will be receiving documents from widely representative Special Committees which were set up to comment upon the implementation of the White Paper *Better Services for the Mentally Ill*, the Law relating to Sexual Offences (for the Criminal Law Revision Committee); the Responsibility of the Psychiatrist in Institutional Management.

Representatives of the College continue with the very useful discussions with the Department of Health and Social Security on manpower problems. Other meetings have been arranged to discuss a code of practice for mentally abnormal offenders and the admission of such patients to hospitals in relation to certain difficulties which have been experienced in some parts of the country.

Following consultation with the Specialist Sections concerned, comments were submitted on the DHSS draft document on the Sterilization of Children under 16, and a draft document on Abortion Counselling is currently being considered by the Special Committee which prepared the College's original comments on the Abortion Bill.

A Special Committee, convened by the Mental Deficiency Section and with representation of other interested bodies, is preparing evidence for the (Jay) Committee on Mental Handicap Nursing and Care. The Public Policy Committee is preparing evidence for the (Brodrick) Committee on Death Certification and Coroners; and a Special Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr P. G. McGrath is preparing comments on the (Butler) Report on Mentally Abnormal Offenders.

Following a survey by Dr E. B. O. Smith, Secretary of the Clinical Tutors Sub-Committee, the Education Committee and Council has supported a proposal that psychiatric tutors should be given College recognition. Details have to be considered, and the Divisions and Sections will be consulted; following this, recommendations will be made to Council. It was evident from the survey that the majority of psychiatric tutors would welcome a link with the College.

The work of the Appeal continues, and following a meeting chaired by the President with the Chairmen of the Divisions and Sections, local efforts are now being launched to supplement the work being done centrally. The response to the Appeal has been heartening and some large and some smaller amounts are coming in, but these are very difficult times for all charities and like bodies, and a sustained effort on the part of all our members is needed. It will be possible to give a much clearer picture of our current financial position following the presentation of the draft Annual Accounts to the Council in March. In the meantime the Treasurer will be pleased to answer any queries.

The Annual Meeting will be held in London and the Dinner at St Bartholomew's Hospital. In association with the Appeal, we intend having a modest function at our headquarters so that our members may meet the staff, and see what has been done and what has yet to be done and the facilities we hope to have for our members.'

In the ensuing discussion it was suggested that the Executive & Finance Committee should be asked to consider sending a further letter to the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The President agreed to do this, and in referring to the case of Mr Leonid Plyushch said he felt that the College's actions had played some part in his being given an exit visa.

PSYCHOTHERAPY SECTION

The Psychotherapy Section announces the following forthcoming Open Meetings:

Wednesday 14 April

The Facilitation and Nature of Patient Change through Group Analytic Psychotherapy; Dr B. Dick (Group Psychiatry Department, Hope Hospital, Salford). (This meeting will be preceded, at 7.15 pm, by the Annual Meeting of the Section).

Wednesday 9 June

Transference Utilization in Aim-Restricted Psychotherapy—Some Technical Considerations; Dr P. L. G. Gallwey (Portman Clinic, London).

Thursday 8 July (in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Royal College of Psychiatrists)

Some Reflections on 'Action' and 'Encounter' Techniques in Relation to the Practice of Psychotherapy; Dr J. L. Wilson (Adult Department, Tavistock Clinic, London).

All these meetings will be held in the West Hall, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 5AE, at 8.15 pm.

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