

tative until the next election. No Inceptor or Senior Trainee will be eligible to stand for election more than twice in the same category.

The junior representatives from each Division will then come together to form the Collegiate Trainees Committee. Their brief will be to consider and advise Council on all matters affecting training and trainees in psychiatry.

It is suggested that the Committee will normally meet at the same time as College Quarterly and Annual Meetings. The Dean and Sub-Dean will be ex-officio members and the Affiliate representatives on Council will be co-opted to the Committee. The Committee is to elect from amongst its junior representative members three Officers, namely a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary, each of whom will hold office for two years; one of these Officers must be a Senior Trainee. The three Officers will sit on Council, and a Senior Trainee who is an Officer of the Committee will sit on Council's Executive and Finance Committee.

An elected representative of the Committee will sit on each of the Standing Committees and the Specialist Section Executive Committees. On all bodies of the College on which junior representatives sit they will have equal voting and other rights to the other committee members. Alternates are permitted

provided that they are elected members of the Collegiate Trainees Committee.

It is not proposed to alter the representation of Affiliates by co-option of one or two of their number on Council, but the emphasis on trainee representation will now clearly be by the new procedures and it is hoped that these changes will give trainees a more influential role in the College structure. The Bye-law disallowing renewal of registration for the Inceptorship after the age of forty has been deleted, as have the Bye-laws which state that the class of Inceptorship should vanish in 1981 and that the register of Inceptors can be closed at the end of any College year. From now on Inceptors will be allowed to attend all rather than only scientific meetings of the College, though without voting rights. The annual subscription for Inceptors remains low (currently £10) and for this they also receive the *Journal* and *Bulletin*.

It is expected that the Collegiate Trainees Committee will come into being soon after the Annual Meeting in July.

Times change with the change of personnel on committees: I hope today's trainees will recognize that the new committee has been constituted after full discussion with and agreement from the Trainees Working Party and the Association of Psychiatrists in Training. The former has committed suicide to be reborn: APIT lives on.

JOHN R. HAMILTON.

THE COLLEGE AND THE GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL

The College's Appointed Member

Under the new arrangements for the reconstituted General Medical Council the Royal College of Psychiatrists will be entitled to appoint a member. At its meeting on 14 March 1979 the College Council agreed that the following procedure would be adopted for the appointment of this member.

Fellows and Members of the College are eligible for appointment, and the name of any Member or Fellow willing to be appointed should be forwarded to the College, supported by the signatures of six Fellows or Members and accompanied by the nominee's consent. All members of the College have already been notified of this procedure and have been asked to submit any nominations by Friday 15 June 1979.

In the event of there being more than one nomination Council will elect the College appointed member either at its meeting on 20 June 1979 or by postal ballot of Council members immediately thereafter. The person elected will be invited to attend

future Council meetings if he or she is not already a Council member.

Because of the timing of the General Medical Council elections and the considerable cost of conducting a postal ballot of the full membership of the College, Council has agreed to this system, but the procedure will be reviewed before the next appointment in five years time.

Elected Members

In addition to the appointed members the General Medical Council will also have members elected by the whole medical profession. Among those standing for election will be Sir Denis Hill, and the College Council has agreed to recommend to members of the College that he should be supported. If any other member of the College is standing for election I would be glad to hear from him so that his name can be recorded in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

GERALD TIMBURY
Registrar