73 Persons Attend Mid-Winter Meeting

Of the 110 members currently in the Louisiana Psychiatric Association, 40 of them came to Baton Rouge the weekend of January 17th through 19th for the annual convention. Those who did attend with their wives were richly rewarded both in terms of the quality of the Meetings, the importance and variety of business transacted, and the warmth and conviviality of the social aspects of the meeting. Members came from all over the State: Shreveport, Monroe, Alexandria, New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Guests were in various categories all the way from the four little toddlers brought by Dr. Carol Kitchen and her dentist husband from Covington, through our guest of honor, Dr. Robert Garber from Belle Mead, New Jersey. Mr. Winborn Davis, Mr. H. J. Walters, and Dr. and Mrs. Joe Sabatier were in attendance. Dr. and Mrs. Sabatier were honored guests at the dinner and dance representing the East Baton Rouge Medical Society. Accolades were given in abundance to the Baton Rouge contingent of the L.P.A. and their faithful and hardworking wives for the programs they developed both for the members and the member’s wives during the convention period. Helen and Henry Olivier, co-chairmen of the arrangements committee were most active and seemed to be everywhere arranging for tables, meals rooms etc. They were ably assisted in their preparations and the conduction of the meeting by Shiela and Charles Fiegley, Pat and George Burke, Ruth and George Caruso, and Annette and Freeland Magruder, and Elsie and Knight Lavender. The membership extended this entire group repeated thanks for an extremely pleasant, relaxing, and productive convention time.

The Convention opened Friday night, January 17th with Dutch treat cocktails on the top floor of the Lakeshore Motel in Baton Rouge. Many of the members had delicious meals in the “State Club” at the Hotel while others went elsewhere. Social amenities were in high form by Saturday morning when the ladies reconvened at Bob and Jake’s for a luncheon and style show, followed by a visit to the new Governor’s Mansion. It is with regret that the ladies departed the mansion without seeing examples of the well-publicized plumbing in the building.

Saturday evening’s dinner and dance was held at the Lakeshore Motel following a cocktail party tendered the organization as a gift from the Roche Laboratories. A very sumptuous roast beef dinner was followed by dancing in the dark or near dark of the Ballroom accompanied by a delightfully talented standing orchestra, who’s melodies carried the party into the small hours of the morning.

Sunday morning brunch, at which time the members and their wives gathered in the Acadian Room of the Hotel, was a pleasant and final get-together before the members departed for home. Any account of the social aspect of the meeting would not be complete without acknowledging again the total indebtedness that the membership has to the presence of their lovely wives as well as some very charming children of the Epsteins, Touzet, and kitchen families.

THE EDITOR

Dr. ROBERT GARBER

The guest speaker to the Mid-Winter annual meeting of the L.P.A. was Dr. Robert Garber, Speaker of the Assembly of the District Branches of the L.P.A. Speaking at 10 A.M. on Saturday, Dr. Garber led off the meeting with a brief formal talk and then opened the floor for discussions from the membership about the mechanisms and operations of the national A.P.A. and our relation to it through the Assembly of District Branches. The A.P.A. has now reached the unwieldy membership of 13,000 persons, making government by Council impossible without much more direct liaison with the grassroots. This is where the Assembly of District Branches come in, to filter through to the leadership more and more of the opinion of the average member—such as in our current consideration of the Justice Brennan proposal. Our Delegate and Alternate must serve for several years in order to be an effective spokesman for the L.P.A. Dr. Garber also said that Fellowship is no longer a perfunctory honor but is awarded after considerable thought and evaluation of each individual prospect.
LOUISIANA PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

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V. The Administrative Authority (Table of Organization) of the State Department of Hospitals should be available for review at all levels at any time.

