

PRESCRIPTION CHARGES

The College is anxious to hear from any psychiatrist who might know of actual cases of hardship not covered by the current exemptions from prescription charges as outlined in the letter from the Permanent Secretary of the DHSS

(*Bulletin*, December 1979, p. 196) and mentioned in a letter from Dr. M. Y. Ekdawi (*Bulletin*, September 1979, p. 141). The President would like to hear of any such cases as soon as possible.

IRISH DIVISION

The Spring Quarterly Meeting of the Irish Division was held at St Finan's Hospital, Killarney on 21 and 22 March, 1980. There was an unusually large attendance.

Three papers from St Finan's Hospital were read. Dr. Vivek Kusumakar presented results of a study on Tardive Dyskinesia. Another paper presented by Dr. Enda Bannan traced the development of day hospitals in Ireland and throughout the world. Details were given on a new day hospital in Tralee and the results of its operation during the first year. The third paper dealt with the practical aspects of lithium prophylaxis and was presented by Dr. Patrick Melia. Particular attention was paid to the indications and contra-indications of lithium prophylaxis in recurrent affective

disorders. The papers stimulated considerable interest and provoked lively discussion.

The business meeting on the same day discussed the Division's approach towards their future negotiations with the local Appointments Commission concerning Consultant Manpower. Particular concern was expressed by various members at the threatened cut-backs in the Health Services. The Secretary was instructed to release a statement to the national press deploring these threatened cut-backs. The Summer Quarterly Meeting was scheduled to take place at St Brendan's Hospital on 20 June, 1980.

DAVID SHANLEY,
Honorary Secretary

PSYCHIATRY AT THE SCIENCE MUSEUM: AN APPEAL

The College has received the following letter from Dr. C. Lawrence of the Science Museum:

The Wellcome Museum of the History of Medicine is now on permanent loan to the Science Museum at South Kensington, where it will form the basis of a national medical collection. Two new galleries will open there in 1980 and 1981 to provide a permanent display of medical history. The collection, however, is relatively deficient in objects from about the last hundred years. The historian to the Museum is anxious to acquire any items connected with the history of psychiatry in this period. These need not necessarily be items of obvious value, and might be mundane objects, or printed ephemera, representative of asylum life. Similarly, objects relating to diagnosis and therapy such as psychological

tests or old ECT machines and leucotomy instruments would be of great interest. If original items cannot be spared photographs or photocopies are acceptable.

Any enquiries to: Dr. Christopher Lawrence, Historian, Wellcome Museum of the History of Medicine, Science Museum, London, SW7 2DD.

We should like to commend this appeal to our members and hope they will do all in their power to support the project.

DESMOND POND,
President
HENRY ROLLIN,
Honorary Librarian
ALEXANDER WALK,
Emeritus Honorary Librarian

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS

Honorary Fellowship; Regulation V,1

At its recent meeting on 21 March Council further amended the Regulation governing the election of Honorary Fellows as follows:

'Honorary Fellows may be elected at the Quarterly Meeting immediately preceding the Annual General

Meeting, or at the Annual Meeting, provided that they have been recommended by not less than six Members of the College (personal acquaintance not being requisite) and have been approved by not less than two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a meeting of the Court of Electors'.