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letter

Dear Sir,

If correctly printed, I would question the final paragraph of Father Bossard's letter (issue dated 23rd March). I am not in any way or sense a medical man, but I just cannot conceive that it is correct to state that "most of our diseases are the symptoms of the ills of a disordered and unbalanced mind".

I can imagine what distress this statement could cause to sufferers of say "cancer", smallpox etc. Surely it was not Father Bossard's intention to convey the impression that sufferers such as these have disordered and unbalanced minds. It may be disordered and unbalanced bodies which have some bearing, but not directly attributable to the mind. Admittedly the mind of a great extent rules the body but God made us in a very complex fashion and I would think that environment, external damage, exposure to viruses and so on would certainly have great bearing on diseases of the human body: cause and effect could be quite divorced from the mind. I cannot claim

to have any medical or theological training (except what an ordinary lay Christian would receive). I cannot even claim to be of Swiss origin, but I do read the S.O. and the item caught my eye. As a Christian I do endorse Father Bossard's contention that by faith (and prayer) restoration of both mind and body to full health is a practicable proposition and can be accomplished, "God willing".

H. J. Thomson (Potters Bar)

Cultural Events

Wednesday, 30th May, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7.45 p.m. *Frank Martin's* Harpsichord Concerto, with the solo part played by George Malcolm, is one of the items presented by the London Mozart Players.

Wednesday, 30th May, Purcell Room, 7.30 p.m. Recital by *Peter Humbel* (flute) and Harold Lester (harpsichord), who plays works by Telemann, Blavet, Bach and Handel.

Thursday, 31st May, Eastbourne Congress Theatre, 7.30 p.m. *Tamas Vasary* plays Mozart's Piano Concertos in A (K. 414) and B flat (K. 405) with the London Mozart Players, conducted by Harry Blech.

Thursday, 31st May; Saturday, 2nd June; Friday, 8th June; Sunday, 10th June; Sunday, 17th June; Thursday, 21st June; Saturday, 23rd June; Monday, 25th June; Wednesday, 27th June, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, 5.30 p.m. (Sundays: 4.30 p.m.). The Visit of the Old Lady, First production in Britain of the opera by G. von Einem, from the play by *Friedrich Durrenmatt*.

Monday, 4th June; Tuesday, 5th June; Thursday, 7th June; Friday, 8th June; Sunday, 10th June; Monday, 11th June; Thursday, 14th June. National Film Theatre, South Bank, Waterloo SE1, 6.30 and 8.30 p.m. *Swiss Film Season*, new feature films and shorts from Switzerland.

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