Mid-Winter Meeting Date

The Annual Mid-Winter Meeting of the Louisiana Psychiatric Association will be held January 19, 20, and 21 in New Orleans. Andre Touzet, M.D., President-Elect of the Louisiana Psychiatric Association, will be in charge of the program and arrangements for the Mid-Winter Meeting.

Elected To General Membership

Fourteen have been elected to General Membership in the Louisiana Psychiatric Association and the American Psychiatric Association.


These new General Members formerly held Associate Membership.

L.S.M.S. Services Outlined For L.P.A.

Services of the Louisiana State Medical Society which are available to the Louisiana Psychiatric Association were outlined by H. Ashton Thomas, M.D. at the July meeting of the L.P.A. Executive Council.

Dr. Thomas, Executive Secretary of the L.S.M.S., pointed out these services are available on the basis that many L.P.A. members are also members of the State Medical Society.

Among services provided are legislative consultation, legal opinion, communication with physician throughout the state — both as general members of the State Medical Society and in specialty groups — and the State Society can be of assistance with local news media.

Dr. Thomas urged physicians in specialty groups to make use of the services provided for them by the State Medical Society.

Installation Date Set

Installation ceremonies will be held Friday, September 22nd, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Vista Shores Club in New Orleans.

Officers of the Louisiana Psychiatric Association will be seated at this function. They are:

Kenneth A. Ritter, M.D. — President
Andre C. Touzet, M.D. — President-Elect
Karr Shannon, M.D. — Vice-President
Henry R. Olivier, M.D. — Vice-President
Mottram Torre, M.D. — Secretary
Charles R. Smith, M.D. — Treasurer

Vista Shores Club is located on the banks of historic Bayou St. John, at 5958 St. Bernard Avenue in New Orleans. There will be a Cocktail Hour and a Buffet Dinner-Dance. Expenses for members will be covered by the dues with a fee of $7.50 for each guest.

Andre Touzet, M.D., President-Elect, is serving as Chairman of the Installation.
DEFINITION SOUGHT

What is a psychiatrist? Could you define the term in a sentence? If not, don’t be discouraged. The American Psychiatric Association can’t define the term, either.

Lends an air of assurance to know one is tagged by a term which isn’t considered defineable at present.

A task force has been appointed by the Assembly of the District Branches of A.P.A. and $1,800 appropriated for this purpose.

Confusion exists in the analytic field and the president of the American Psychoanalytic Association has called for a definition of the role of psychonalyst and psychoanalysis.

Usdin Edits Book

A recent publication, "Adolescence: Care and Counseling", was edited by Gene L. Usdin, M.D., Director of Touro Community Mental Health Center. Dr. Usdin also contributed an overview in the book.

Members of the Louisiana Psychiatric Association who contributed to the book included:

- Reuben S. Roy, Jr., M.D.
- James A. Knight, M.D.
- Max Sugar, M.D.
- Irwin M. Marcus, M.D.
- Mottram Torre, M.D.
- Carl P. Adatto, M.D.
- Cyril Phillips, D.P.M.
- Vann Spruell, M.D.
- Murray A. Diamond, M.D.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT CENTERS

The concept is not new. Federal financing is new. Historically the care of mental illness has been a state function. During and after World War II, the federal government entered the scene providing assistance for veterans. Funds have been allocated from the national government to local and state levels for establishment of Community Mental Health Treatment Centers.

Confusion exists about the centers. Federal funds available for staffing decrease steadily over a five-year period. After five years, federal funds for staff stop and other sources of funds must be found.

Community psychiatry is a poorly defined term at present. At a recent meeting we attended, community psychiatry was nominated as the “applied clinical branch” by one speaker and as “the research branch” by another. Social psychiatry was listed by the respective speakers as the complement in each case.

Centers and/or clinics require personnel. In Louisiana, currently-established positions can’t be filled, which leads one to the question of personnel of these clinics or centers.