A suggested hierarchy should be made as follows:

- Director Department of Hospitals
- Psychiatrist Consultant (Commissioner of Mental Health)
- Board of Hospital or Clinic (local member)
- Consultant from L.P.A.
- Psychiatrist Director
- Administrative Assistant

All Personnel

VI. Recommendations for future consideration and discussion include:

a) definite emphasis should be made in the State for better and more definitive care of emotionally disturbed children, on in-patient and out-patient basis;

b) that the State provide medical psychiatric care primarily to indigent persons. Each facility should provide truly emergency care to any person, regardless of income, with prompt and immediate referral of non-indigent persons to private sources. Such referral to private sources should be on an alphabetical basis, whether local or at a distance.

c) staffing should have priority over building new facilities. It should be recommended that the State lease existing buildings wherever possible, finance competent persons to provide services in lieu of advocating building facilities which could be difficult to staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Feigley, M.D.
Chairman

George J. Caruso, M.D.
Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Mental Health Planning

MINUTES OF L.P.A.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

January, 1964

The meeting was attended by Drs. Feigley, Olivier, Miller, Lief, Norman, Touzet, Cohen, Burdon, Ritter, and Spruell.

(Continued on page 3)
CURRENT CONCEPTS

By the time this appears in print there will have been a meeting, sponsored by the New Orleans Society of Neurology and Psychiatry, on the problem of homosexuality, which featured psychiatrists and civic figures. We hope it is the first of many meetings that will discuss this, and other questions with a social, legal and psychological overlapping.

There have been a flood of books on the market recently, dealing with this issue. Some have been written by laymen, with eye catching, sensational titles, some have been cases of special pleading written by homosexuals themselves and still others have been series works attempting to reach the understanding of these problems. One of the most interesting, recently published, is, "The Problem of Homosexuality In Modern Society", and anthology edited by Ruitenbeek. Articles by Freud, Frenzi, Kardiner, Clara Thompson, Lindner, Rado, Ovesey, Simone de Beauvoir and others, are contained in this anthology. Basically, this book points out that homosexuality is increasing and represents a problem that cannot be ignored nor approached merely from a legal point of view. It also points out the apparent limitations in our therapy of homosexuality, partly due to our present incomplete understanding. Is it an illness, a symptom, or simply a matter of choice?

In our own thinking, many of us regard homosexuality as an illness in itself, others as a symptom of a deeper, underlying illness which may have many forms, and others regard it as no problem at all but simply a matter of choice.

No matter what our preoccupation with this, we do feel that some of the current legal approaches, especially involving entrapment procedures, are bad. The public and hostile attitude towards homosexuality strikes, as we realize, at the unconscious of many people, not overtly homosexual, who insist on rigid punishments and have an implacably homophobic attitude towards the homosexual offenders. All of us, as psychiatrists, have probably recently seen cases of people threatened by prosecution and exposure, who were destroyed as functioning members of society and, in a way, driven back in the milieu which alone will receive them after such exposure. Any illness or symptom of illness, cannot be cured or prevented by outlawed or persecuted. I feel that we must first work against irrational attitudes whether they come for special pleadings from homosexual quarters or as repressive measures from hostile and phobic sources. One can adopt a helpful attitude without giving over and homosexuality the stamp of social approval or regarding it simply as a matter of choice.

WILLIAM R. SORUM, M.D.

LOUISIANA'S SHARE OF NEW FEDERAL MATCHING MONEY (TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IN FISCAL 1964 BUDGET)

For Comprehensive Community Mental Health Centers ............$738,507
For State Retardation Centers ..........$193,944
Total for Fiscal 1964 ........$932,451

PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL BEDS IN LOUISIANA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACILITY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>MEDICAL TYPE</th>
<th>PSYCHIATRIC BED CAPACITY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shreveport Confederate Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>Highland Hospital, Inc.</td>
<td>Corp.</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Schumpert Memorial Sanitarium, T. E.</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>NPA (Non-Profit)</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>(Only 8 specifically assigned)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>20 (Construction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Baptist Hospital</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>(None specifically assigned)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Louisiana State Hospital</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Mental</td>
<td>3,200</td>
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<td>Lake Charles Lake Charles Memorial Hospital</td>
<td>NPA</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>(None specifically assigned)</td>
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<td>St. Patrick's Hospital</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lafayette Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>24 (Construction)</td>
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<td>Baton Rouge East Louisiana State Hospital</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Mental</td>
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<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Orleans Charity Hospital of Louisiana</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>General</td>
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<tr>
<td>DePaul Hospital</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Touro Infirmary</td>
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<td>Southern Baptist Hospital</td>
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<td>Mercy Hospital</td>
<td>Church</td>
<td>General</td>
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<td>Hotel Dieu</td>
<td>Church</td>
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<td>Sara Mayo Hospital</td>
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<td>West Jefferson Hospital</td>
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<td>General</td>
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TOTAL 8,653 BEDS

News Items

Thanks to the skill, patience, and kindness of Freeland Magruder, the Editor has the photos of the recent meeting shown on these pages. Thank you very much.

The next meeting of The Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society will be held at 8:00 P.M. on Friday, February 21st, 1964. Dr. Emmanuel K. Schwartz from New York will be the guest speaker. The topic will be "Leadership Hunger in the Group". Dr. Schwartz is the co-author with Dr. Alexander Wolfe of the textbook "Psychoanalysis in Groups". (Continued on page 6)
Louisiana's Mental Health Centers

The community mental health center plan as we now have it developing is new only in its scope and because a federal law implements it. The principles of therapy and prevention of mental illness on which the plan is based are well known to all of us. Less well known or understood is the place our centers are designed to take in our national economy, and especially in the touchy area of private medical practice. It is to this aspect of the total scheme that these remarks are primarily addressed.

The Louisiana mental hospitals and clinics, like those in other states, are treating an increasing number of patients for shorter periods. Most of these people or their families are not indigent, in the usual sense of this term, yet they are not able to afford private psychiatric hospitalization for more than very brief periods, and usually are not able to finance adequate private outpatient care as well. These patients have traditionally been treated in the most government-controlled, socialized-medical system of Western Society: our state hospitals and their ancillary facilities. The community mental health center is specifically designed to reverse the process, to desocialize this part of psychiatry, and to bring these patients back into the mainstream of medical practice. We now have an opportunity to end our two systems of psychiatric medicine: one for the well-to-do and well-insured, and the other—our present and ancient system of government medicine—for the poor.

How can we do this? How can we avoid perpetuating for yet another generation the old socialized system, and still utilize the strong government support offered us in our efforts to meet the urgent need of better care for more people? We can do this through comprehensive mental health centers, with emphasis on early diagnosis, rapid treatment, and effective rehabilitation close to the patient's home. As they are developing in Louisiana, the Centers will enable private physicians—practitioners, psychiatrists, and other specialists—to participate directly in community mental health activities, just as they do in other community health facilities, public and private. We expect that the comprehensive community mental health center staff, like the fulltime staff of a general hospital, will provide new unavailable assistance and consultative services to practicing physicians to help them in working with the emotional illness they encounter in their practice. We believe that location of mental health centers in the community will, for the first time, provide many private practitioners with treatment privileges in a psychiatric facility which is readily available for outpatient and inpatient care of their patients. When a mentally ill person is in need of more extensive services than can be offered in office practice, the private practitioner may have his patient admitted to the community mental health center where he can provide continued treatment. Both the patient and physician will have available the services and facilities of the center. For example, a private psychiatrist may continue responsibility for his patient; or a general practitioner may care for his patient with assistance from the center's psychiatrists. In addition to such direct service the center will serve, it is fervently hoped, as a major focus for postgraduate training in psychiatric aspects of medical practice for general practitioners and other medical specialists such as pediatricians and obstetricians.

It is confidently expected that the extensive involvement of the private physicians and of responsible citizens in the operation and support of community mental health centers will establish mental health services in their rightful place within the framework of community medical services. As the private sector of the community becomes more involved in the operation of such centers, the role of the State will diminish accordingly. Long range Federal subsidies are not desirable. Perhaps some initial aid would have helped in early staffing problems, but it is not necessary. Individual fees for service, insurance, and voluntary contributions, as well as state and local aid are expected to carry continuing costs of services.

