

# THE BULLETIN

OF THE

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

### THE COLLEGE

#### THE WARNOCK REPORT

Comments on the Report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Education of Handicapped Children and Young People—'Special Educational Needs'. (Summary)

These comments were drafted by a Working Party from the Child Psychiatry and Mental Deficiency Sections.

The Committee of Enquiry's terms of reference were: 'to review educational provision in England, Scotland and Wales for children and young people handicapped by disabilities of body and mind, taking account of the medical aspects of their needs together with arrangements to prepare them for entry into employment, to consider the most effective use of resources for these purposes and to make recommendations.'

The Working Party welcomed the Report as a positive step towards the provision of better educa-

tion for the young handicapped child. However, because of the very wide remit of the Committee, the main focus of the Report is on the organizational aspects of services in general rather than on specific clinical or educational issues. We recognized that the representation of the medical professions on the Committee was necessarily limited and that a considerable burden of representation had been carried out by our medical colleagues; in particular our psychiatric colleague, Professor Philip Graham.

We felt strongly that the correct emphasis had been placed in the Report upon three areas of educational need, firstly increased provision for the under-fives, secondly, concentration on the 16 plus age group,

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<b>Please note: There will be no issue of the Bulletin in August.</b>		