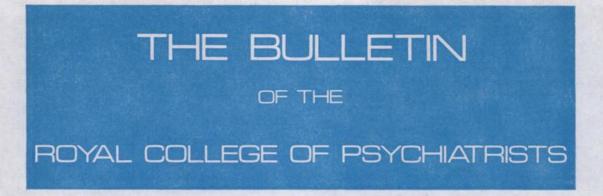
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COLLEGE NEWS

THE FUTURE OF JOINT CONSULTANT APPOINTMENTS—BETWEEN PRISON MEDICAL SERVICE AND NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE*

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Introduction

In 1964 a Departmental Working Party on the 'Organisation of the Prison Medical Service' (1) published its report. Recommendation 5 states: 'Psychiatrists should be appointed by the Home Secretary and Regional Hospital Boards or Boards of Governors jointly for service part-time in a prison service establishment and part-time in a psychiatric hospital or clinic outside the forensic field, and possibly also in a teaching post. Some appointments should be at Registrar and Senior Registrar level and some at Consultant level.' As a result nine such consultant appointments were made. It appeared clear from the report of the Committee on the Mentally Abnormal Offender (Butler Committee) (2), paragraph 20/17 that 'difficulties had been experienced in establishing satisfactory working relationships between consultants occupying the joint appointments and their colleagues in prisons'. In

* Approved by Council, 31 March 1978.

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