

staff together with colleagues in social work, clinical psychology, occupational therapy and nursing staff, including community psychiatric nurses.

There also needs to be adequate provision of secretarial help, particularly when there is likely to be a considerable amount of administration involved as in the development of

community facilities which require liaison with several other agencies. It is reasonable to expect that one session a week can be reserved for administrative duties.

The consultant would also expect to be provided with unshared, appropriately equipped, office space in at least one main clinical base.

Spring Quarterly Meeting, 1985

The Spring Quarterly Meeting was held at the University of Nottingham Medical School on 16 and 17 April 1985 under the Presidency of Dr Thomas Bewley.

BUSINESS MEETING

Honorary Fellows

The Registrar reported that, at the recent meeting of the Court of Electors, the following had been proposed for the Honorary Fellowship: Professor Peter Berner; Dr Donald Eric Broadbent, CBE; Professor Leon Eisenberg; Dr Max Meier Glatt; Dr Denis Leigh.

Registrar's Report

Firstly, I should like to report to you on two items that I raised in my report at the Winter Quarterly Meeting. I am sure you are all aware that the Chancellor of the Exchequer decided not to impose VAT on books and periodicals. I would like to thank the considerable number of College members who took up the Dean's request and wrote to their MPs opposing the proposal to do so.

The medical profession was less successful in preventing the Government from introducing the restricted list of drugs, the 'white list', on 1 April. However, the College remains firm in its intent to influence and modify the contents of this list. A small working party of the Public Policy Committee has been formed and they have recommended that a number of benzodiazepines are added to the white list (lormetazepam, loprazolam, flunitrazepam, flurazepam, bromazepam, clobazam (as anxiolytic), alprazolam). They have also recommended that *all* benzodiazepines should be available in hospitals and that any mechanism for review and alteration of the list should provide for a very prompt response. The College considers it essential that there should be a least one College representative on any review panel. These views have been forwarded to Mr Norman Fowler and a response is awaited.

Council met on 20 March and endorsed various reports from the Public Policy Committee which are now available from the College. These include comments on the DHSS Draft Circular on the Draft Code of Confidentiality of Personal Health Information, a report entitled 'The Preservation of Medical Records and Comments on the Oglesby Report (Review of Attendance and Mobility Allowance)'.

Council also endorsed the PPC statement on the closure of large psychiatric hospitals which opposed the move by

Regions and Districts to amalgamate residual long-stay populations from several hospitals into one remaining hospital. The statement will be published in the *Bulletin* [July 1985, 9, 146].

The College and the DHSS held a joint conference on Mental Health Service Planning in March. This concentrated on the implementation of a community-based service rather than service based in remote hospitals. The conference was a very interesting and worthwhile event and a report of the proceedings is now being prepared.

Since the last Quarterly Meeting the Court of Electors has approved 34 applications from Inceptors. Out of 338 candidates, 160 were successful in the Preliminary Test.

At the Annual General Meeting in 1983, amendments to the Bye-Laws were approved which recommended two new categories of membership, namely New Affiliates and New Associates. These amendments have now been approved by the Privy Council. A notice will be appearing in the *Bulletin* [July 1985, 9, 147] giving details about the procedure for applying. New Affiliates must be medically qualified but are not necessarily expected to be psychiatrists. New Associates must be non-medically qualified. The application goes to the Court of Electors and must be sponsored by two members of the College. The closing date for the first applications will be 30 September 1985 for consideration by the Court early in 1986.

The President has been re-elected for a further year in office as have all the Honorary Officers with the exception of the Honorary Librarian. Dr Henry Rollin has served as Honorary Librarian for ten years and is therefore due to retire in July. An election will be taking place shortly. Elections will also be taking place for vacancies on Council and on the Court of Electors.

The Annual Meeting this year will take place from 9 to 11 July at Imperial College, London. I have been concerned that many members have never had the opportunity to visit the College premises at 17 Belgrave Square. In order to remedy this we shall be organizing an 'At Home' on Monday, 8 July in the evening. I do hope that many of you will be able to attend this event.

Finally, I am sure you would like to join me in thanking Professor Cooper and all his staff in organizing such a successful and well-attended meeting.

R. G. PRIEST
Registrar