

(f) *Psychiatry of old age*

Basic training in general psychiatry, which should have included training in the psychiatry of old age, should be followed by at least one year of experience in this field during the higher professional training period.

(g) *Consultants in general psychiatry with a special interest in a named specialty*

Posts are often advertised for Consultants to work in general psychiatry with a 'special interest' in one of the following subjects—alcoholism and/or drug addiction; rehabilitation; the psychiatry of old age; liaison psychiatry; behavioural treatments; mental handicap; forensic psychiatry; psychotherapy; and adolescent psychiatry. (Child and adolescent psychiatry cannot, however, be a special interest subject for a general psychiatrist.) Candidates for such posts need to have had substantial experience both in general psychiatry and in the special interest subject.

Candidates should also have spent at least one year of their higher training in a conventional general psychiatric post and, as in the case of other Consultant posts, should have completed three years of higher training altogether. If an otherwise well qualified candidate has had insufficient experience of the special

interest subject a proleptic appointment may be recommended, provided the Advisory Appointments Committee has an assurance that the candidate will be given the opportunity to acquire the requisite experience immediately after taking up the post (see para 6).

(h) *Special Hospitals*

While most Consultants in Special Hospitals will be fully trained forensic psychiatrists, those trained in general psychiatry or in mental handicap with a special interest in forensic psychiatry could well contribute to the work of a Special Hospital. The special interest in forensic psychiatry would be recognized in the terms already defined by the College, i.e. at least one year's experience in forensic psychiatry. However, it may be that a suitable candidate, trained in general psychiatry or mental handicap, but without any, or enough experience in forensic psychiatry, and wishing to develop such an experience, could be offered a proleptic appointment by the Advisory Appointments Committee. He/she would be expected to acquire the necessary experience as soon as possible after taking up the appointment. On making such an appointment the need for the Special Hospital to have substantial Consultant cover by forensic psychiatrists must be borne in mind.

Spring Quarterly Meeting, 1981

The Spring Quarterly Meeting was held at Sunnyside Royal Hospital, Montrose from 27 to 29 April, 1981, under the Presidency of Sir Desmond Pond.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

Tuesday 28 April: Morning Session

Two Hundred Years of Scottish Psychiatry

Straitjackets and seclusion: The Montrose Asylum, 1781–1834—Dr Kenneth M. G. Keddie

Angus Mackay, Queen Victoria's piper—Miss Patricia Allderidge

Conan Doyle's artistic father: Montrose patient, 1888—Dr Anne E. Weatherhead.

Life in Montrose Asylum at the turn of the century—Dr Don Bosco Fernandez

Following Montrose's lead: Two centuries of Scottish psychiatry—Mrs P. M. Eaves-Walton

Afternoon Session A: Drink-Related problems

Cognitive impairment in alcoholism—Dr Anne Guthrie

Liver enzymes in alcoholism—Dr Brian B. Johnston

New developments in the study of relapse among alcoholics—Mr Stephen Rollnick

Expectations and therapeutic practices in out-patient clinics for alcohol problems—Dr Philip T. Davies

Alcoholism in the fishing industry in North East Scotland—Dr Keith J. B. Rix

Drinking habits of oil industry workers—Dr Colin McCance

Afternoon Session B: Old-Age Psychiatry

Prognosis for hospitalized elderly mentally ill people: A changing situation—Dr G. Blessed

Changing patterns of mental illness in the elderly: A repeat of the Graylingwell study—Dr A. B. Christie

Survival of demented patients referred to a psychogeriatric service—Dr Brice Pitt

CT scan in the elderly with affective disorder: A follow-up study—Dr R. Jacoby

The social origins of depression in the elderly—Dr Elaine Murphy

The role of drugs in the management of the depressed elderly at home—Dr G. W. Blackwood and Dr J. A. G. Beattie

Relapse of depressive illness in the elderly: A prospective study—Dr Elaine Murphy

