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Association and College rules and charters

The initial rules for the newly founded Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane were drawn up by Dr Samuel Hitch, the Founder and first Secretary. These were revised in 1855. In 1890 the Association (now the Medico Psychological Association) petitioned to be allowed a Royal prefix. Having failed to receive royal recognition it was registered as an Incorporated Association in 1895. In 1925, following a petition to become a Royal Association, conditional assent was given. In 1926 the Association received its first Royal Charter. In 1971 following long, tortuous and difficult negotiations (described in Chapters 6 and 7) the Association became a Royal College with a new Charter.

INITIAL RULES OF ASSOCIATION (1841)

The aims of the Association and College have hardly changed between the initial meeting in 1841 and 1971 when the College was founded. The first rules drafted by Dr Hitch were accepted by the five other founding members. At that meeting it was resolved that ‘an Association be formed of the Medical Officers attached to Hospitals for the Insane, whose objects shall be:

‘Improvement in the management of such institutions and the treatment of the insane; and the acquirement of a more extensive and more correct knowledge of insanity.

That the medical gentlemen attached to hospitals for the insane be individually addressed and requested to join the Association.

That by the members of this Association the terms ‘Lunatic’ and ‘Lunatic Asylum’ be abandoned, except for legal purposes, and that the terms ‘insane person’ and ‘hospital for the insane’ be substituted.

That to effect the great objects of this Association, visits be made annually to one or more of the Hospitals for the Insane in the United Kingdom; and that the order of rotation in which such visits shall be made, be determined at the general meetings.

That the concurrence of the Governors of the several hospitals, to this arrangement, be solicited by the respective Medical officers.

That at its meetings the Association ascertain and record, as far as possible, the medical and moral treatment adopted in each Hospital.

That to ensure a correct comparison of the results of treatment in each it is strongly recommended that uniform registers be kept, and that tabular statements upon a like uniform plan be circulated with the Annual Report of each hospital; or when this be not practicable, that it be otherwise transmitted to the Association.

That at the meetings papers and essays be read; subjects of interest to the insane and to the Association be discussed, and information communicated and that a copy or minutes of these be preserved in the Journal of the Association.

That at the Annual Meetings the Senior Medical Officer of the Hospitals visited be Chairman.

That a Secretary be appointed to keep the Journals, papers, etc. of the Association, and to perform the usual duties of such officer.'

REVISED RULES (1855)

These initial rules remained in place, with occasional amendments made at annual general meetings until 1854 when a Revision Committee was formed with J. Thurnam, M.D. as Secretary. They presented their draft rules to the AGM on 19 July 1855 and these were accepted.

1. *Objects.* – That the objects of the Association shall be the improvement of asylums and hospitals for the insane; the acquisition and diffusion of a more extended knowledge of insanity and its treatment; and the promotion of a free communication on these subjects between the Members.

2. *Members.* – That the Association do consist of medical officers of hospitals and asylums for the insane, public and private, and of legally qualified medical practitioners, otherwise engaged in the treatment of insanity.

3. *Election of Members.* – That the election of Members do take place by ballot at the annual meetings, a majority of two-thirds of those present being required for the election of each candidate.

4. *Annual Subscription.* – That each Member pay an annual subscription of one guinea, the subscription to be due in advance, on the 1st of July in each year; the accounts to be made up to the 30th of June.

5. *Arrears.* – That any member in arrear of his subscription more than twelve months after the expiration of the year for which it becomes due, and more than three months after application by the Secretary for the same, shall cease to be considered a Member of the Association, provided no reason satisfactory to the annual meeting be assigned for the non-payment of such arrears.

