IRISH DIVISION

THE SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING of the Irish Division was held on Wednesday, 11 April, 1962, on the kind invitation of the Rev. Mother Superior, and of Dr. P. P. O'Malley, at the Mater Infirmorum Hospital, Belfast. Thirty-eight members and three visitors were present.

The meeting commenced with lunch at the Mater Hospital. A vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. McCartan and seconded by Dr. O'Higgins.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Dr. P. P. O'Malley read a paper entitled **"Problems in the Management of Psychiatric Patients in a General Hospital—a Fifteen Year Survey".**

The paper was discussed by Drs. McCartan, Dunne, Rahill, Sullivan, Blake, Whiteley, Weir and O'Higgins.

An exhibit on the effects of E.C.T. on the peripheral circulation was demonstrated by Dr. Leo McArdle, who gave a talk and answered questions.

The date and place of the Summer Meeting was fixed, on the kind invitation of Dr. Moore Johnston, at Omagh on Wednesday, 27 June, 1962.

Dr. C. B. Robinson, Purdysburn Hospital, was elected Chairman of the Division, Dr. Mary Sullivan was re-elected Secretary, and Dr. John Fennelly was elected Junior Representative on the Council of the Association.

A letter from the Department of Health of the Republic of Ireland regarding the nomination of a representative on the National Health Council was read, and Professor Dunne was again nominated.

A letter from the National Association for the Mentally Handicapped of Ireland was read, asking if the Association would affiliate with them, and the Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary of the National Association stating that the Division had no power to affiliate, but would like some representation on the Council.

A letter from Dr. O. W. S. Fitzgerald regarding Refresher Courses for General Practitioners was read and the Secretary was instructed to get in touch with the secretaries of the College of General Practitioners in Ireland and ascertain their views on the necessity of such courses.

The question of the new title for the Journal was discussed, and the general opinion of the meeting was that it was a pity to change the title, but as this had now been agreed to by the Council of the Association, there was nothing the Division could suggest in the matter.

In the evening Dr. and Mrs. O'Malley entertained members to an excellent performance in the Lyric Players Theatre, and to supper afterwards.

THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

The following statement has been received from the President of the Association, Prof. D. Ewen Cameron:

The World Psychiatric Association was established in June, 1961, during the holding of the Third World Congress of Psychiatry in Montreal. It arose as a most necessary phase in the exceptional growth of psychiatry. As professional and public knowledge of the extent of mental illness has grown, it has become clear that the united efforts of psychiatrist and of citizen, of government and of science, must be called upon.

There is a demand on every side for information about mental illness—for plans for training and research—for service and prevention and public education. Fortunately, there is a common factor in the psychiatric problems of the various countries. Experience with organization, with treatment, with training, with the fostering of research can be shared and each can build upon what his neighbour has learned.

To foster this exchange is one of the vital purposes of the World Psychiatric

https://doi.org/10.1192/S0368315X6224368X Published online by Cambridge University Press