Even though any mental health center will have a character unique to its regional location, each will be one of nine under the administrative leadership of the Department of Hospitals staff in Baton Rouge. The most impressive aspect of the personnel of the Mental Health Division of the Department of Hospitals is the collective atmosphere of eager optimism, enthusiasm, and energy that they generate. These men are youthful, but also experienced, for the most part, and experienced in just the sort of work that matters. They know our Louisiana hospitals and clinics from first-hand experience; and most important, probably, they are tuned in to the nuances of the varied Louisiana ways of doing things, to our cultural distinctions. Mr. Winborn Davis and Mr. H. J. Walters deserve our wholehearted admiration for bringing together this fine administrative team. Of more specific importance to us is the fact that each and every one of these people—and they are uniformly of a non-medical background—has wanted to know how he might best serve the private practitioners' interests, directly or indirectly, in the performance of his duties. All are concerned with developing and maintaining open channels of communication, and see the addition of a psychiatric consultant to the Department of Hospitals administrative staff as a vital step toward this goal.

The guiding operational philosophy of the Centers is envisaged as adaptation, utilitarian, provocative, encompassing, idealistic, practical, and progressive, all at the same time. The philosophy of the program is complex, derives from a vast experience in the past, and is aimed at maintaining a dynamic community approach to far-reaching public health problems. Above all, the centers are conceived as a positive contribution to our American system of free enterprise and to the perpetuation of the high standards of the private practice of medicine.

WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, M.D.

(Based on a talk delivered to the mental Health Advisory Council, Baton Rouge, 12/2/63)

NEWS ITEMS (Continued from page 5)

Max Sugar and Donald Gallant attended the American Group Psychotherapy Association meeting in New York, January 22 through 25, 1964. Max represented the Louisiana Group Psychotherapy Society at the meeting of the AGPA Committee on the local and Affiliate societies.

Gerald Caplan, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health, was guest lecturer last month at a special 25th anniversary celebration of the Guidance Center and its parent organization, The Institute of Mental Hygiene of the City of New Orleans. Jack Chappuis and Bob Heath announced the incorporation of the Guidance Center into Tulane's Dept. of N. and P. as of March 1st. With this nucleus, a community mental health services of comprehensive scope is planned at the medical school.

Dr. Melvin Sadowsch, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Illinois and a Graduate of Tulane Medical School, will be returning as Guest Speaker February 28th and 29th at Tulane.
MINUTES OF L.P.A.
(Continued from page 2)

1. Secretary's Report.
The minutes of both the preceding Council Meeting and preceding meeting of the general membership were approved as printed in the Newsletter. Various secretarial matters were discussed, including the direction by the Council for the Secretary to contact the Orleans Parish Medical Society in regard to their technic of mailing material to their general membership. The Secretary recommended to the Council Miree and Gonzalez for approval as Associate Members of the L.P.A. The Council agreed, and their names will be presented to the general membership at the January meeting. The Secretary reported on a meeting by the Ethics Committee, of which he is Chairman. They had taken up the problem raised nationally of some dissatisfaction relative to the handling of complaints regarding ethics of members. As spelled out in the Constitution, the National Council acts as a screening body, before referring such complaints, by two-third majority vote, to the National Ethics Committee. If the National Ethics Committee deems it advisable, action by the Council is recommended. It was the feeling of the local Ethics Committee that complaints would be better screened by a local Ethics Committee, which in turn would report to the local Executive Council, which then would report any action to the National Ethics Committee. Most of the Council members agreed, and suggested that the Secretary correspond with the Chairman of the National Ethics Committee regarding the mechanics—or proposed mechanics—of local action.

II. Treasurer's Report.
The treasurer reported a current balance of $740.

Gene Usdin conveyed a summary of the minutes of the A.P.A. Committee on Psychiatry and the Law and a summary of the study done by the Colorado District Branch on Justice Brennan’s report. In essence, the issue is much more complicated than would at first be apparent. Harold Lief recommended convening the local committee for further evaluation of the proposal.