6. *Honorary Members.* – That gentlemen, whether of the medical profession or otherwise, who are distinguished by the interest they take in the erection and management of asylums and the proper treatment of the insane, be eligible for election as honorary Members, the election to be by ballot as in the case of ordinary members.
7. *Officers.* – That the officers of the Association do consist of a President, Treasurer, General Secretary, a Secretary for Scotland, a Secretary for Ireland, the Editor of the Journal, and two Auditors, who shall be elected at each annual meeting.
8. *President.* – That the President for the year do enter on his duties at each annual meeting, and that his successor be appointed before the meeting separates.
9. *Other Officers.* – That the Treasurer and Secretaries, Editor of the Journal, and one Auditor be eligible for re-election.
10. *Annual Meetings.* – That an annual meeting of the Association be held on one of the Thursdays in July in each year, at one o'clock; such meetings to be called both by advertisement and circular to each Member, giving at least two week's notice.
11. *Committee.* – That the officers of the Association, with the President elect and the President of the past year, do constitute a Committee, with power to add to their number, which shall meet at twelve o'clock on the day of each annual meeting, in order to arrange the business of the day.
12. *Place of Meeting.* – That the annual meeting be held either in London, or, if so agreed at the preceding meeting, or after circular to each Member, in some provincial town or city where, or in the neighbourhood of which there is a public asylum, or where some other object is likely to attract the Members.
13. *Adjournment of Meetings.* – That the annual meetings may be adjourned to a second day, if a majority of those present so decide.
14. *Order of Business.* – That after the minutes of the preceding meeting have been read, and the ordinary business transacted, reports from Members appointed to prepare the same, and other papers and communications shall be received, and free discussion be invited on all topics connected with the objects of the Association. Each Member to be allowed to introduce one Visitor at the meeting. A report of the proceedings of each meeting to be published in the Asylum Journal.
15. *Finance and Asylum Journal.* – That after the payment of the ordinary expenses of the Association, the surplus funds shall be appropriated in aid of the Asylum Journal, published by authority of the Association; the accounts of the Editor of the said Journal and of the Treasurer of the Association shall be examined by two Auditors, who shall report to each annual meeting. Each ordinary Member of the Association to be entitled to receive the said publication without further payment.
16. *Register of Cases.* – That to insure a correct comparison of the results of treatment in the several institutions, it is strongly recommended to those Members who have the superintendence of public asylums to keep registers of the cases admitted, according

to the form agreed on, at a meeting of the Association held at Lancaster in 1842; and to append to their respective annual reports, tabular statements on, as far as possible, a like uniform plan.

N.B. Copies of these registers, which were printed at the charge of the Association, may still be obtained at cost price, on application to the Secretary from Mr Simpson, Bookseller, York.

17. *Disuse of Obsolete Terms.* – That by Members of the Association such terms as ‘lunatic’ and ‘lunatic asylum’ be as far as possible disused, and that except for official or legal purposes the terms ‘insane person’ and ‘asylum’ or ‘hospital for the insane’ be substituted; and that generally all terms having an opprobrious origin or application in connection with the insane be disused and discouraged.

18. *Alteration of Rules.* – That any member wishing to propose any alteration in, or addition to the rules, do give notice of his intention at a previous annual meeting, or give a month’s notice to the Secretary, who shall inform each Member of the Association of the same, in the circular by which such meeting is called.

(Signed) JOHN THURNAM, President.

These rules, with minor amendments at Annual General Meetings, continued until the 1890’s, when the Association sought to become a Royal Medico Psychological Association. Their request was refused, and as an alternative, having failed to receive Royal recognition, the Association was registered as an Incorporated Association under the Companies Act (1862-1893) on 30 July 1895.

Memorandum of Association of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland (1895)

- I. The name of the Association is ‘The Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland’.
- II. The registered Office of the Association will be situated in England.
- III. The objects for which the Association is established are the promotion and cultivation of science in relation to mental disorder, the improvement in the treatment of the insane, the promotion of good-fellowship amongst the Members of the Association, and the maintenance of the honour and the interests of the Members of the Association and of the medical profession generally in its relation to mental disorder, and allied objects, by the aid of all or any of the following, *videlicet*:

