

but I accept the writer's viewpoint that the burden might be diminished were there a confidential list of persons sympathetic to such an approach. I should be happy to have my name included on such a list if one were drawn up.

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SURVEY OF PSYCHIATRIC PRACTICE

DEAR SIR,

I would like to take advantage of your correspondence column to thank all those consultant psychiatrists in England and Wales who have already returned their copies of the questionnaire on Psychiatric Practice.

In 1963 Dr. Brian Cooper and I carried out, under the auspices of the R.M.P.A., a postal questionnaire survey of psychiatric practice in England and Wales (*Journal*, 1967, 113, 625-36). In view of the many

changes that have occurred in psychiatric treatment over the past eleven years and the changes in the working environment of many psychiatrists, it seemed worthwhile repeating the study to try and measure and report on these changes.

Our second study has had the support of the Research Committee of the College and has been funded by a small grant from the Welsh Office. Nearly 1200 questionnaires were sent out, and I have now heard from 70 per cent of those approached. I would like to take this opportunity to urge those who have not yet replied to return the questionnaire or, if they do not feel that it is applicable to them, to write to me letting me know the reasons why they are not completing it. The value of any survey is dependent on how wide a range of opinion it covers and I would like to ensure as high a response rate as possible

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Centre for Postgraduate Psychiatry, Birmingham

Open postgraduate meetings will be held at the Charles Burns Clinic, Queensbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8QD, on Friday, 21 November, when Dr. A. R. Nicol of the Nuffield Child Psychiatry Unit, Newcastle upon Tyne, will speak on 'Some Aspects of Operational Research into Maladjustment in Schools'; and on Friday, 12 December, when Professor Sydney Brandon of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Leicester, will speak on 'Problems of Gender Identity'. The meetings commence at 4 pm., preceded by tea at 3.30.

University of Sheffield Department of Psychiatry

A one-day symposium on 'The Treatment of Depressive Illness' is to be held on Sunday, 23 November. Further information from Dr M. F. Hussain, Whitely Wood Clinic, Woofindin Road, Sheffield, S10 3TL. Telephone Sheffield 303901.

King's Fund Centre

The King's Fund Centre (King Edward's Hospital Fund for London) announces the following one-day conferences:

Wednesday, 19 November: 'Living in Hospital: The Social Needs of People in Long-term Care'; designed to consider the ideas put forward in the Fund's recently published book, *Living in Hospital*.

Wednesday, 3 December: 'Mental Handicap Conference—Lost Souls'; to concentrate on the organization of services for abnormal offenders whose persistent anti-social behaviour results in their appearance before criminal courts.

Applications for either conference to King's Fund Centre, 24 Nutford Place, London, W1H 6AN. *Early application is essential as numbers are limited.*

Postgraduate Course on Behavioural Therapy

This non-residential three-day course, to be held at the Institute of Psychiatry on 2-4 February 1976, is for psychiatrists with at least two years' clinical experience. It will include lectures, seminars and videotape demonstrations of the principles and practice of behavioural psychotherapy in adult patients with neurotic, marital and sexual problems. Fee £28. Applications, with curriculum vitae stating degrees and experience, to Dr I. M. Marks, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Denmark Hill, London, SE5 8AF.