

figures for the admission by sex, age, area of treatment and county of residence for the latest year for which figures were available with respect to mental illness hospitals and units in Wales. Further tables give a diagnostic breakdown.

Medical schools

Replying to a question from Dr David Owen, Sir Keith Joseph of the Department of Education said that it is provisionally estimated that 3962 undergraduate new entrants were admitted to courses of pre-clinical medicine in 1983–84 in universities in Great Britain.

Children (evidence in court)

The Home Secretary was asked on 22 December 1983 whether he would consider introducing legislation to limit the damage which may be caused to children called to give evidence in open court. He said that the giving of evidence by children and young people in any case involving an offence against decency or morality is already regulated by Section 37 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933. This provides that the court may be cleared while this takes place. Although the Section does not give power to exclude

the Press, Section 39 of the same Act (amended by Section 57 of the Children's and Young Persons' Act 1963) provides that the court may direct that no newspaper or broadcast report should give any particulars calculated to lead to the identification of any child or young person in the proceedings. Courts are aware of the need to do everything possible to mitigate the ordeal for a child witness, particularly in cases concerning sexual offences. The Government had no present plans for further legislation.

NHS (clinical psychologists)

On 22 December 1983 Mr John Patten (DHSS) gave figures for the number of clinical psychologists in each NHS region as on 30 September 1982. The details are published in *Hansard* and in summary indicate that there were 1319 in England, 151 in Scotland and 75 clinical psychologists employed by the NHS in Wales: a total of 1545.

Christmas adjournment

Parliament adjourned for the Christmas Recess from 22 December 1983 until 16 January 1984.

ROBERT BLUGLASS

News Items

'Consent to Treatment: Questions and Answers'

The last booklet in the Smith Kline & French Publications Series, 'Services to Psychiatry' (edited by Professor R. G. Priest), is entitled 'Consent to Treatment: Questions and Answers—The Mental Health Act 1983', written by Dr John R. Hamilton, Medical Director of Broadmoor Hospital. The question and answer format of this booklet has been specially planned to lead practitioners step-by-step through the decision-making process and thus help them in using the new law. The publication is available, free of charge, from: Alan R. Chandler, Manager, Publicity and Promotions, Smith Kline & French Laboratories Ltd., Mundells, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL7 1EY.

Research at the Stoke Park Group of Hospitals

Last year the Stoke Park Group of Hospitals produced a short report listing the published and other works and ongoing research which has been carried out since 1980 at the Stoke Park Group of Hospitals and the Department of Mental Health (Mental Handicap) at the University of Bristol. Copies of the leaflet are available from Dr J. Jancar, Stoke Park Hospital, Stapleton, Bristol BS16 1QU.

B. B. Zeitlyn Psychotherapy Training Fund

A fund has been set up for those living in Cambridge and East Anglia who wish to train as psychotherapists. Monies

are available as in interest free loan to be repaid within five years of completion of training.

Applications must be received by 14 May 1984, and loans to successful applicants will be offered from 1 September 1984.

Those interested should write for further details to: Honorary Secretary, Erika Weiss, 8 Clare Road, Newnham, Cambridge CB3 9HN (telephone: 0233-358132).

Valerie Callis Trust Fund (£2,000)

Applications are invited for this award, which should be related to proposed or current work on a specific project in the field of depression, alcoholism or self-help groups. The award may be renewable annually, but would need prior agreement from the Local Ethical Research Committee.

Please send outline of project of not more than 200 words to Dr Desmond Kelly, The Priory Hospital, Priory Lane, London SW15 5JJ. Application forms will be available after initial screening by the trustees.

For Sale: Bound Copies of the 'Journal'

Dr H. Stalker, 9 Pitcullen Terrace, Perth PH2 7EQ offers for sale the *Journal of Mental Science/British Journal of Psychiatry*, 1873 to date—all in good condition, nearly complete and nearly all bound.