- (a) The taking over of the whole of the assets and liabilities of the unincorporated Association known as The Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, established in 1841, which may lawfully be transferred to the Association.
- (b) Periodical or other meetings of the Members of the Association and conferences with other Associations whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (c) The publication of such information as may be thought desirable in the form of a periodical Journal which shall be the Journal of the Association or otherwise.
- (d) The printing, publishing, translating, selling, lending, and distributing of any books, pamphlets, or treatises on or connected with science in relation to mental disorder, or with the treatment of the insane, or with allied sciences, and the causing translations into any language to be made of any such books, pamphlets, or treatises, and the printing, publishing, selling, lending, and distributing the same in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (e) The making of any expenditure the Association may think fit for sending and maintaining in any part of the United Kingdom or elsewhere any person or persons chosen by the Association for the investigation of science in relation to mental disorder or of the treatment of the insane, or of allied subjects, the convening of meetings and inviting thereto any person or persons desired by the Association, for discussing and promoting the objects of the Association, and the sending and defraying the expenses of representatives of the Association to any meetings convened for similar objects in any part of the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and for making experiments and observations on subjects connected with insanity.
- (f) The consideration of all questions affecting the interests of the Association and of the medical profession generally in its relation to mental disorder, the treatment of the insane and allied subjects, the petitioning of Parliament, or the promotion of deputations in regard to measures affecting the objects for which the Association is established, and the promotion of improvements in the principles or administration of the law relating to mental disorder, the treatment of the insane, and allied subjects.
- (g) The grants of sums of money out of the funds of the Association for the promotion of the objects of the Association in such manner as may be from time to time determined on.
- (h) The promotion and encouragement of the study of science in relation to mental disorder, of the scientific treatment of the insane, and of allied subjects:- (1) by the provision, institution, and maintenance of lectures, classes, examinations, and other means of instruction therein upon such terms and conditions, and upon payment of such fees as the Association may from time to time determine by regulations or otherwise; provided always that the surplus of such payments over the expenditure necessary for the provision, institution and maintenance of such means of instruction shall be devoted to such of the objects of the Association as may be deemed expedient; and (2) by the institution, maintenance, and grant of scholarships, prizes, certificates, or other awards or distinctions, on such terms

and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by regulation or otherwise.

- (i) The amalgamation or entry into Partnership or any joint purse arrangement with any Association in the United Kingdom, established for purposes similar to and under restrictions as to the application of income and property identical with those for and under which this Association is established.
 - (j) The establishment or promotion of branches or local divisions of the Association, whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
 - (k) The provision, if the Association think fit, of legal assistance to Members of the Association in enforcing or defending their legal rights, whether under the Lunacy Acts or otherwise, if and so far as such assistance may be lawfully afforded, having regard to the laws against maintenance.
 - (l) Subject to the provisions of the 21st Section of the Companies Act of 1862, the acquisition by purchase, taking on lease, or otherwise, of lands and buildings, and of all other property real or personal which the Association for the purposes thereof may, from time to time, think proper to acquire, and which may lawfully be held by them, the reselling, underleasing, subletting, surrendering, turning to account or disposing of any such property, or any part thereof, the erection of any such land of any building for the purposes of the Association, and the alteration of or addition to any building erected upon any such land.
 - (m) The borrowing and raising of money for the purposes of the Association and the securing of the repayment thereof by bonds, debentures, mortgages, or other securities, or in such other manner as may be determined, and for this purpose the mortgaging or charging of all or any of the property of the Association.
 - (n) The doing of all such other lawful things are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects. And that in case the Association shall take or hold any property subject to the jurisdiction of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, the Association shall not sell, mortgage, charge or lease such property without such consent as may be required by law; and as regards any such property, the Managers or Trustees of the Association shall be chargeable for such property as may come into their hands, and shall be answerable and accountable for their own acts, receipts, neglects and defaults, and for the due administration of such property in the same manner and to the same extent as they would, as such Managers or Trustees, have been if no incorporation had been effected, and the incorporation of the Association shall not diminish or impair any control or authority exercisable by the Chancery Division or the Charity Commissioners over such Managers or Trustees; but they shall, as regards any such property, be subject jointly and separately to such control and authority as if the Association were not incorporated.
- IV. The income and property of the Association, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the Members of the Association, provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in

- good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Association or to any Member thereof or other person in return for any services actually rendered to the Association, or the payment of interest at any rate not exceeding five per cent. per annum on money borrowed from any Member of the Association, or be deemed to exclude any Member of the Association from the benefit of any grant made in furtherance of the objects of the Association.
- V. The fourth paragraph of this Memorandum is a condition on which a licence is granted by the Board of Trade to the Association in pursuance of Section 23 of the Companies Act, 1867.
- VI. If any Member of the Association pays or receives any dividend, bonus, or other profit in contravention of the terms of the fourth paragraph of this Memorandum his liability shall be unlimited.
- VII. Every Member of the Association undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Association in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is a Member, or within one year afterwards for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a Member, and of the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up the same, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories amongst themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding one guinea, or in case of his liability becoming unlimited, such other amount as may be required in pursuance of the last preceding paragraph of this Memorandum.
- VIII. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other Institution or Institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Association, to be determined by the Members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution, or in default thereof by such Judge of the High Court of Justice as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.
- IX. True accounts shall be kept of the sums of money received and expended by the Association, and the matter in respect of which such receipt and expenditure takes place, and of the property, credits and liabilities of the Association; and, subject to any reasonable restrictions as to the time and manner of inspecting the same that may be imposed, in accordance with the regulations of the Association for the time being, shall be open to the inspection of the Members. Once, at least, in every year the accounts of the Association shall be examined, the correctness of the balance-sheet ascertained by one or more properly qualified Auditor or Auditors.