Wednesday 29 April

Morning Session A: Psychological Treatments

The therapeutic elements of psychotherapy—Dr Anthony W. Clare

Cognitive therapy of depression—Dr Ivy M. Blackburn

In defence of psychotherapy—Dr Richard C. U'Ren

Recent Scottish Trends

Town and country parasuicide over seventeen years in a rural area—Dr J. C. Little

Changing patterns of out-patient referrals: A six-year review—Dr A. A. McKechnie

Morning Session B: Mental Deficiency

Fragile X: Is it as common as Down's syndrome?—Dr P. B. Jacky

Albright's osteodystrophy—Dr J. M. Donald

Mortality and dementia among ageing mental defectives—Dr David Tait

Further data on a short-cycle manic-depressive psychosis—
A novel treatment—Dr G. J. Naylor

Alzheimer's disease and Down's syndrome: Clinical and
neurochemical aspects—Dr A. H. Reid and Dr C. M.
Yates

Folks of their own? Guardianship in 1981—Dr R. D.
Drummond

Interviewing retarded people—Dr W. Fraser

Afternoon Session A: General Hospital Psychiatry

Psychiatric disorder in gynaecological patients—Dr Dennis
Gath

Puerperal psychosis resembles steroid psychosis: Is the
mechanism similar?—Dr Joan Sneddon

Folic acid and vitamin B12 deficiency studies in relation to
psychiatric illness—Dr M. W. P. Carney

Psychosomatic factors prior to the onset of fatal cancer:
General practice study—Dr Anton R. Dewsbury

Afternoon Session B: Forensic Psychiatry

The fate of former patients of the State Hospital, Carstairs—
Dr Derek Chiswick

Changing the law of incest: Implications—Professor R. S.
Bluglass

Consent to treatment—Dr P. Bowden

Cognitive treatment of exhibitionism—Dr R. P. Snaith

Other Sessions

The *Psychotherapy Section* met on 29 April and Dr
Wendy Raine presented a paper entitled 'Self-Mutilation'.

BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting was held on Wednesday, 29 April.

Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 February
1981 at the Charing Cross Hospital (*Bulletin*, April 1981)
were approved and signed as a correct record.

Obituary

The Registrar announced with regret the deaths of the
following members:

IAN PEARCE JAMES, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist,
Glenside Hospital, Stapleton, Bristol.

VLADIMIR LEON KAHAN, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist,
Pewsey Hospital, Pewsey, Wiltshire.

IVAN LEVESON, Consultant Psychiatrist, Royal Southern
Hospital, Liverpool.

WILLIAM ERNEST ROBINSON, Superintendent, Stubbs
Terrace Hospital, Shenton Park 6008, Western Australia.

JACK ABOODI SHABY, formerly Forensic Psychiatrist,
HM Prison Brixton, London.

Election of Honorary Fellows

The following were approved for election to the Honorary
Fellowship:

DR JEROME FRANK, Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry,
Johns Hopkins Medical School, Baltimore, USA.

DR P. G. McGRATH, CBE, formerly Physician Super-
intendent, Broadmoor Hospital, Vice-President, Royal
College of Psychiatrists and Chairman of the Forensic
Psychiatry Section.

PROFESSOR NORMAN MOORE, formerly Medical Director,
St Patrick's Hospital, Dublin; Secretary and Chairman,
Irish Division, RMPA.

DR FELIX POST, formerly Physician, Bethlem Royal and
Maudsley Hospitals; Chairman, Group for the Psychiatry
of Old Age, Royal College of Psychiatrists.

DR ALEXANDER SHAPIRO, CBE, formerly Medical Super-
intendent, Harperbury Hospital; Sub-Dean, Royal College
of Psychiatrists; Secretary and Chairman, Mental
Deficiency Section.

Registrar's Report

PROFESSOR GERALD TIMBURY presented the Registrar's
report:

Council met on 19 March and the Court of Electors on 13
April.

