

and classification issues in psychiatry (under the joint direction of the Unit and Paul Clifford).

To ensure that the results of these collaborations are rapidly and efficiently brought to the attention of the College, a sub-committee of the College Research Committee, with representation from the Audit Working Party, is being set up to consider the findings and recommend appropriate actions.

Audit information service

The Unit is beginning to establish an audit information service in collaboration with the College Library and the King's Fund Centre. In addition to compiling a psychiatric audit bibliography, the Unit is involved in a review of existing computer-based

information and clinical support systems; to complement this a "Bulletin Board" for computer users is being developed.

References

- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (1989) *Working for Patients*, Cm555. Working Paper 6, Medical Audit.
- PIPPARD, J. (1992) Auditing the administration of ECT. *Psychiatric Bulletin*, 16, 59–62.
- & ELLAM, L. (1981) *Electroconvulsive Treatment in Great Britain, 1980*. London: Gaskell (Royal College of Psychiatrists).
- Resource Management Process and Progress*. Interim Report of the Brunel Evaluation Team (1989) Health Economics Research Group, Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH.

Psychiatric Bulletin (1992), 16, 315

The College Library and Information Service

Rating scales

The Library is compiling a database of references to the primary papers of the main psychiatric instruments (rating scales, questionnaires etc). At present it includes citations to about 500 instruments. Although by no means complete, the database is usable and the Library will be pleased to supply references on the main psychiatric scales. Copies of the full database are not available at present.

Psychiatric Associations of the World

Members wishing to contact fellow-psychiatrists in other countries may be interested in this register which the Library has compiled. It gives current details of 65 psychiatric associations around the world. Our thanks to Professor Sims for his assistance with the project. The register is available from the Publications Department. *Psychiatric Associations of the World 1992*. Price £2.

New journals

We are pleased to report that the *Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine* and the *International*

Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research have been added to our journal holdings. Grateful thanks to Editors, Dr Mark Hartman and Professor Chris Thompson respectively, for these generous donations. Readers who would like to receive a list of current journal holdings should contact the Library.

The French collection

We would like to draw readers' attention to the fact that the Library's collection of 19th century French books on insanity is particularly strong. It includes pearls such as the works of Pinel, Esquirol, Georget, Trelat, Moreau, Magnan, Amard etc. This is mentioned with regard to current historical scholarship which suggests that this area and period of psychiatry were crucial to the development of 20th century descriptive psychopathology. The collection is still expanding, recent purchases being Marie's three volume work *Traité International de Psychologie Pathologique* and works by Lélut and Castel.