We, the several persons whose names and addresses are subscribed, are desirous of being formed into an Association in pursuance of this memorandum of Association in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

Names, Addresses, and Descriptions of Subscribers,

DAVID NICHOLSON,
Broadmoor Asylum,

Wokingham, Berks,
Doctor of Medicine

HERBERT RAYNER,
Upper Terrace House,
Hampstead, Middlesex
Doctor of Medicine

HERBERT FRANCIS HAYES NEWINGTON
The Tables, Ticehurst, Sussex
Member of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh

CONOLLY NORMAN
Richmond District Lunatic Asylum,
Dublin
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland

DAVID YELLOWLEES,
Gartnavel,
Glasgow
Doctor of Medicine

THOMAS SMITH CLOUSTON,
Royal Asylum,
Edinburgh
Doctor of Medicine

GEORGE FIELDING BLANDFORD
48, Wimpole Street,
London,
Doctor of Medicine

FLETCHER BEACH
64, Welbeck Street,
London,
Doctor of Medicine

Dated this twenty-sixth day of July, One thousand eight hundred and ninety-five.

Witness to the above signatures,
CHARLES WIGAN,
3, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London,
Solicitor

CHARTER OF ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (1926)

In 1926 the Association received their first Charter having successfully petitioned to become the 'Royal Medico Psychological Association'. In September 1925 the Association had received conditional approval to add the word Royal to their title. The new Charter was dated 13 March 1926.

George the Fifth by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India;

To all to whom these presents shall come, GREETING:

WHEREAS in the year One thousand eight hundred and forty-one an unincorporated Association known as The Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland was formed for the promotion and cultivation of science in relation to mental disorder and the care and treatment of the insane:

AND WHEREAS on the Ninth day of September One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five we were pleased to grant to the said Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland permission to use the prefix 'Royal' and we commanded that the said Association should thenceforth be known as 'The Royal Medico-Psychological Association':

AND WHEREAS the said Voluntary Association now existing and known as The Royal Medico-Psychological Association hath petitioned us for a Charter of Incorporation such as is in and by these presents granted:

AND WHEREAS we are minded to comply with the Prayer of such Petitioner:

NOW, THEREFORE, We, by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative in that behalf, and of all other powers enabling Us so to do of our Special Grace, certain knowledge and mere motion do hereby, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, will, grant, direct, appoint, and declare to the said Voluntary Association as follows:

1. The persons now Members of the said Voluntary Association known as The Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and all such persons as may hereafter become Members of the Body Corporate hereby constituted pursuant to or by virtue of the powers granted by these Presents, and their Successors, shall for ever hereafter (so long as they continue to be such Members) BE by virtue of these Presents one body Corporate and Politic by the name of 'The Royal Medico-Psychological Association' and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with power to break, alter, and make anew the said Seal from time to time at their will and pleasure, and by the same name shall and may implead and be impleaded in all Courts, and in all manner of actions and suits, and shall have power to do all other matters and things incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate.

2. We do also hereby, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, license, authorize, and for ever hereafter enable The Royal Medico-Psychological Association hereby incorporated, or any person on its behalf, to acquire for the purposes of the Association any lands, tenements, or hereditaments whatsoever within our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, not exceeding in the whole the annual value of five hundred pounds (to be determined according to the value thereof at the time when the same are respectively acquired) and to hold the same in perpetuity and from time to time to grant, demise, alienate or otherwise dispose of the same or any part thereof.
3. And We do hereby also, for Us, Our Heirs, and Successors, give and grant Our Licence to any person or persons and any Body Politic or Corporate to assure in perpetuity, or to demise to or for the benefit of The Royal Medico-Psychological Association (hereinafter called 'the Association') any lands, tenements or hereditaments whatsoever within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, so as the same do not exceed at any one time the annual value aforesaid.
4. The objects and purposes for which the Association is hereby constituted are for the promotion and cultivation of science in relation to mental disease and the improvement in the treatment of persons suffering from mental disorder and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas on those subjects amongst the members of the Association and otherwise and for that purpose –
 - (A) To hold periodical and other Meetings of the Association and conferences with other Associations whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
 - (B) To publish such information as may be thought desirable in the form of a periodical journal.
 - (C) To print, publish, translate, sell, lend, and distribute any books, pamphlets, or treatises on or connected with science in relation to mental disease, or with the treatment of persons suffering from mental disorder, or with allied sciences, and to cause translations into any language to be made of any such books, pamphlets, or treatises, and to print, publish, sell, lend, and distribute the same in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
 - (D) To make any expenditure which the Association may think fit for sending and maintaining in any part of the United Kingdom or elsewhere any person or persons chosen by the Association for the investigation of science in relation to mental disease, or of the treatment of all persons suffering from mental disorder, or of allied subjects, the convening of Meetings, and inviting thereto any person or persons desired by the Association, for discussing and promoting the objects of the Association, and for sending and defraying the expenses of representatives of the Association to any Meetings convened for similar objects in any part of the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and for making researches and observations on subjects connected with psychological medicine.
 - (E) The consideration of all questions affecting the interests of the Association and of the medical profession generally in its relation to mental disease, the treatment of persons suffering from mental disorder and allied subjects, the petitioning of Parliament, or the promotion of deputations in regard to measures affecting the objects for which the Association is established, and the promotion of improvements in the principles or administration of the law

