

Divisional Activities

Irish Division

The Summer Quarterly Meeting of the Irish Division took place in St Brendan's Hospital, Dublin, on 2 July 1982.

The clinical programme consisted of two papers presented by registrars within the psychiatric service. Dr Ian Daly (St James's Hospital/St Patrick's Hospital, Dublin) reported on an incidence study of mania in Dublin which showed evidence of an increase. Dr Brian O'Shea (St Brendan's Hospital, Dublin) reviewed two interesting cases of Munchausen Syndrome. The papers were chaired by Dr James O'Boyle and Dr Charles Smith, respectively. Both papers provided lively discussion.

The Business Meeting was informed of the ongoing discussion with the Department of Health on matters relating to psychiatry. A statement prepared by the Executive on Integrated Nursing will be submitted to the National Press and Irish Medical Times. A proposal to form an Irish Psychiatric Association was discussed in detail. The functions of the Irish Psychiatric Association would be confined to matters pertaining to psychiatry in Ireland and when these cannot be effectively discharged by the Irish Division. This proposal was voted upon and adopted by the Irish Division.

The Annual Meeting of the Irish Division will take place on 29 October 1982 at St John of God's Hospital, Stillorgan, Co Dublin and the theme of the meeting will be 'Genetics in Psychiatry'.

DAVID SHANLEY
Honorary Secretary

Southern Division

This year the Southern Division held its Annual General Meeting on 17 June 1982 at Cane Hill Hospital as one of the events to mark the hospital's centenary.

The Division was welcomed by Dr Robert Doig, Senior Consultant Psychiatrist, on behalf of the Chairman of the Psychiatric Division, and after a conducted tour of the hospital the meeting was opened.

Dependence/Addiction Group

The Dependence/Addiction Group is attempting to build up a list of national courses in the field of alcoholism and addiction. The Group is seeking information on both formalized long and short courses, and is also interested in courses which are still only provisionally planned. The final list will be published in the *Bulletin* at a later date. Would you please send details to Dr M. I. Akhter, Secretary, Dependence/Addiction Group, All Saints Hospital, Lodge Road, Birmingham B18 5SD.

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Matters concerning the College were discussed—notably, the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, the administration of ECT and the recruitment and training of psychiatrists. The Division felt that there needed to be a careful balance between the training offered within the peripheral psychiatric hospitals and the various centres of excellence. The Chairman, Dr K. Hamadah, and Honorary Secretary, Dr K. A. O'Keeffe, together with the Executive Committee, were re-elected for a further year.

Lunch was provided, hospitality of Bromley District Health Authority.

In the afternoon a scientific meeting was held, with papers given as follows:

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| Dr G. Stein | —'The Baby Blues' |
| Dr J. Hewetson | —'The Future of the Camberwell Reception Centre' |
| Dr J. Bird | —'A Comparison of Coulsdon with the Confederacy' |
| Dr A. Walk | —'Cane Hill and Mental Health Policy—1882' |

Unfortunately, Dr Alexander Walk* was not well enough to attend the meeting and read his own paper which was read for him. Dr H. R. Rollin gave an eloquent account of Dr Walk's career and long attachment to Cane Hill Hospital.

The meeting closed with the Chairman being asked to send the Division's good wishes to Dr Walk and best wishes to Cane Hill Hospital for the next one hundred years.

The Division's now customary (when does a custom become a tradition?) Annual General Dinner was held later that evening at Dene Farm, Chipstead. Seventy members, with partners, enjoyed an excellent meal in pleasant surroundings.

Next year's Annual General Meeting is planned to mark the 150th Anniversary of Oakwood Hospital and will be held there on 16 June 1983, with the Dinner to be held that evening in Leeds Castle.

K. A. O'KEEFFE
Honorary Secretary

*It is regretted that Dr Walk died on 22 July.

An embarrassment of books?

Members of the College who are called upon to review books for our journal or, indeed, other journals, may be at a loss as to how to dispose of their copies. May I suggest to those so embarrassed that they offer them to the Library? In all probability we would make good use of them.

H. R. ROLLIN
Honorary Librarian