

to their achievements, confidently, as did those in other medical specialties. Otherwise, the present services might deteriorate for the most disadvantaged groups, as well as for the majority of people with minor psychiatric morbidity who are seen in general practice. These observations were, ironically, pertinent to MIND, since the organization itself is in financial trouble. Without doubt, a reduction in MIND's

enterprise would be disadvantageous and a disappointment to the mental health movement.

REFERENCES

- ROTH, M. (1980) MIND and its policies. *The Times*, 13 September.
SMYTHE, T. (1981) The role of MIND in relation to psychiatry. *Bulletin of the Royal College of Psychiatrists*, 5, 140-43.

Forthcoming Events

The **Section of Psychiatry of the Royal Society of Medicine** is continuing its season of talks and discussions with the following themes: 9 February 1982—'Is the term psychosomatic disease of any value?', Professor Sir Desmond Pond; 9 March 1982—'The role of dynamic psychotherapy in the National Health Service', Dr Malcolm Pines, Dr I. S. Kreeger and Dr C. J. Allison; 6 April 1982—six papers on 'Ongoing research', speakers to be announced. Information: Section of Psychiatry of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE.

An all-day symposium on '**Drug Dependence**' will be held in the Kent Postgraduate Medical Centre, Kent and Canterbury Hospital on 13 February 1982. Information: Mrs M. M. Allen, Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury CT1 3NG.

The **Association for Family Therapy, Mid Wales Group**, is organizing a two-day residential conference on sticking points and difficulties in family therapy on 22 and 23 April 1982 at Gregynog, University of Wales, Newtown, Powys. Conference fee £45. Information: Margaret Turney, Medical Library, Mid Wales Hospital, Talgarth, Brecon, Powys (telephone: (0874) 711671, ext. 267).

Cruse (National Organization for the Widowed and their Children) is again arranging a course of ten group discussions and lectures on counselling before and after bereavement beginning on 20 January 1982 and ending on 24 March 1982. The course is to be held at Imperial College, London, and is open to doctors, social workers, ministers of religion, nurses, health visitors, educationalists and all who are professionally involved with dying and bereaved people. Information: Dr Dora Black, Cruse, Cruse House, 126 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey (telephone: 01 940 4818/9047).

An **International Conference for the Mental Health of the Elderly** will be held in Cairo from 22 to 25 November 1982. Information: Dr A. M. Ashour, PO Box 290, Heliopolis, Egypt.

The **Sixth Congress of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Mental Deficiency** will be held in Toronto from 22 to 26 August 1982. Those interested in presenting papers or attending the congress should contact either Professor G. A. Roeher (Programme Chairman), National Institute of Mental Retardation, York University Campus, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview, Ontario, Canada M3J 1P3 or Dr D. A. Primrose (Programme Secretary), Physician Superintendent, The Royal Scottish National Hospital, Larbert, Stirlingshire, Scotland.

The **9th World Congress of Social Psychiatry** will be held in Paris from 5 to 9 July, 1982. This Congress is organized by the Association Française de Psychiatrie Sociale. Information: PMV—Congrès, 100 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92522 Neuilly Cedex, France.

'**The Treatment of Depression**' is the theme of a seminar to be held at The Priory Hospital on 28 January 1982, with Dr John Horder, President of the Royal College of General Practitioners, in the Chair. Topics include 'New Anti-depressant Drugs', 'The Management of Side-Effects', 'Lithium Prophylaxis' and 'Cure, Control or Prevention'. Discussion opened by Sir Desmond Pond. Information: Dr Desmond Kelly, The Priory Hospital, Priory Lane, London SW15 5JJ.

The next course of '**Current Themes in Psychiatry**' is to be held at Leeds Castle in Kent from 20 to 26 March 1982. The course is open to consultant and senior psychiatrists. Accommodation can be arranged if necessary. Information: Mrs Carlisle, New Cross Hospital, Avonley Road, London SE14 5ER (telephone: 01-639-4380, ext. 4339).