Fortunately, Louisiana’s unique medical care system provides answers to many questions bothering those from other states. This is particularly true in procedural and/or operational matters. It may or may not be as true in philosophical matters.
SLEEP RESEARCHER

William C. Dement, M.D. was a guest of the New Orleans Area Psychiatric Association in April and has made several talks about his 10-year-work in sleep research.

In addition to addressing the New Orleans Area Psychiatric Association, he also was guest speaker for the Department of Psychiatry, L.S.U. School of Medicine, and at the New Orleans Psychoanalytic Institute.

Among the points brought out by Dr. Dement were the possibility of sleep deprivation producing permanent changes in the brain. He also indicated that further laboratory research may bear out many of Freud’s hypotheses regarding dreams and their functions, although some old ideas may have to be discarded.

Michael L. Connell, M.D.

TENNESSEE HOSPITAL SERVICE SAYS PSYCHIATRIST IS PHYSICIAN

Philip Sottong, M.D., Chattanooga, Tennessee was asked by an internist to examine a patient. Dr. Sottong diagnosed acute cerebral edema and began treatment at the internist’s request. The patient recovered and was later discharged.

Tennessee Hospital Association (Blue Cross) denied payment for Dr. Sottong’s services on the ground that mental conditions are not covered. The Tennessee Hospital Service later reversed its decision and allowed payment. (From Psychiatric News, Volume 2, Number 6.)

NEW L.P.A. MEMBERS

Five physicians have been recommended for election to Membership in the Louisiana Psychiatric Association and the American Psychiatric Association. Four were recommended for Associate Membership. They are: Walter L. Guillot, Jr., M.D.; Kenneth Don Ragan, M.D.; James H. Phillips, M.D.; and Norman Lee Mauro, M.D.

David Bryan Regan, M.D. was recommended for General Membership.

TOURO COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER ADDS STAFF

William Robinson, M.D., joined the staff of Touro Community Mental Health Center as Assistant Director. His appointment was effective July 1, 1967. The announcement was made by Gene L. Usdin, M.D., Director of the Center. Dr. Robinson is a Graduate of the University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky. He served as Assistant Chief of Staff at Bedford Veterans Administration Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts and was also in charge of the Out Patient Clinics at the V.A. Hospital in Boston. Prior to coming to Touro, Dr. Robinson was in charge of the Men’s Receiving Ward at Bryce State Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

L.P.A. Members — Active


Robert L. Newman, Jr., M.D. has been appointed Director of the Day Treatment Center, Department of Psychiatry, L.S.U. Medical School.

Harold T. Conrad, M.D., has been appointed Clinical Director of Psychiatry Service, U.S. Public Health Hospital, New Orleans.


T. A. Watters, M.D. journeyed to Easter Island and viewed the inhabitants and their tombs and statues.

Max Sugar, M.D. was a guest lecturer to the V.A. Hospital Psychiatric Staff in June, 1967. His topic was “Adolescence: Normal and Abnormal.” He attended the Southeastern Group Psychotherapy Society Meeting in Miami, Florida, on July 12, 1967.


Henry Olivier, M.D. has been elected President of the Sixth District Medical Society.

WORKSHOP AT TOURO

A workshop for institutional contact pastors was held at Touro Community Mental Health Center May 29th and May 30th. It was sponsored by the Southern District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Among those participating and the topics they discussed were:

Mottram Toore, M.D. — Personality Factors in the Clergy
Betty Spencer, ACSW — Handling Crises in Family Life
Reuben Roy, M.D. — Counseling Adolescents
William Sorum, M.D. — Alcoholism
Murray A. Diamond, M.D. — Narcotics and Other Drug Abuse
Edwin Fuchs, M.D. — Aging
Lucio E. Gatto, M.D. — Recognition and Referral of Psychiatric Conditions
Theo A. Watters, M.D. — Experiences with the Clergy and Group Work
Ernest O. Svenson, M.D. — Menopausal Reactions
Gene L. Usdin, M.D. — Grief and Depressive Reactions

Discussion groups were held after each speaker and among those participating were Doctors Roy, Torre, Diamond, and Sorum. Dr. Gene Usdin moderated reports from the discussion groups.
THE SOUTHEASTERN MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

by Albert P. Koy, M.D.

