

(child psychiatry, mental handicap, forensic psychiatry, psychotherapy and drug dependence) are not included. Their contributions are crucial but they are not usually measured in terms of a district service.

This ratio should be raised in the case of teaching hospitals that provide psychiatric treatment for substantial numbers of patients referred from outside the District. If the conclusions of this survey are faulty, it is almost certainly in the direction of too modest an estimate of the staffing needs. The reader is reminded of the Report of the Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland (the Wright Report) in which it was recommended that professorial teaching units of psychiatry should have a level of medical staffing (senior and junior) three times that of 'non-teaching' units. Our recommendation is that the level of staffing should be twice as high in the teaching hospital. The Wright Report was published in 1964, admittedly in the days of greater affluence within the National Health Service. There is reason to believe that its constructive recommendations helped teaching units in Scotland to become much more firmly established than south of the border.

Psychiatrists working in teaching departments in England and Wales might consider setting up comprehensive District services if they are fortunate enough to have achieved the basic levels of clinical resources and consultant staffing put forward in

this paper. It would seem prudent, however, to tailor the District served to a size that still permits the demonstration of high quality clinical practice to medical students. It is also essential for substantial help to be given to the impoverished psychiatric teaching unit in Leicester: clinical resources and psychiatric staff are urgently needed if teaching obligations to the first intake of clinical students is to be met. Strong encouragement should also be given to the University Grants Committee and the University of London to establish professorial departments in the three medical schools that still have no chair of psychiatry—University College Hospital, Westminster Hospital and St Thomas'.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful to all our colleagues who have painstakingly completed yet another tedious questionnaire.

References

- CARSTAIRS, G. M., WALTON, H. J., SMYTHIES, J. R. & CRISP, A. H. (1968) Survey of undergraduate education in the United Kingdom (1966-67). *British Journal of Psychiatry*, **114**, 1411-1416.
- Medical Staffing Structure in Scottish Hospitals. Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland. Scottish Home and Health Department. Edinburgh, H.M.S.O., 1964.

COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PSYCHOTHERAPY SECTION

An Open Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13 December, at the Tavistock Centre, Belsize Lane, London, N.W.3, at 8.15 p.m., when Dr J. Pedder will speak on 'Transference: its place in play and theatre'.

COLLEGE PLAQUES AND CHRISTMAS CARDS

A plaque measuring 7" x 6" approximately and showing the College Coat of Arms in four colours raised on a wooden shield of light oak, is now available. The price is £5.50 if bought at the College; £6.00 by post for U.K. and £6.50 for overseas surface mail, including postage and packing.

A College Christmas Card is also available. The Coat of Arms is die-stamped on the front in four colours, on a card measuring 6" x 4½". Price,

including envelopes, 6 for £1.00, 12 for £2.00, including postage, for U.K. For overseas Air Mail postage add 75p for 6, £1.45 for 12.

ASSESSMENT OF POSTGRADUATE TRAINING IN PSYCHIATRY

A one-day Conference on this topic, organized by the Clinical Tutors' Sub-Committee of the College, will be held on Monday, 5 February 1979, at the Scientific Societies Lecture Theatre, Fortress House, 23 Savile Row, London W1. The President, Professor D. A. Pond, will be in the Chair, and speakers will include Professor H. J. Eysenck, Dr J. L. T. Birley, Dr J. F. Stokes and Professor H. J. Walton. Application forms and further details can be obtained from Miss Jane Boyce at the College.

IAN G. BRONKS

Secretary, Clinical Tutors' Sub-Committee