relating to mental disease, the treatment of persons suffering from mental disorder, and allied subjects.

- (F) To grant sums of money out of the funds of the Association for the promotion of the objects of the Association in such manner as may be from time to time determined on.
 - (G) To promote and encourage the study of science in relation to mental disease, of the scientific treatment of persons suffering from mental disorder, and of allied subjects:-
 - (1) By the provision, institution, and maintenance of lectures, classes, examinations and other means of instruction therein upon such terms and conditions, and upon payment of such fees as the Association may from time to time determine by regulations or otherwise: provided always that the surplus of such payments over the expenditure necessary for the provision, institution and maintenance of such means of instruction shall be devoted to such of the objects of the Association as may be deemed expedient; and
 - (2) By the institution, maintenance, and grant of scholarships, prizes, certificates, or other awards, or distinctions, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by regulation or otherwise.
 - (H) To establish, or promote branches or local divisions of the Association, whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
 - (I) To provide, if the Association think fit, legal assistance to members of the Association in enforcing or defending their legal rights, whether under the Lunacy Acts or otherwise, if and so far as such assistance may be lawfully afforded, having regard to the laws against maintenance.
 - (J) To borrow and raise money for the purposes of the Association and to secure the repayment thereof by bonds, debentures, mortgages, or other securities, or in such other manner as may be determined, and for this purpose to mortgage or charge all or any of the property of the Association.
5. The Association shall not carry on any trade or business or engage in any transaction with a view to the pecuniary gain or profit of the members thereof. No Member shall have any personal claim on any property of the Association or make any profit out of his membership, except in the case of and as a salaried Officer of the Association.
6. There shall be a Council of the Association consisting of the Officers of the Association and of such number of Members with such qualifications and to be elected or constituted as such members of Council in such manner and to hold office for such period, and on such terms as to re-election, and otherwise, as the Bye-laws for the time being of the Association shall direct.
7. The Association shall have such Officers, with such functions, tenure, and terms of office, as the Bye-laws of the Association may prescribe and such other Officers and Servants as the Council of the Association may from time to time appoint.
8. Among the Officers of the Association there shall be a President, a President-elect, an Ex-President, a Treasurer and a General Secretary The said Officers shall be nominated and elected in such manner, and shall hold office for such period, and on

