

Miscellany

Award for research on postnatal depression

Applications are invited by Birthright, the mother and baby research charity, for a special project grant to undertake research in the field of postnatal depression. A specific research project, capable of conclusion within two years, is sought and Birthright funding of up to £100,000 is available for salaries (including on-costs), together with any necessary expenses. Applications should be submitted to Birthright by 12 October 1988 and the award will be announced on 1 December 1988 with funding available from 1 January 1989. Applications will be accepted only on a Birthright form and these, together with copies of Birthright's terms and conditions, are available from: Birthright, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SP.

Sir Martin Roth

Sir Martin Roth has been elected to the Advisory Scientific Committee for the World Health Organization's Special Programme on Ageing (SPRA). He has also been invited to deliver the Eastman Memorial Lecture at the University of Rochester Medical Centre, New York, in December 1988.

New publications

How to Cope when your Child has been Sexually Abused: A guide for Parents by Jacquie Roberts and The Child Sexual Abuse Team, Dundee Royal Infirmary has been published by The Child and Family Trust. This guide is produced free for parents. Concerned professional agencies can obtain additional copies by arrangement with The Child and Family Trust, 21 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 1HX (telephone 041 333 0525).

The Journal of Drug Development is a new international quarterly journal which endeavours to provide a forum for the rapid dissemination of information in the development and clinical investigation of novel pharmaceutical preparations and their relevance to particular areas of pharmacotherapy. The subscription rate is £75, including postage by surface mail. This rate covers four issues of the journal plus complimentary copies of all supplements. The managing editor is David Caldwell. Correspondence should be addressed to: Gardiner-Caldwell Communications Ltd, The Old Ribbon Mill, Pitt Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 7PT.

Merck prize

Trainees from the College's North West Division present their research papers at the Division's Annual General Meeting and the winner receives the Merck prize of £100. This year the prize was awarded to Dr Elizabeth Germany of Withington Hospital, Manchester; the topic of her research was 'The Short-term Outcome of Anxious and Depressed Children'. Further details of the competition are available from the Secretary of the North West Division: Dr J.M.A. Ansari, Lakeside Clinic, Park Hospital, Orphan Drive, Liverpool L6 7UN.

Back issues of the *Journal*

Dr Cecil Glaisher, The Quarry, Wrotham, Kent TN15 7QD (telephone 0732 822453) offers sets of the *Journal* going back to 1960.

Diploma in the Philosophy of Medicine

The first year of the two-year course leading to the examination for the Diploma in the Philosophy of Medicine of the Society of Apothecaries will begin on 1 October 1988. The course is addressed primarily to graduates and students of medicine; applicants otherwise qualified may be admitted at the discretion of the Tutor. The course may be followed by students not wishing to take the Diploma. Lecture-seminars will be given on alternative Saturday mornings in London; the first year's programme includes lectures on a range of topics in medical ethics, and on philosophical argument and moral theory. Philosophical discussion of ethical problems arising within participants' own experience of medical practice is encouraged.

Further information and application forms: The Registrar (Philosophy of Medicine Course), The Society of Apothecaries, Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6EJ.

The Family Courts Campaign

The Family Courts Campaign held a press conference at the House of Lords on 18 July 1988 to launch an independent study of the cost of introducing a Family Court system in England and Wales. The study shows that the reform would not only result in a better system for the consumers, children and parents, but would be far cheaper to operate. The estimated saving to the taxpayer runs into millions of pounds. The Family Courts Campaign Co-ordinator, Peter Riches, said that events in Cleveland had

already shown the need for a better court system in child abuse cases. The costings study was funded by a grant from the Oak Foundation and was carried out by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy and the National Children's Bureau. Copies of the costings study, *Family Courts – The Price is Right*, are available on request from the Family Courts Campaign, Eaton House, 66a Eaton Square, London SW1W 9BH or c/o 8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE.

Melanie Klein

A new play by Nicholas Wright about the controversial psycho-analyst, Melanie Klein, opened at the National Theatre on 10 August 1988.

In 1934, Melanie Klein's son was reported killed in a climbing accident. There were no witnesses. Nicholas Wright's first play for the NT shows the aftermath of a shattering and unexpected death, and its effect on three remarkable women. Gillian Barge plays the psycho-analyst, with Francesca Annis as her daughter, Melitta, and Zoe Wanamaker as Paula Heimann.

Melanie Klein (1882–1960) was, and remains, one of the most influential figures in psycho-analysis. Born in Vienna, she trained in Budapest and Berlin, where she extended Freud's techniques of analysis to very young children. In 1926 she settled in London. Her most disputed teachings concerned small babies, whom she regarded as capable of violent and complex emotion.

High Royds Hospital Centenary

A brief illustrated history of High Royds Hospital has been compiled by Dr Roy Hullin to commemorate the hospital's centenary. Under its original name of the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum at Menston, the hospital was opened on 8 October 1888. There was a high death rate in the early years (reflecting that of the poorer sections of the community at the time) but by the 1930s a steady diminution in the annual rate had occurred.

Following the 1930 Mental Health Act, which provided for the admission of voluntary patients, there was a steady annual increase in such patients so that by the time of the Second World War, 28% of admissions came into this category.

The University of Leeds Department of Biochemistry was initiated in 1952 and in 1962 a Metabolic Research Unit was formally set up under the direction of Dr Hullin in conjunction with Dr R. McDonald. The Unit has published nearly 100 papers in scientific and medical journals and was one of the pioneers of prophylactic lithium in treatment in this country. During this period other separate units, such as the Kanner Unit for children and the Adolescent Unit, were initiated. The renaming of the hospital from Menston to High Royds Hospital took place on 1 January 1963, reflecting the spirit of change in this era.

High Royds, like other large psychiatric hospitals, is now being run down and replaced with smaller locally-based facilities.

Forthcoming events

A conference organised by the British Geriatrics Society entitled '**Abuse of Elderly People**' will be held at Regent's College, London on 14 September 1988. Fee: £39.50 for medical staff; £28.75 for nurses and other professionals. Further details: BSG Conference Secretariat, 9 Pavilion Parade, Brighton BN2 1RA (telephone 0273 695811).

'**Drug Dependence: Clinical Phenomena and Basic Mechanisms**', the second in a series of Maudsley Conferences on New Developments in Psychiatry, will be held at the Waldorf Hotel, London from 11–14 July 1989. Further details: Dr Glenn Wilson, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AF (telephone 01 703 5411, extension 3254 or 3245).

The World Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology Association will be holding the **1st International Congress of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology** from 11–13 November 1988 in Paris. The general theme will be 'Comparative Study of International Medico-Psycho-Judicial Practices Perspectives of Harmonisation'. Further details: Manual Galan, Congress Secretary General, 38 bis, Boulevard Saint-Marcel, 75005 Paris, France.

A symposium entitled '**Community Care — What Next?**' will be held on 7 October 1988 at the Post-graduate Medical Centre, Grantham Hospital, Grantham, Lincs. Cost of registration: £15. Further details and registration forms: Irene Chenery, Clinical Sciences Building, Leicester Royal Infirmary,