The Southeastern Mental Health Clinic (formerly Aftercare Clinic) was established in 1960 and opened as a one-office clinic at which patients discharged from the Southeast Louisiana Hospital at Mandeville and the East Louisiana State Hospital at Jackson, as well as families of the patients were seen. As the years went by, the number of personnel was increased to keep pace with greater number of patients being referred here from the respective hospitals, in an attempt to keep the patient in the community and out of the hospital.

The staff of the Southeastern Mental Health Clinic consists of: Three part-time psychiatrists; three part-time psychiatry residents; two full-time social workers, including Mr. Ben Ray who is the clinic administrator; three part-time social workers; one full-time institutional counselor; one vocational rehabilitation counselor; two clerical personnel; two medical student externs; one custodial worker, and three volunteer workers. One afternoon a week, ten medical students from Tulane Medical School see two patients each under the supervision of Kyle Hamm, M.D. and Dave Reed, M.D.

Patients coming to this clinic are self-referred by one of the hospitals or other agencies. The patient is evaluated either at an individual intake or in a group therapy. We have twenty-seven groups which are being handled either by psychiatrists, social workers, institutional counselor, or medical students. The group technique has proved most effective in treating patients who require long-term medicine follow-up, and it is also most effective in dealing with a large patient population by a small staff. Donald Lathrop, M.D., who has a group here at the clinic, supervises the group therapists weekly. Most groups are of a supportive nature. As we get more precare patients we will establish more intensive groups. The supportive groups meet once a month and the intensive groups meet once a week.

In the future we will see children, more adolescents, acute crisis situations, more families, marriage counselling, and do more consultation and explore further our catchment area which includes part of the seventh, eighth, and ninth wards. This includes a population of about 130,000 people. This will mean that we will refer some of our patients to the other respective catchment areas.

Located in the same building is the clinic for the treatment of alcoholism and the Committee on Alcoholism for the greater New Orleans area. (Dr. Koy is Medical Director of the Southeastern Mental Health Clinic.)

WEST JEFFERSON MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

West Jefferson Mental Health Center opened activities July 1, 1967 with a new name and a new address. Formerly known as the Harvey Mental Health Center, the new facilities are located at 1901½ Eighth Street, Harvey, Louisiana, according to Mrs. Catherine Boudreaux, MSW, Administrator of the Clinic.

Genevieve Arneson, M.D. is Medical Director. The clinic serves the West Bank of Jefferson Parish and sees patients in all age groups.

The mailing address of the West Jefferson Mental Health Center is P.O. Box 735, Harvey, Louisiana 70058.

Selye Given Honor

Dr. Hans Selye, of Montreal, Canada was awarded honorary membership in the Louisiana Psychiatric Association. The award was presented April 21, when Dr. Selye spoke in Shreveport. Karr Shannon, M.D., Head of the Department of Psychiatry, Confederate Memorial Center, conducted the ceremony.

LONG WORDS AND DULL PAPERS

Multi-syllabic pronouncements issued sonorously. Several scientific sessions held this fall in New Orleans meet this description. Technical terms are shorthand for cumbersome definitions. Correctly used, technical terms are time-savers and provide precision.

It is tiresome and discouraging to listen to a paper which strings together the longest words known to the author. Such papers are dull. We hope that future speakers turn to the standard dictionary, first, and to technical glossaries, second.

The obligation is the author's—to keep the audience awake; and avoid the role of James I, “wisest fool in Christendom”.

If some kind soul of ages gone had not provided articles and conjunctives, one paper we heard would have been entirely poly-syllabic.

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