- such terms as to re-election and otherwise, as the Bye-laws for the time being of the Association shall direct.
9. The Council shall have the management and control of the Association and its affairs subject to the provisions of these presents and to the Bye-laws of the Association, and may subject as aforesaid do all such things as appear to the Council to be necessary or expedient for giving effect to the objects of the Association. The business of the Council shall be conducted in such manner as the Council may prescribe.
 10. Unless and until the Bye-laws of the Association shall otherwise provide there shall be three classes of Members of the Association, namely: (A) Ordinary Members, (B) Honorary members, and (C) Corresponding Members. The Members of the said Voluntary Association, the Royal Medico-Psychological Association who by virtue of these Presents become Members of the Association shall be deemed to have entered the Association as Members of the same class as that to which they belonged in the said Voluntary Association.
 11. The qualifications, method and terms of admission, privileges, and obligations, including liability for expulsion or suspension of Members of each of the said classes respectively, shall be such as the Bye-laws for the time being of the Association shall direct.
 12. A General Meeting of the members of the Association entitled under the Bye-laws to be present and vote thereat shall have power from time to time to make such Bye-laws of the Association as to them shall seem requisite and convenient for the regulation, government, and advantage of the Association, its Members and property, and for the furtherance of the objects and purposes of the Association, and from time to time to revoke, alter or amend any Bye-law theretofore made so that the same be not repugnant to those Presents or to the Laws and Statutes of this our Realm: Provided that no such Bye-law, revocation, alteration, or amendment shall take effect until the same shall have been allowed by the Lords of Our Privy Council of which allowance a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
 13. The first Bye-laws to be made under these Presents shall be made by a General Meeting of the Members of the Association entitled to be present and vote thereat within the period of six months from the date of these Presents, unless the Lords of Our Privy Council shall see fit to extend such period, of which extension the Certificate of the Clerk of Our Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
 14. Pending the making and approval of the Bye-laws to be made under these Presents but no longer the Articles of Association of the existing Voluntary Association known as The Royal Medico-Psychological Association and the Bye-laws made thereunder shall be the Bye-laws of the Association, and shall have effect as though the Association, its Officers and Members, had therein been referred to throughout in lieu of the said Voluntary Association, its Officers and Members.
 15. The property and moneys of the Voluntary Association known as The Royal Medico-Psychological Association shall from the date of these Presents become and be deemed to be the property and moneys of the Association and shall as soon as may be

formally transferred to the Association or such person or persons on its behalf as the Bye-laws may prescribe.

16. And We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, Grant and Declare that these Our Letters Patent or the enrolment or exemplification thereof shall be in all things good, firm, valid and effectual according to the true intent and meaning of the same and shall be taken, construed and adjudged in all Our Courts or elsewhere in the most favourable and beneficial sense and for the best advantage of the said Association, any mis-recital, non-recital, omission, defect, imperfection, matter or thing whatsoever notwithstanding.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourselves at Westminster the 13th day of March in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six and in the sixteenth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER the King's Sign Manual.

CHARTER OF ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS (1971)

The metamorphosis of the Association into a College took many years and this is discussed in detail in Chapters 7 and 7. The Royal College of Psychiatrists finally came into existence under a new Charter on 16 June 1971 which remains, with modifications and amendments its Charter today.

Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING

WHEREAS His Majesty King George the Fifth in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six by Royal Charter dated the thirteenth day of March in the sixteenth year of His Reign (hereinafter referred to as 'the original Charter') constituted a Body Corporate and Politic by the name of 'The Royal Medico-Psychological Association' (hereinafter referred to as 'the Association') with perpetual succession and a Common Seal:

AND WHEREAS the Association has presented a humble Petition unto Us praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant it a Supplemental Charter:

NOW THEREFORE Know Ye that We having taken the said petition into Our Royal Consideration by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and declared and by these Presents do for Us, our Heirs and Successors grant and declare as follows:

1. The provisions of the original Charter save in so far as they incorporate the Association and authorise it to have a Common Seal and to sue and be sued are hereby revoked; provided that anything which may have been done prior to such revocation under and by virtue of the original Charter shall continue to have full force and effect as if the said provisions had not been revoked.
2. The Association shall henceforth be known by the name of 'The Royal College of Psychiatrists' (hereinafter referred to as 'the College').
3. (1) the objects and purposes for which the College is constituted are to
 - (a) advance the science and practice of psychiatry and related subjects;
 - (b) further public education therein;
 - (c) promote study and research work in psychiatry and all sciences and disciplines connected with the understanding and treatment of mental disorder in all its forms and aspects and related subjects and publish the results of all such study and research.
- (2) For the purpose of attaining the aforesaid objects but not further or otherwise as the College may exercise the following powers:-
 - (a) To encourage and promote amongst its members and others the exchange of knowledge, information, experience, and ideas relating thereto and to related subjects, sciences and disciplines;
 - (b) to encourage and promote amongst its members and others working in allied and related sciences and disciplines the achievement and maintenance of the highest possible standards of professional competence and practice;
 - (c) to act as a consultative body in relation to matters of public and professional interest concerning psychiatry and the treatment of mental disorder in all its forms and aspects and to give consideration to improved methods of hospital and other medical administration, medical education and training, nursing administration, education and training;
 - (d) to promote and to encourage the promotion of new measures leading to improved methods of prevention and treatment;
 - (e) to hold examinations and to institute and maintain lectures, classes and other means of instruction, education and training;
 - (f) to institute, maintain and grant scholarships, prizes, certificates and other awards and distinctions;
 - (g) to elect to Fellowship Members of high qualification and standing in the profession of psychiatry with particular regard to their contributions to the

greater knowledge and understanding of the various matters comprised in the objects and purposes of the College;

