NEWS AND NOTES
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THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

Election of Fellows

At the meeting of the Court of Electors held on 10 May 1973, the following Members were elected to the Fellowship:

W. J. Abel
W. D. Boyd
H. C. Fowlie
M. H. Friedman
O. E. F. Hodgson
Pamela Mason
R. A. Robinson
D. C. Taylor
E. D. West
Elisabeth Shoenberg

Forthcoming Meetings

10–12 July. Annual Meeting, Cardiff.

13 July. Welsh Division, Cardiff.

12 September. Chiltern and Thames Valley Division, Royal Society of Medicine, London.

28 September. Scottish Division, Stratheden Hospital.

OCCUPATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH

By ROGER TREDGOLD

The mental health of people at work, whether manager or bench worker in a factory, doctor or nurse in a hospital or surgery, executive or clerk in an office, is obviously of great social and even national importance. In most years far more days work are lost from psychiatric illness than from strikes; and, besides, there is considerable loss of efficiency from illness, even when the worker does not go absent. Although the majority of illnesses are probably due to a concatenation of factors, including domestic, there are some conditions in factories and elsewhere that appear to precipitate or predispose to mental ill-health.

It is therefore odd that this subject is so much neglected by many occupational doctors and psychiatrists. Voluminous textbooks of occupational medicine spare only a page or two for psychiatric conditions; and psychiatric books and journals are only a little better. The worst example is a recent one, the Robens Report on Safety and Health at Work, which has recently been submitted to the Government. This was violently attacked by Mr. David Ennals, Chairman of the Mind Campaign of the NAMH (1):

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