THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION

The 1971 Spring Meeting of the South Eastern Division was held at the Institute of Family Psychiatry, Ipswich on Thursday 15th April 1971 by the kind invitation of the Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital Management Committee and Dr. John G. Howells, Director.

The morning programme took the form of a conversazione. The large group moved through the Institute interchanging experiences with the staff. To focus interest there were a number of demonstrations. These included video-tape demonstration of family group therapy, and demonstrations of family assessment techniques, of the family and social work and of the exploration of family dynamics through the child. An exhibition demonstrated research projects and publications. A film showing the main tenets of the Institute's philosophy was also viewed.

At noon the Divisional Business Meeting was held; the President of the Association, Dr. T. Martin Cuthbert honoured the Division with his presence.

The report of the Divisional Committee of Management was read and received.

The following were elected for the year 1971–72:

Chairman:	Dr. D. M. Leiberman
Secretary:	Dr. R. Payne
Assistant Secretary:	Dr. P. G. Woolf
Junior Representative on Council:	Dr. B. Pinkey

Divisional Committee of Management:

Drs. K. M. Fraser, A. G. Mezey, C. M. Xavier, C. P. B. Brook, D. H. Clark, A. C. Kaeser, R. G. Priest, Jack Steinert.

The following were elected to ordinary membership:

Alapin, Boleslaw, M.B., B.S., M.D., D.P.M. Registrar, Horton Hospital, Epsom.
Proposed by Professor W. Linford Rees, Drs. H. R. Rollin, G. A. Low-Beer.

Crowe, Michael John, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., M.Phil., M.R.C.P. Senior Registrar, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.
Proposed by Drs. D. L. Davies, S. A. Mann, S. R. Hirsch.

Earle, Elspeth Margaret, M.B., B.S. Senior House Officer, The London Hospital, Whitechapel, E.1.
Proposed by Drs. J. Denham, G. K. King, N. K. Shrubshall.

Freeston, Una de Havilland, M.B., B.S., D.C.H., D.P.M. Registrar, Cane Hill Hospital, Coulsdon, Surrey.
Proposed by Drs. P. D. Rohde, H. Dale Beckett, E. Roderic-Evans.

Hassall, Dorothy Esther Nicholls, M.B., Ch.B. Medical Assistant, Department of Psychiatry, Westminster Hospital, 52 Vincent Square, S.W.1.
Proposed by Drs. G. Garmany, D. R. Collyer, J. S. Lyon.

Haworth, John Neil, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., D.Obst. R.C.O.G. Senior Registrar, St. Augustine's Hospital, Chartham Down, Canterbury, Kent.
Proposed by Drs. P. H. Mitchell, J. A. Ainslie, J. Cleobury.

Horsey, Mary Elizabeth, B.A., M.D. Psychiatric Registrar, Marlborough Day Hospital; 5 Arkwright Road, N.W.3.
Proposed by Drs. R. D. Hinshelwood, R. B. Meyer, J. Singh.

Lask, Bryan Dean, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Registrar, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.
Proposed by Drs. F. Leigh, M. J. Kelleher, S. S. A. Waldenberg.

Lloyd, Geoffrey Gower, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P. Senior House Officer, Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospitals; 22 Hogarth Court, Fountain Drive, S.E.19.
Proposed by Drs. J. E. Cooper, S. A. Mann, R. H. S. Mindham.

Ng, Ho Lee, M.B., B.S. Senior House Officer, Springfield Hospital, S.W.17.
Proposed by Drs. J. Steinert, B. Law-Yone, G. E. Mullett.

Oakeley, Henry Francis, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P. Registrar, Departments of Neurology and Psychological Medicine, St. Thomas's Hospital, S.E.1.
Proposed by Drs. William Sargant, M. T. Duff-Miller, N. Mitchell-Heggs.

Okasha, Mahmoud S., M.B., B.Ch. Senior House Officer, Bexley Hospital, Dartford Heath, Bexley, Kent.
Proposed by Drs. A. C. Smith, D. M. Leiberman, G. K. Shaw.

Omara, El Zein Abbas, M.B., B.S. Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, S.E.5.
Proposed by Dr. J. Cooper, Professor G. F. M. Russell, Dr. W. Falkowski.

Sawney, Angela Mary, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Registrar, Fulbourn Hospital, Cambridge.
Proposed by Drs. E. Beresford Davies, A. R. K. Mitchell, O. E. F. Hodgson.

