CORRESPONDENCE

THE MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE, PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

DEAR SIR,

I have recently received a request from the Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UU, for the name of any psychiatrist who might be interested in taking up the work which has been initiated in Peshawar, Pakistan, during the past six years by Dr John Bavington. He has created a Mental Health Centre of a highly original kind, adapted to the needs of the local culture and community. Dr Bavington leaves Peshawar in July 1977 and may not be able to resume his work there for family reasons. The Ministry of Overseas Development has recently given a grant for a scheme to train community mental health workers in relation to the work of this Mental Health Centre. I visited the Centre in its early days and was greatly impressed by what Dr Bavington had already accomplished in a short time.

Anyone who might be interested in taking up this work should get in touch with the Secretary of the Church Missionary Society at the address above.

G. M. CARSTAIRS

University of York,
Heslington,
York, YO1 5DD

RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR STUDY OF GENE-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA

DEAR SIR,

The Foundations' Fund for Research in Psychiatry is interested in soliciting research proposals that reflect new, promising, and creative approaches to the study of the interaction of genetic and environmental factors in schizophrenia.

As a step in the process of solicitation, interested investigators are invited to submit preliminary proposals in the form of letters of intent. Such letters, not exceeding five typewritten pages in length, should consist of a description of the projected research proposal, an outline of the procedures to be used, and a statement of the specific manner in which the project will help to clarify the interactional nature of genetic and environmental variables. Approximate cost estimates which can be at rather modest or somewhat larger levels of support should be included.

Interested investigators should send their letters of intent by 1 July to the Office of the President at the address below.

F. C. REDLICH,
President

Foundations' Fund for Research in Psychiatry,
100 York Street,
New Haven, Connecticut 06511, USA

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Postgraduate Centre in Psychiatry, Morgannwg (Penyfai) Hospital

The Summer Term of lectures, tutorials and clinical demonstrations in psychological medicine and allied subjects commences on 6 May and lasts until 1 July, each Friday between 10.45 am and 3.30 pm approximately. Details on application to Dr Marshall W. Annear, Clinical Tutor and Area Postgraduate Organizer in Psychiatry, Morgannwg Hospital, Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan CF31 4LN, Wales.

King's Fund Centre

A one-day workshop on 'Mental Handicap and the Court Report: Implications for General Practitioners', to be concerned with those sections of the report of the Committee on Child Health Services, *Fit for the Future*, which relate to mental handicap, will be held at the King's Fund Centre on Thursday, 26 May, from 10 am to 4 pm. The fee is £5.00, including coffee, lunch and tea, and written applications should be sent to Miss Andrea Whittaker, Project Assistant, King's Fund Centre, 126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NF (quoting reference DD/AFW/CON 4, *by 13 May*.

Royal Society of Health

A one-day conference on 'Juvenile Drinking' will be held at Glasgow City Hall, Albion Street, Glasgow, on Thursday, 2 June, from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm. The registration fee is £6.21 for non-members of the Royal Society of Health; £3.78 for non-members. Applications, with remittance, should be sent to The Conference Department, The Royal Society of Health, 13 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7EN.

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Institute of Family Psychiatry (London)

The newly formed Institute of Family Psychiatry (London) announces two courses on family and marital work—an Introductory Course, to be held on Tuesday afternoons, and a Continuation Course (for those with some experience in family and marital therapy) on Tuesday evenings. Both courses will run from October 1977 to June 1978 and will be held at 11A Lansdowne Road, London, W.11. Application forms and further details from the Membership Secretary, Family and Marital Course, 11 The Orchard, Bramley Road, Southgate, London, N14 4HB. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. *Closing date for applications 28 May 1977.*

Howard League for Penal Reform

To mark the bi-centenary of the publication of John Howard's book, *The State of the Prisons*, the Howard League for Penal Reform will hold an International Conference at the University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, from 27–30 June 1977. The Conference will be opened by the Home Secretary, the Rt Hon Merlyn Rees, and the opening lecture will be given by Professor Sir Leon Radzinowicz. The programme will include discussion of the state of the prisons today; leading contemporary reforms in penal practice and structure throughout the world; new theory and research; alternative forms of social control. Further details and full programme from the Conference Organizer, Faculty of Law, University of London King's College, Strand, London WC2R 2LS.

Association of Professions for the Mentally Handicapped

The Fourth Annual Congress of the Association of Professions for the Mentally Handicapped will be held at York University from 5–8 July 1977, with the theme 'Resources, Responsibilities and Rights'. Fees: Members £31.00 (resident), £15.00 (non-resident); Non-members £37.00 (resident), £18.00 (non-resident). Application forms and further details from: Congress Secretary, APMH, 126 Albert Street, London NW1 7NF.

University of Birmingham

A residential course on 'The Psychiatry of Late Life', under the joint auspices of the Departments of Geriatric Medicine and Psychiatry of the University of Birmingham, will be held at the University from 5–9 September 1977. The course is designed for Senior Registrars in the two specialties. The programme and forms of application will be available shortly from Professor Bernard Isaacs, University of Birmingham Department of Medicine, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TH.

31st World Medical Assembly

The 31st World Medical Assembly of the World Medical Association will be held in Dublin from 4–10 September 1977. On 8 and 9 September there will be a Symposium entitled 'Update 1977'. Further information from the Secretary General, Irish Medical Association, International Conference Centre, 10 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2, Ireland.

2nd World Congress of Biological Psychiatry

The 2nd World Congress of Biological Psychiatry will be held in Barcelona from 31 August–6 September *1978*. Further information from the Congress Secretariat, Facultad de Medicina, Casanova 141, Barcelona 11, Spain.

Other Conferences abroad

Information about the following Conferences has been received via the World Psychiatric Association:

Postgraduate Course on 'Psychosocial Care of the Dying Patient': San Francisco, 3–4 June. Details from Dr C. A. Garfield, Extended Programs in Medical Education, University of California School of Medicine, San Francisco, California 94143, USA

2nd International Conference on Psychological Stress and Adjustment in Time of War and Peace: Tel-Aviv, Israel 6–10 June. Details from International Conventions Division, Ministry of Tourism, 24 King George Street, Jerusalem, Israel.

Prevention and Treatment of Alcoholism: Dresden, 6–10 June. Details from ICAA, Case Postale 140, 1001, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Prevention and Treatment of Drug Dependence: Dresden, 13–15 June. Details as above.

7th International Conference on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety: Melbourne, 23–28 June. Details from Dr J. Birrell, c/o Royal Australian College of Surgeons, Spring Street, Melbourne 3000, Victoria, Australia.

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