- (h) to hold periodical and other meetings of Members of the College and others and conferences with other bodies whether in Our United Kingdom or elsewhere;
- (i) to print, publish, translate, sell, lend and distribute information, whether in the form of a periodical journal or journals or of books, monographs, treatises, pamphlets or otherwise and to cause translations into any language to be made of journals, books, monographs, treatises, pamphlets or other publications and to print, publish, sell, lend and distribute the same in Our United Kingdom and elsewhere;
- (j) to defray the cost of sending to and maintaining in any part of Our United Kingdom or elsewhere any person or persons chosen by the College for the purpose of study, investigation or research, of convening meetings, and of inviting thereto any person or persons, whether or not members of the College, and of enabling representatives of the College to attend meetings convened by other bodies in any part of Our United Kingdom or elsewhere and to make studies, researches and observations on subjects connected with or allied to the objects of the College;
- (k) to consider, pronounce and make representations upon all questions affecting the interests of the College and of the medical profession generally in its relation to the College, and the objects of the College, including the promotion of improvements in the principles and administration of the law relating to mental disorder and to the treatment of persons suffering from mental and connected illnesses;
- (l) to establish and promote Regional Divisions and Specialist Sections of the College;
- (m) to grant sums of money out of funds of the College for the purposes or for the promotion of any of the objects of the College;
- (n) to borrow and raise money for the purposes or for the promotion of any of the objects of the College and to secure the repayment thereof by bond, debentures, mortgages or other securities or otherwise howsoever, and for such purpose to mortgage or charge all or any of the assets of the College;
- (o) to do all such other things as shall further the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

4. Save so far as may be necessary for giving effect to the objects of the College as set forth in this Our Supplemental Charter, the College shall not carry on any trade or business or engage in any transaction with a view to the pecuniary gain or profit of the members thereof. The income and assets of the College, from whatever source derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its said objects and no portion thereof shall (save as in this Our Supplemental Charter provided) be paid or transferred, directly

or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any of its members; provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred at the request or on behalf of the College or the payment in good faith of reasonable remuneration to any officers or servants of the College, or to any member thereof, in return for services actually rendered to the College; provided further that save as herein elsewhere set out no Officer or member of the Council of the College shall be appointed by or on behalf of the College to any salaried office or to any office remunerated by fees (including in particular the office of examiner) if such salary is or fees are paid by or on behalf of the College, and that no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be given by or on behalf of the College to any officer or member of the Council except by way of repayment of out-of-pocket expenses.

5. Notwithstanding anything in this our Supplemental Charter contained the College may pay such remuneration to any Officer or member of the Council as would be paid to any other Member of the College if such Officer or member of the Council is:-

- (i) appointed to the Maudsley lectureship, the Blake Marsh lectureship or any lectureship which may be specially approved for the purpose by an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the College;
- (ii) appointed editor of, or commissioned to write articles for, the 'Handbook for Mental Deficiency Nursing', or any similar handbook which may be specially approved for the purpose by an Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting of the College;
- (iii) elected by open competition to any scholarship or prize of the College which may be specially approved for the purpose by an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the College; or
- (iv) commissioned to write an article or to conduct an item of study or research of a character which may be specially approved for the purpose by an Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of the College.

6. There shall be a Council of the College consisting of the Officers of the College and of such number of Members of the College with such qualifications and to be elected or constituted members of the Council in such manner and to hold office for such period, and on such terms as to re-election and otherwise, as the Bye-Laws shall prescribe; provided that the Bye-Laws may make provision, subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be prescribed therein, for the co-option to the Council (but without the power to vote) of persons not otherwise hereby qualified to serve thereon.

7. There shall be a Court of Electors consisting of such Officers and other Members of the College, who shall be nominated and elected in such manner, and shall hold office for such period or periods, and on such terms as to re-election and otherwise, as the Bye-laws may prescribe. Subject to the provisions of the Bye-Laws, the Court of Electors shall appoint examiners, hold examinations, including in particular the examination for admission to Membership, and make any regulations necessary for the conduct thereof, including the specification of standards of training and experience required for candidates, elect to membership and to Fellowship and exercise such further powers (including disciplinary powers and powers to order the

removal from the appropriate register of the name of any person) subject to such conditions and in such manner as the Bye-laws shall prescribe.