IV. Newsletter.
Among other matters of routine interest regarding the Newsletter, two important things were discussed. One had to do with the possibility of securing reporters for the Newsletter from other areas of the State. The other was Ken Ritter’s motion that no committee report be published without prior clearance from the Executive Council. This motion passed.

V. Ad-Hoc Committee on Regional Planning for Mental Health.
Charles Feigley reported on a great amount of work, particularly by George Caruso in Baton Rouge and Ed Long in Monroe. Both Caruso and Long have worked very hard to make their committees actually function, and to counteract tendencies toward diffusion or lasitude or confusion by these committees. There was a great deal of discussion of the various aspects of this problem. Perhaps the area of most general agreement had to do with the need for the psychiatric profession to play a very active part in this planning, and not merely leave it to the state authorities.

VI. March meeting.
The March meeting will be held on the third Thursday of the month. Dr. Peter Regan of Florida will speak.

Vann Spruiell
Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS
The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation is authorized to pay for private psychotherapy of selected clients who meet certain specific criteria such as: financial need, response to brief therapy, good prognosis for return to gainful employment, and if suitable public agency is unavailable. For further details call Alvin Cohen, Chm. Committee on Vocational Rehabilitation.

DEVEREUX SCHOOLS
A private non-profit, nonsectarian residential treatment and educational center. For boys and girls with normally average and superior intelligence, needing remedial tutoring, psychotherapy and an individualized educational program.

For children and young adults who are slow learners, with or without neurological impairment or physical handicaps. Students are grouped homogenously according to age and abilities in specialized programs including vocational rehabilitation.

For information write: MR. RICHARD D. GRANT, Registrar
The Devereux School of Texas
P. O. Box 2269, Victoria, Texas
DePaul Hospital News

Dr. James H. Brown was installed as president of De Paul staff at the annual banquet tendered the staff physicians by the hospital administrator, Sister Mary Alice McCarthy, FACHA, on Monday, January 27th at the hospital. Dr. Brown succeeded Dr. Wallace W. Fleetwood. Other officers seated were: Dr. William R. Sorum, vice-pres, and Dr. Hiram G. Haynie, secty-treas. Committee chairmen appointed by Dr. Brown are: Dr. Kenneth A. Ritter, credentials; Dr. Justillien H. Foret, medical records; Dr. Wallace W. Fleetwood, medico-legal; Dr. Benjamin F. Parker, nomination; Dr. Charles R. Smith, pharmacy; Dr. Harold Bolding, program; Dr. Robert G. Head, library, and Dr. Haynie, nursing education.

Principal speaker at the banquet was Dr. Edwin M. Fuchs, medical staff director.

Dr. Sorum gave the first of the 1964 mental health lecture series, sponsored annually by the De Paul Hospital Guild, on Wed., Jan. 29th, at the hospital. "Psychological Aspects of Political Violence" was the subject of his address.

Dr. Brown, newly-installed medical staff pres., will discuss "Current Trends in Medical Health", before this 600-member Hospital Guild group on Monday, Feb. 24th.

Dr. Edwin M. Fuchs, De Paul Hospital medical director, participated in the annual meeting-program of the National Assn. of Private Psychiatric Hospitals, held January 20-22nd at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Dr. Fuchs has been made a Diplomate of American Board of N. & P. in December.

Dr. Robert C. Lancaster addressed members of the Eleanor McMain Junior High School PTA on Tuesday evening, Feb. 4th in the School Auditorium. He discussed "Creativity in Children".

Dr. Wallace W. Fleetwood, as out-going president, presenting gavel to Dr. James H. Brown, newly-installed president of De Paul Hospital Medical Staff at the annual installation-banquet given staff physicians Monday Evening, January 27th at the hospital by Sister Mary Alice McCarty, FACHA, hospital administrator.

Dr. Lancaster has been made associate professor in clinical psychiatry at Tulane U. School of Medicine.