At lunch Mr. Norman Allen, Chairman of the Ipswich Group Hospital Management Committee, welcomed the members on behalf of the Hospital and the President, Dr. Martin Cuthbert, replied on behalf of the R.M.P.A.

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The afternoon academic meeting was devoted to the theme of **'Exploration of Family Functioning'.**

Dr. Howells outlined, from reference to the local history of psychiatry, the main historical themes leading to the present state of dynamic psychiatry and the emergence of family psychiatry. The programme of research was two-fold (a) clinical, (b) formal. Three themes from the formal programme of research as it related to the exploration of family functioning were then introduced.

The first paper, given by MRS. VICTORIA KALEN and MRS. JENNIFER HOGGAR, was on **'The Pattern of Inter-relating in the Family'.** The family is a polydynamic system, and any experience at one point in the system affects the rest of the system. The upbringing of a child takes place within this polydynamic system. Yet the psychiatric literature often suggests that a child is brought up exclusively by its mother. The investigation reported was concerned with discovering whether the pattern of communication in which a child is involved is a one-to-one interaction or whether this is a transactional communication embracing a number of people. A random sample of a thousand families was taken in Ipswich, and an elaborate time sampling made it possible to outline the pattern of the relationships of children in the thousand families from birth to ten years. The main finding of the investigation showed that a child in its first ten years, and even in its first year, relates to a number of people. A number of subsidiary findings were reported. Lastly, implications were drawn on the significance of the findings for contemporary clinical practice and the theory of child care.

The second paper was on **'Psychopathogenicity of Problem Families'** and was read by DR. JOHN HOWELLS. He outlined the seven-year investigation into the psychopathology of a random sample of problem families in the town of Ipswich. In 24 families 41 parents and 142 children had been assessed in great detail. Two main hypotheses had been formulated (1) that there would be a high incidence of psychopathology in these families (2) that it would be possible to link the social difficulties of the family with its psychopathology. That the first was established can be seen by the very high incidence of severe emotional disturbance in the families compared with studies of the community at large. The number of social difficulties in the family were then taken and it was demonstrated how these followed directly from the psychopathology. The implications for the understanding of social pathology were outlined. To date the great mass of material has only been analysed in some main dimensions, more refined analysis continues.

The third paper was concerned with **'The Family Relations Indicator and its use with whole Families'** and was given by MR. JOHN LICKORISH. He outlined the development of the Indicator. He made a structural analysis of its contents, demonstrating the art of its application and the techniques of scoring. The Indicator can be used with all members of the family, and it is possible to establish the pattern of inter-relating.

Following discussion of the papers the speakers were thanked by the Chairman. After tea a number of psychiatrists visited the Adolescent Unit run on family lines under the direction of Dr. Kitson-Merritt.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION

The Autumn Meeting of the South-Western Division was held at Knowle Hospital, Fareham and the Wessex Regional School of Psychiatry on Thursday, 22 October 1970, by kind invitation of the Hospital Management Committee and Dr. B. Steinberg, Consultant Psychiatrist.

Members met in the forenoon for coffee, visited the hospital and discussed the work of the Wessex Regional School. After a reception and luncheon a warm welcome was extended to the Division by F. T. Tarry Esq., C.B., C.B.E., Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee; and in reply Dr. Heaton-Ward thanked the Committee for their welcome, but especially for providing such elegant hospitality for an exceptionally large gathering.

It was agreed that the next three meetings should be held at Glenside, Brentry and the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, all of whom had extended invitations to the Division. The dates and sequence would be negotiated by the Chairman.

The following candidates were elected to Ordinary Membership:

CLEMMEY, WILLIAM ROBERT LIONEL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Registrar, Littlemore Hospital, Oxford.
Proposed by Drs. F. J. J. Letemendia, J. K. Brockbank, P. J. V. Beumont.

ENGLISH, HOWARD LARMOUR, M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. Consultant Psychiatrist, Morgannwg Hospital, Bridgend, Glamorgan.
Proposed by Drs. M. W. Annear, A. T. Lloyd, H. Rosenberg.

JAIGIRDAR, S. H. M.D. SHAMSUL HUDA, M.B., B.S. Registrar, Whitchurch Hospital, Cardiff.
Proposed by Professor K. Rawnsley, Drs. J. P. Spillane, C. C. Beresford.

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