8. The College shall have such Officers, who shall exercise such powers and functions and who shall be nominated and elected in such manner, and shall hold office for such period or periods and on such terms as to re-election and otherwise as the Bye-laws may prescribe.
9. The Council may from time to time appoint such Patron or Patrons of the College as may accept the invitation of the Council to take such appointment.
10. Subject to the provisions of this Our Supplemental Charter and of the Bye-laws the Council shall have the management and control of the affairs of the College and the business of the Council shall be conducted in such manner as the Council may prescribe.
11. There shall be such classes of Members of and persons otherwise associated with the College as the Bye-laws may prescribe. The qualifications, method and terms of admission, privileges and obligations, nature of and grounds for disciplinary action and for removal from the appropriate register of the name of any member or other person associated with the College as aforesaid shall be such as the Bye-laws may prescribe.
12. A General or Special Meeting of the Members of the College entitled under the Bye-laws shall have power by a Resolution approved by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting from time to time to make Bye-laws for the regulation and government of the College, its Members and its assets, and generally for the furtherance of its objects, and from time to time to revoke or amend any Bye-law theretofore made, so however that any such Bye-law, revocation or amendment be not repugnant to this Our Supplemental Charter; provided that no such Bye-law, revocation or amendment shall take effect until the same shall have been approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence. As from the date of this Our Supplemental Charter, and until such time as they may be revoked or amended as herein provided, the Bye-laws shall be those set out in the Schedule hereto.
13. The College may by Resolution amend, revoke or add to any of the provisions of the original Charter or this Our Supplemental Charter provided that such amendment, revocation or addition shall not enable the funds of the College to be applied for non-charitable purposes, and also provided that notice of the intention to propose such Resolution at a meeting of the Council shall have been given in writing to each member of the Council not less than twenty-one days prior to the holding of such meeting and such proposed Resolution shall have been approved by a simple majority of the members of the Council present and voting at such meeting; and further provided that such Resolution be thereupon considered at a General Meeting of the Members of the College, in respect of which not less than twenty-one days notice in writing shall have been given, and there approved by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting; and such amendment, addition or revocation shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual so that the original Charter and this Our Supplemental Charter shall

thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made accordingly, so however that anything theretofore done under and by virtue of the original Charter or of this Our Supplemental Charter shall continue to have full force and effect as if the original Charter or this Our Supplemental Charter had not been amended or added to our revoked in manner aforesaid. And the provisions of this Article shall apply to the original Charter and to this Our Supplemental Charter as amended or added to or revoked in manner aforesaid.

14. The property and moneys of the Association shall, as soon as may be after the date of this Our Supplemental Charter, be formally transferred to the College or to such person or persons on its behalf as the Bye-laws may prescribe.

15. For the purposes of this Our Supplemental Charter the expressions following shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them:-

‘The Bye-laws’ mean and include the Bye-laws of the College for the time being and from time to time in force made, revoked or amended under and by virtue of Article 12 of this Our Supplemental Charter.

‘The Officers’, ‘The Council’ and ‘The Court of Electors’ respectively mean ‘The Officers of the College’, ‘The Council of the College’ and ‘The Court of Electors of the College’ for the time being and from time to time in office and ‘member of the Council’ and ‘members of the Court of Electors’ shall be construed accordingly.

‘The objects of the College’ mean the objects and purposes of the College as set out in Article 3(I) of this Our Supplemental Charter.

‘Psychiatry’ and ‘the science of psychiatry’ include the study of the nature, causes, prevention and treatment of abnormal conditions of the mind, including mental illness, disorder and abnormality, moral abnormality and sub-normal intelligence, and further include the prevention and treatment thereof.

‘General Meeting’ and ‘Special Meeting’ of the members of the College shall have such meanings as in the Bye-laws are assigned thereto.

16. And We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare that these our Letters or the enrolment of exemplification thereof shall be in all things good, firm, valid and effectual according to the true intent and meaning of the same and shall be taken, construed and adjudged in all Our Courts or elsewhere in the most favourable and beneficial sense and for the best advantage of the College, any mis-recital, non-recital, omission, defect, imperfection, matter or thing whatsoever notwithstanding.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the Sixteenth day of June in the Twentieth year of our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER the Queen’s sign manual.