Forthcoming Events

The Association for the Study of Dreams announces its third annual convention to be held from 26 to 29 June 1986 at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. Conference registration information: Dr Alan Moffitt, Department of Psychology, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6.

On 18 and 19 July 1986 an Anna Freud Commemorative Conference will be held by the Psychoanalysis Unit of University College, London, in conjunction with the Anna Freud Centre, Hampstead (formerly the Hampstead Clinic). The title of the conference will be 'Fixation and Regression-Clinical Implications'. Information: Psychoanalysis Unit, Psychology Department, University College, 26 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AP.

The 6th International Catecholamine Symposium will be held in Jerusalem from 14 to 19 June 1987. Information: Professor R. Haim Belmaker, Chairman, PO Box 983, Jerusalem 91009, Israel.

The Forensic Psychiatry Specialist Section will hold its annual conference at Stratford-on-Avon on 21 and 22 February 1986. The subject is 'Lying'. A limited number of places are available. Applications should be sent to: Dr Paul Bowden, Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AZ.

A two-day Introductory Course in Family Psychiatry for trainee psychiatrists will be held on 12 and 13 June 1986 at the Institute of Family Psychiatry, Ipswich Hospital. Programmes and application forms are available from: The Secretary, Institute of Family Psychiatry, Ipswich Hospital, 23 Henley Road, Ipswich IP1 3TP (telephone: Ipswich (0473) 214811).

The 15th International Institute on the Prevention and Treatment of Drug Dependence will be held from 6 to 11 April 1986 at the Congress Center 'De Leeuwenhorst', Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands. Information: Local Organizing Committee, le Sweelinckstraat 25, 2517 GA The Hague, The Netherlands.

The John Pringle Award 1985

An annual Award has been instituted by the National Schizophrenia Fellowship in commemoration of its Founder, John Pringle OBE, who died last year. The first award of £1,000 will be made for a programme or article (transmitted or published during 1985) dealing with any aspect of schizophrenia, including medical and social provision for schizophrenia, the plight of individual sufferers, and the acute problems of management which arise for relatives. The judges will consider the way in which relevant articles or programmes have advanced public understanding and sympathy for the plight of the schizophrenia sufferer.

Applications should be accompanied as appropriate by the published article (or series of articles) or a taped copy of the relevant programme, and if possible by a written transcript. A clear indication must be given of when and where the material was transmitted or published. Applications may be made on any date up to and including 8 January 1986, and should be addressed to: The Deputy General Secretary, National Schizophrenia Fellowship, 78 Victoria Road, Surbiton, Surrey KT64NS. They should be marked 'John Pringle Award'.

A Cautionary Tale

Once upon a time there was no Royal College of Psychiatrists.

This was a bad thing.

There were a lot of consultant psychiatrists who had much experience but little knowledge. This was not a good thing and the clients, perceiving that they were not good, did without help.

Soon things got better.

There were a lot of better consultant psychiatrists with a lot of knowledge who cared about clients and helped them.

Then one day they began to say 'We must improve psychiatric training so that all future consultants are good.'

So they set up a committee of people with a Lot of knowledge.

Soon there were a lot of trainees having so much training that they got little experience but much knowledge, and did not learn to care about clients.

And the good consultants, perceiving that they would get no help from their juniors, went away and worked themselves to death.

Then there were a lot of new consultants with much knowledge but no experience and their patients, perceiving that they were no help turned to other therapists instead.

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