statutory right and took the Chair, vacating it in favour of the Divisional Chairman, Prof. D. R. MacCalman, after the Minutes had been signed as correct. In a short speech Dr. Drury made a strong plea for more people from the Division to enter for Divisional Prizes.

2. Sixty-two members and two visitors were recorded as being present.

3. Apologies for absence were received from nine members.

4. *Report of Divisional Committee of Management.*—The Secretary reported on the Meeting of the Divisional Committee of Management held in the morning and read a letter from the R.M.P.A. Council on the action taken on the two Resolutions put forward by the Division at the Spring Meeting.

With regard to Resolution A, the President pointed out that a meeting of the Special Sub-Committee was due to be called some time in the middle of November, but the Chairman suggested, as so much feeling had been expressed in the Division on this matter when originally discussed, it might be wise to press for further information.

Resolved: "That the Secretary be asked to write to the General Secretary requesting information on the progress so far made by the Special Sub-Committee.

With regard to Resolution B—

Resolved: To leave the matter in abeyance.

5. *Report of the Divisional Representative on Council.*—The Secretary drew attention to the fact that this would cover the same items as under the previous heading. The President referred, in addition, to the Special Council Meeting held recently, to discuss the draft Memorandum to be presented to the Central Health Services Committee on the internal administration in hospitals.

There was some discussion in which a number of members expressed the feeling that unless a *modus vivendi* could be worked out between medical superintendents and consultants, there might be administrative difficulties in the future.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X51246618 Published online by Cambridge University Press

6. The following candidates were elected to Membership:

DEVLIN, WILHELMINA LOUISA, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.M., Psychiatrist to Lancashire and Liverpool Education Committees; Hazeldene, 155, Victoria Road, New Brighton, Cheshire.

Proposed by Drs. H. S. Bryan, Mary C. Lydon and Muriel Barton Hall.

DUNDAS, J., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M., Psychiatrist, Menston Hospital, Leeds.

Proposed by Drs. I. Sutton, J. S. Johnstone and S. Smith.

MOODY, DWIGHT LIONEL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., Registrar, Winwick Mental Hospital, Warrington, Lancs.

Proposed by Drs. John R. Beith Robb, W. A. M. Robinson and G. J. Harrison.

NUSSBAUM, ILSE RUTH, M.D.(Berlin), D.P.M.(Dublin), Consultant Psychiatrist Rainhill Hospital, nr. Liverpool.

Proposed by Drs. B. Finkleman, George Egan and D. J. Salfield.

URQUHART, JOHN ARGYLE, M.B., Ch.B., Registrar, Mapperley Hospital, Nottingham; 25, Whittingham, Road, Mapperley, Nottingham.

Proposed by Drs. Duncan Macmillan, H. Fisher and W. L. Jones.

7. *Any other business.*—Dr. PENTREATH asked whether the R.M.P.A. could recommend a standard form giving permission for E.C.T. The President reported that the R.M.P.A. had not as yet attempted this, since other bodies had found it extremely difficult.

CLINICAL SESSION.

Dr. MILDRED CREAK read a paper on **"Psychosis in Childhood."** She said that she would confine herself to the clinical aspect only, but nevertheless succeeded in covering a very much wider field, quoting from numerous authorities as well as her own work, and indicating possible causative factors as well as the theoretical background. She pointed out that quite a number of cases, especially those suffering from early infantile autism, are wrongly diagnosed as defective. She illustrated the mannerisms, appearance and stereotyped behaviour of some of her own cases by means of a short film.

Dr. MARY MACAULEY presented two very detailed and complete illustrative case histories of two patients who presented diagnostic difficulties, and who had been demonstrated in the morning at the Children's Unit.

A very lively discussion ensued, in which—

Dr. ESHER drew attention to children dying of "broken heart," and gave illustrations of undiagnosed attacks of deep depression in childhood.

Dr. EICKHOFF put forward a tentative theory that there was a type of psychosis in childhood due to a failure in the field of sensation, so that the capacity for abstract thinking is absent. These children are unable to evolve a body image, and as a result show bepuzzlement and lack of recognition on seeing themselves in a mirror.

Dr. BURNS quoted a case of total deafness in combination with infantile autism.

Dr. STERN suggested that psychosomatic conditions, such as ulcerative colitis and marasmus were often accompaniments of undiagnosed psychosis.

Dr. WHILES, dealing mainly with children of school age, had found two cases of pure schizophrenic-like reactions in some 2,000 new cases seen in the last four years, but there were four others under observation, and two with psychotic-like reactions, which were, in effect, due to organic conditions.

Dr. GOODLAD requested information on the efficacy of physical methods of treatment.

Dr. CREAK replied to the discussion.

After a vote of thanks, proposed by the Chairman and carried with acclamation, the business concluded with an excellent tea.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

THE AUTUMN MEETING of the South-Western Division was held on Friday, 20 October, 1950, at Littlemore Hospital, near Oxford, at the kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. R. W. Armstrong.

Twenty members were present.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X51246618 Published online by Cambridge University Press