a report indicting some aspects of contemporary British psychiatry it is worth reflecting on the mundane if chauvinistic thought that patients in this country alleging similar abuses to Mr Plyushch do not receive the same privileged attention.

Such interviews, while seeking to enhance the College's reputation with a vociferous and influential group of journalists, must fail to satisfy any serious questions about the diagnosis of Mr. Plyushch or the rights or wrongs of his treatment.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Postgraduate Course on Behavioural Psychotherapy

This non-residential, three-day course for psychiatrists with a minimum of two years' clinical experience, will be held on 21–23 February 1977, at the Institute of Psychiatry. It will involve lectures, seminars and videotape demonstrations of the principles and practice of behavioural psychotherapy in adult patients with neurotic, marital and sexual problems, and will be run by Dr M. Crowe and Dr I. M. Marks. The fee is £33. Applications, together with brief curriculum vitae stating degrees and experience, should be sent to Dr Marks at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AZ.

The Institute of Family Psychiatry

A Residential Course in Family Psychiatry for Psychiatrists will be held at Hengrave Hall, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, from 27 June to 1 July, 1977. Application forms from the Institute of Family Psychiatry, The Ipswich Hospital, 23 Henley Road, Ipswich IP1 3TF.

Royal College of Pathologists

A half-day meeting on the Pathophysiology of Alcohol will be held in the afternoon of Thursday, 10 March 1977. There will be seven papers, mainly discussing the metabolic effects of alcohol in the body, including changes in drug metabolism produced by chronic alcohol abuse. Further details and application forms from the Assistant Secretary (Meetings), The Royal College of Pathologists, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AF.

International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology

The Eighth International Congress of the International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology will be held at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, USA from 8–12 May 1977. For further information write to Dr Richard P. Michael, Department of Psychiatry, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia 30322, USA.

COLLEGE TIE

The College now has its own necktie. This is dark blue with the College Arms in yellow and white. The College Arms, originally granted to the R.M.P.A. in 1926, include the caduceus and serpent of Aesculapius and the butterflies of Psyche. The tie is manufactured to a high standard in polyester Crimplene. It is available to members at a cost of £2.50, plus 12p for postage and packing. Orders should be sent to the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG, together with a cheque for the appropriate amount.

GROUP FOR THE PSYCHIATRY OF OLD AGE

Meetings of the above group have been arranged for 2 pm on the following dates in 1977: 20 January, 14 April, 23 June, 6 October.

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