

and treatment from hospital to community. Such a scheme makes it imperative that the medical, nursing and social parts of the community services come under the direction of a psychiatrist. Furthermore, a well functioning and efficient community psychiatric set-up may well (perhaps) prevent one or other admission to hospital and reduce the number of crisis consultations overwhelming hospital clinics at present.

It is up to us psychiatrists to plan and prepare for this trend in psychiatric care, and with this in mind I would advocate the formation of a Specialist Section for 'Social and Community Psychiatry' within the Royal College of Psychiatrists to lend impetus to the re-orientation in psychiatric management and planning in the light of coming changes which should incorporate the care and supervision of the mentally disordered in the community in an overall therapeutic programme.

I would like to hear from anyone interested in forming such a Section and communications should be addressed to the undersigned.

U. P. SEIDEL, M.B., B.S., M.F.C.M., R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M.,  
Principal Medical Officer for Mental Health and  
Community Psychiatrist  
Mental Health Department, London Borough of Haringey,  
Tottenham Town Hall, London, N15 4RT.

#### BURDEN RESEARCH MEDAL AND PRIZE

DEAR SIR,

Entry for the Burden Research Medal and Prize is open to all registered medical practitioners who are working in the field of mental subnormality in the United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland.

The award for 1972, total value £250, may be presented at Stoke Park Hospital on or about 1 April 1973, for outstanding research work which has been published, accepted for publication or presented as a paper to a learned society during the three year period ending 31 December 1972.

Five copies of the paper or papers, with application form, should be submitted to the Secretary of the Burden Trust by 10 January 1973.

Further information and application forms are available from the Secretary, Burden Trust, 16 Orchard Street, Bristol, 1.

W. A. HEATON-WARD.

Stoke Park Hospital,  
Stapleton,  
Bristol, BS16 1QU.

## Important Notices

### THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

*To those who were not members of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association but who may be entitled to apply for Foundation Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists:* If you held a post of Consultant status in the National Health Service, or a post of equivalent status elsewhere, at the date of the inception of the College (16 June 1971) and wish to apply for Foundation Membership, you should send full details to the Secretary of the Royal College of Psychiatrists at Chandos House, Queen Anne Street, London, W1M 9LE, **NOT LATER THAN 15th JUNE 1973**. After that date Membership can be obtained only by passing the Membership Examination of the College.

#### THE MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION AND PRELIMINARY TEST

##### DATES OF EXAMINATIONS

**PRELIMINARY TEST:** Monday 19 March 1973, and Monday 24 September 1973.

##### MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION:

*Written:* 30 April 1973 and 29 October 1973.  
*Clinicals and Orals:* Week commencing 28 May 1973 and week commencing 26 November 1973.

##### CLOSING DATES FOR RECEIPT OF ENTRIES

##### PRELIMINARY TEST:

March 1973: 19 January 1973  
September 1973: 24 July 1973.

##### MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION:

April/May 1973:  
*Complete*—14 February 1973.  
*Involving exemptions*—1 February 1973  
October/November 1973:  
*Complete*—31 July 1973.  
*No exemptions.*

##### EXEMPTIONS

For two years, and two years only, following the inception of the College (16 June 1971), candidates for the Membership Examination who possess certain

qualifications may be able to claim exemptions from the Preliminary Test and/or certain part(s) of the Membership Examination. All applications for exemption(s) must be made on the prescribed form.

*Preliminary Test*

All candidates in possession of a D.P.M. (or a qualification judged to be equivalent thereto by the Court of Electors) and who can show that they have had one year's approved experience in psychiatry may claim exemption from the Preliminary Test provided that they have fulfilled these conditions before 1 February 1973.

*Membership Examination*

Candidates for the Membership Examination may at any time before 1 February 1973 apply for exemption from part(s) of the examination (except a final

oral) on the grounds of having obtained special experience or of having additional higher qualifications or of having published original work. Each such application will be considered on its individual merits by the Court of Electors.

The power to grant exemption from part(s) of the Membership Examination is limited by the Charter and Bye-Laws of the College to the two year period ending on 15 June 1973. Any candidate granted exemption(s) must therefore pass the Examination before 16 June 1973. Thus the last Examination from which partial exemption can be claimed will be in April/May 1973, for which the last date for entry (if applying for exemption(s)) is 1 February 1973.

A candidate who has already been granted exemption(s) but has failed part(s) of the examination may only apply for re-entry (with the exemption to which he may be entitled) up to 1 February 1973.

K. RAWNSLEY, *Dean*.