IRISH DIVISION

THE SPRING QUARTERLY AND CLINICAL MEETING of the Irish Division was held on 19 March, 1970, at St. Loman's Hospital, Ballyowen, Co. Dublin, by kind invitation of Dr. T. J. Fahy and the Dublin Health Authority.

The Officers of the Division for 1970–71 were elected as follows:

Chairman	DR. MARY SULLIVAN,
Secretary	DR. J. V. GLASS,
Junior Representative on Council ..	DR. E. C. O'GORMAN.

Dr. Mulligan, outgoing Chairman, vacated the chair, which was then taken by Dr. Sullivan, who was invested with the badge of office. Dr. Mulligan welcomed his successor, paying tribute to her long and sterling service to the Division as Honorary Secretary for over twelve years. He also thanked the officers, and the members for their assistance and good wishes during the period of his office. Dr. Sullivan thanked the members for the honour they had conferred on her by electing her to the office of Chairman.

The following recommendations by the Committee of Management on the composition, election, and functions of approved standing Committees were unanimously agreed; nominations to be invited for election at the next divisional meeting. The Officers to be members of each committee, ex officio.

Education Committee

Functions

In relation to Eire and Northern Ireland.

(a) To study, and make representations in relation to the teaching of psychological medicine at undergraduate, and post-graduate level. To keep informed on any proposals, academic or otherwise on psychiatric training, and make recommendations thereon.

(b) To interest itself in all matters relating to training of mental nurses, both pre-registration and post-graduation, and make recommendations thereon.

(c) To interest itself in all matters relating to the training of other professional workers in the psychiatric field and make recommendations thereon.

(d) To maintain close liaison with the Association's Education Committee, to ensure that proposals etc. are in accordance with the general policy of the Association.

(e) All recommendations to be submitted to the Management Committee for approval, before acting on them.

Number

As this is a very important committee at this time, number should be adequate.

Recommended

Six elected members—(3 Northern Ireland 3 Eire) with a nominee from each section.

Tenure

Maximum 5 years.

One third drawn by lot to retire at 3 years 4 years.

Parliamentary Committee

Shall watch legislation in Eire and Northern Ireland, existing and prospective, and Departmental, Regional and Local Administrative practice; and to report to the Committee of Mangement any measures it recommends.

Number

Recommended

Two from Eire, two from Northern Ireland. May co-opt not more than two.

Election

Annually.

Tenure of Office

As continuity is desirable, members to be elected for a period of four years, unless they earlier resign.

Papers and Discussions Committee

Functions

(a) To be responsible for arranging the scientific programme, at meetings of the Division, including papers, discussions, Seminars, scientific visits and similar items.

(b) In furtherance of (a) above, to keep informed of research and clinical projects, and encourage the production and presentation of informative papers.

(c) To examine the suitability for presentation of any papers received by them.

(d) Refer papers they consider suitable to the Association, Papers and Discussions Committee, for presentation at any of the Association's Quarterly or other meetings.

Number

A small active committee in regular touch with main clinical, teaching and research centres.

Recommended

Two from Eire, two from Northern Ireland.

Election

Members elected annually.

Maximum three years continuous. Eligible for re-election after a lapse of one year.

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Following discussion, it was agreed to include a nominee from each of the Sections and Standing Committees on the Management Committee, the elected members of which were to remain at 3 Senior and 3 Junior members. Nominations to be sought for election at the next Divisional Meeting.

Post-Graduate Education:

(a) *Eire*

Professors Beckett and Lynch gave details of the scheme for post-graduate education in psychiatry which was now operating in Dublin, with an appeal to have this extended to at least one provincial centre, or group of centres. Details of the staff. appointments recommended to implement it were also given. General satisfaction with the proposals was expressed, though the difficulty of availing of such training for several hospitals far from Dublin was expressed.

(b) *Northern Ireland*

Dr. Mulligan reported that preliminary discussions had been held, and the formation of a Council for Post-Graduate Medical Education was imminent. The Management Committee had forwarded the names of Drs. Knox, McCormick and Casement to the General Secretary for submission to the proposed Council.

Considerable disquiet was expressed by junior members in relation to the present discussions at the Department of Health on a new staffing and career structure in the Mental Health Service. As this could have serious implications for junior doctors in relation to training, career prospects, and altered status, it was agreed to form a small committee to collect and co-ordinate the views of those affected, and to ask the Minister for Health to receive one or two nominees of the Division to be joined in these discussions or to be present as observers. The following were agreed to:

Professors Moore and Beckett, Drs. Carney, Laverty, Lambe and Brennan. It was also agreed that Professors Beckett and Moore and Dr. T. J. Fahy should form an emergency committee to deal with any urgent matters in relation to post-graduate education which might turn up before the next Divisional meeting.

A letter was read from Dr. B. MacRamsay proposing formation of a Mental Deficiency Section in the Irish Division. Supported by Dr. Mulcahy, the proposal was unanimously agreed.

A letter from the Minister for Health asking for the Division's nomination for the National Health Council. As a matter of urgency, the Management Committee had nominated Professor T. Lynch. The action was approved.

A letter of reply was read from the Minister for Health to Division's representations re post-graduate Medical Education.

A letter was read from the General Secretary with reference to accreditation of Teaching Hospitals, enclosing copies of Questionnairs, and letters to hospital and clinic authorities. It was agreed to have this circulated to all hospitals in Eire and Northern Ireland.

It was agreed to hold the Summer Meeting in June, in a provincial hospital if invitation could be obtained. A tentative offer for Killarney was put forward. Final arrangement of date and venue were left to the Honorary Officers.

The following papers were presented:

'Infanticide and its Variations' By Dr. N. Lukianowiez.

He discussed the many variations of infant death, including crib deaths; the difficulty of clearly ascertaining the cause; the relationship to maternal depression with aggression which may be directed inward or outward, and the significant relationship with the peak periods for suicide. Illustrative case histories were given.

'A Double Blind Control Trial of Tryptizol and Valium in E.C.T.-treated Depressives'. By Dr. T. J. Fahy.

The papers gave rise to an interested discussion by Perry, Moloney, Hayes and others.

Dr. Sullivan then proposed a vote of thanks to both the speakers for their interesting papers; and to Dr. Fahy, the Hospital Authority and the staff for the excellent facilities and hospitality afforded to the Association. The vote was passed with acclamation.

SCOTTISH DIVISION

THE SPRING MEETING of the Scottish Division was held at the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, on Friday, 13th March, 1970

The President of the Association, Dr. T. Martin Cuthbert honoured the Discussion with his presence.

The Division noted with regret the deaths of Dr. John McDougall, an Ordinary Member since 1928, and Dr. W. N. J. Chapman, an Ordinary Member since 1932.

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