mental handicap hospitals being established to ease overcrowding in large hospitals and enable patients to live nearer home, the Board has encouraged the joint training schemes and hopes to see them adopted more widely as other small units are opened. These schemes will ensure that nurses can be trained within the small hospitals themselves.

South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board

A £100,000 occupational and industrial therapy centre was recently opened at Royal Earlswood Hospital, Surrey. The centre is the first of six being built in the South West Metropolitan region to a standard design.

UNIVERSITY AND TEACHING HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS

St. George's Hospital Medical School

Clinical, research, and teaching activities are conducted by hospital and medical school staff who together comprise the hospital's Division of Psychiatry. There is a developing area commitment in South-West London based upon Springfield and Atkinson Morley's Hospitals, which will increase further with the completion of the new St. George's Hospital in Tooting, now being built. Undergraduate teaching in psychiatry incorporates a two-month clinical firm, liaison teaching with colleagues in other specialties, and preclinical and first year clinical courses. Postgraduate teaching is based upon three-year appointments at S.H.O./Registrar level with rotation between six firms with varied clinical interests, and additional experience in the general wards and in individual and group psychotherapy. This arrangement will enable a registrar to sit for D.P.M., M.R.C.Psych. and sometimes also M.Phil. by the end of his appointment.

In addition, child psychiatric out-patient services are offered to all sources of referral. Child psychiatry teaching is given to medical students during a two month paediatric firm, and to postgraduates at senior registrar level with rotation to Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton and/or a local authority clinic, providing experience with in-patients and all types of out-patient management including child psychotherapy under supervision.

Current department research reflects the different clinical emphases of the senior staff, and includes studies of nutrition, motility, and sleep in normal and psychiatric subjects, life events and a variety of psychological disorders, leucotomy, psychological treatments of phobic and sexual disorders, hypertension, and survey and epidemiological work. The major emphasis is on clinical and evaluative research.

University of Sheffield

Current areas of research activity include:

Examination of repression, sensitization dimension in family psychiatry.
Tattooed women.
Families of children with accidents.
A true occurrence of depression during treatment for hypertension.
Parental age in schizophrenia.
Sleep and memory.
Amnesic effect of diazepam.
Cognitive function in geriatric patients.
Autonomic responses in behaviour therapy.
Architecture and psychiatry.
Grids in the study of family interactions.
Biofeedback.
Women with psychosexual problems and their husbands.
Unilateral ECT and cerebral dominance: clinical and fundamental aspects.
Psycholinguistic studies in psychotic patients.
Enzyme induction and drug interaction with antidepressants.
Young depressed women at the V.D. Clinic.
Construct binding and depression.
Development of a rating scale for agoraphobia.

Biochemical and selected studies:

The biochemical and physiological effects of lithium.
The biochemistry of periodic psychosis.
Biochemical studies of inborn errors of metabolism.
The aetiology and treatment of the pre-menstrual syndrome.
An EEG study in periodic psychosis.
Changes in body water and electrolytes in depression and dementia by isotope techniques.
Creatine phosphokinase in manic depressive psychosis.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Mental Health Trust and Research Fund

The Fund's annual Sir Geoffrey Vickers Lecture for 1973 will be given by Dr. Eliot Slater. The Lecture is entitled 'Biological Differences and Social Justice', and will be held in the Edward Lewis Theatre, Middlesex Hospital Medical School, Cleveland Street, London, W.1 on Wednesday 21 February 1973, at 5.30 p.m. Tickets from the Hon. Secretary, Research Committee, Mental Health Trust and Research Fund, 8 Wimpole Street, W1M 8HY.

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Postgraduate Medical Institute, University of Salford

Professor J. K. Wing will give the Eli Lilley Lecture at the University of Salford at 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 24 January 1973. The title will be: 'Is Schizophrenia an Illness?'

The Chair will be taken by Dr. Hugh Freeman.

Further details from the Secretary, Postgraduate Medical Institute, University of Salford, M5 4W2.

Second International Conference on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence

This conference, which has been organized by the Merseyside Council on Alcoholism in conjunction with the University of Liverpool Department of Psychiatry, with the co-operation of the Merseyside Council on Drug Taking, the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, Lausanne, the Medical Council on Alcoholism, London, the Institute for the Study of Drug Addiction, New York, and the National Council on Alcoholism, will be held in Liverpool from 1–5 April 1973.

Further information and registrations forms from: Miss M. C. Smith, The Conference Secretary, 815 The Temple, Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 5RU.

Second Bi-Annual International Congress on Suicide Prevention

Sponsored by the International Association for Suicide Prevention.

Amsterdam, Holland: 27–30 August 1973.

Further information from: Mr. H. J. Van den Leek, c/o Free University, P.O. Box 7161, Amsterdam.

International Congress of Psychoanalysis

Paris: 22–27 July 1973.

Further information from: Organizing Committee, International Psychoanalytical Association, 49 Croftdown Road, London NW5 1EL.

Association for Medical Education in Europe

The first Conference of the Association, where President is Professor Henry Walton, will be held in November 1973, on 'Teaching Methods, Evaluation and the Setting of Objectives'. The Conference will consist of demonstrations of these procedures as developed in member countries.

Further information from: Dr. Rossner, Konung Gustaf V's Forskningsinstitut, 104 01 Stockholm 60, Sweden.

Hans Berger Centenary Symposium on Epilepsy

The Hans Berger Centenary Symposium on Epilepsy, organized by the Epilepsy Society of Edinburgh and S.E. Region in association with British Epilepsy Association, EEG Society, International Bureau for Epilepsy, International League Against Epilepsy (British Branch), MRC Brain Metabolism Unit, University of Edinburgh and Scottish Epilepsy Association, is to take place at the Appelton Tower, University of Edinburgh, George Square, Edinburgh from 1–5 July 1973.

The theme is to be 'The Natural History and Management of Epilepsy' and the programme will include separate sessions on 'Basic Mechanisms of Epilepsy' (neurophysiology, neurochemistry, neuropathology and neuropharmacology), 'Genetic and Paediatric Aspects of Epilepsy', 'The EEG and Epilepsy', 'Natural History of Epilepsy', 'Clinical and Surgical Aspects of Epilepsy' and 'Medical-Social and Psychological Aspects of Epilepsy'.

Further information is available from the Secretariat, Hans Berger Centenary Symposium on Epilepsy, 164 Gower Street, London NW1 2ND, England (Tel.: 01-388 0445).

Royal College of Psychiatrists Group on Old Age

The first meeting of this newly-formed group will be held on 9 February 1973.

For particulars see p. 9.

THE COLLEGE'S MEDALS AND PRIZES

Attention is specially drawn to the Medals and Prizes which are offered annually by the College. The conditions of award are set out fully in the Year-Book.

Gaskell Gold Medal and Prize

The examination for this prize is held in May of each year. In addition to a Gold Medal the award attached to the prize is £75. The prize has always been considered one of the foremost academic distinctions obtainable in clinical psychiatry, and Members of the College are asked to bring it to the notice of suitable candidates who may be eligible to compete.

An entrance fee of £3.15 is charged, returnable to bona-fide candidates. Entries must reach the Dean not later than 31 March in each year.

Bronze Medal and Prize

This prize is awarded annually for the best Dissertation submitted under conditions printed in the Year-Book. Candidates are reminded that Dissertations must reach the Dean before 30 April in each year, and must not exceed 10,000 words in length.

Divisional Prizes

Papers certified as eligible for this competition must be forwarded to reach the Dean not later than 30 April in each year.

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