The Court of Electors is about to publish revised guide-
lines for College representatives on Advisory Appointment
Committees, and is extremely grateful to those members of
the College who assisted and hopes that the new guidelines
will be helpful (see page 190). The work of the approval
teams continues. The Court has recently introduced a new
category of time-limited approval (AL) which may be
applied to units offering a restricted experience in general
psychiatry or units which are somewhat isolated and where
rotation schemes cannot be readily arranged. The Court is
giving consideration to the possibility of moving towards
approving posts rather than hospitals and schemes, and dis-
cussions are taking place with the Royal College of General
Practitioners about the approval of posts suitable for voca-
tional training. The Court is also considering possible
revision of the Membership Examination and has in mind an
alteration of the balance of examination topics between the
Preliminary Test and the Membership Examination.

I had hoped to announce the early publication of the
Membership List but staffing problems now make it unlikely
that it will appear before the end of 1981.

Council noted with pleasure the election of Professor
Kenneth Rawnsley as the next President. Council approved
the annual accounts and agreed on revised subscription rates
which will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting. It is
intended to increase the differential between home and over-
seas subscriptions. Council also agreed to alter the Bye-
Laws for the Collegiate Trainees' Committee which will
make some improvement in the geographical spread of
membership of the Committee.

Council gave further consideration to the question of
creating Mental Health Commissions in England and Wales

and we now understand that new legislation on mental health may be presented to Parliament later this year.

The College has received a generous gift of silver plate from Horton Hospital. Such gifts are particularly welcome as we try to develop the use of 17 Belgrave Square.

Finally, may I record the gratitude of the College to all the staff of Sunnyside Royal Hospital who have made this meeting so successful and, in particular, to Dr Keddie, Mr Rae, the Sector Administrator and Mr Rennie, the Catering Officer.

Irish Division

The Summer Quarterly Meeting of the Irish Division was held at the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, Dublin, on 26 June 1981. The Clinical part of the meeting consisted of three papers; the first paper was presented by John Gunn, Professor of Forensic Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry, entitled 'Sieges'. Professor Gunn detailed his involvement in the recent siege of the Iranian Embassy. Dr T. Sharkey, Registrar at the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, presented a paper on 'Chromosomal Abnormalities in Forensic psychiatry'. Finally, Professor W. E. Fann of Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, read a paper entitled 'Drug-Induced Movement Disorders'. In particular, he described a strategy a psychiatrist should adopt if confronted with the problem of tardive dyskinesia.

The Business Meeting was informed that the Mental Services Bill had passed all stages in the Dail and Senate but that its actual implementation might take some considerable

time. The Chairman reported on the plans to hold the American Psychiatric Association post-Convention meeting in Dublin in May 1982. The Honorary Secretary gave an account of a meeting between the Department of Health officials and a sub-committee of the Irish Division. It is hoped that such meetings will now be held on a regular basis. The sub-committee dealing with conditions in Irish Psychiatric Services reported that they had met on a number of occasions and were gathering information.

The members expressed their appreciation to Dr Liam Daly, Director of Forensic Psychiatry, Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, and to the staff of the Central Mental Hospital for hosting the meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Division will take place at St Patrick's Hospital on 30 October 1981.

DAVID SHANLEY
Honorary Secretary

Education Committee

Overseas Trainees Sub-Committee

The aims of the Sub-Committee are as follows:

1. To advise the College, through the Education Committee, of the needs and special problems of overseas trainees in psychiatry;
2. To examine and review the training facilities offered to overseas trainees;
3. To monitor the results of training of overseas graduates;
4. To examine and review the employment opportunities for overseas trainees.

The Sub-Committee meets regularly and exists to assist in all these matters. Please do not hesitate to contact the

Secretary if you are aware of matters which should be brought to the attention of the Sub-Committee.

DAVID GILL
Honorary Secretary

Audio-Visual Sub-Committee

Guidelines on Ethical Problems of Videotape and Other Audio-Visual Recording in Psychiatry have been prepared by the Sub-Committee. Copies are available to members of the College on request from the Honorary Secretary of the Sub-Committee at 17 Belgrave Square.

T. L. PILKINGTON
Honorary Secretary

Postal charges

There has been an increase in the postage and packing charges for the purchase of the College tie (see note in August *Bulletin*, p. 156). The charge for posting within the UK is now 20p, the overseas posting rate is £1.15.