

# Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Society/Institute



# BULLETIN

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## A PSYCHOANALYTIC FOREIGN POLICY

by  
Robert M. Dorn, M.D.

Participation on County and State medical organizations (President of a District Branch and Delegate to the California Medical Association), has made me more aware of the widespread impact of changing times on all areas of people's private and public lives. As a psychoanalyst I hear not only the voices of "reactionaries" and "progressives", but also note a dialogue that reflects man's attempts to both grapple with and participate in a rapidly changing cultural and physical environment.

Similar themes emerge in the deliberations within the Committee on Social Problems of The American Psychoanalytic Association:

- What are some of the most imperative challenges to man today?
- What, if anything, has organized psychoanalysis (and psychoanalysts) contributed to deal with or resolve these problems?
- What can we do? Where can we do more?
- Do we impede our own potential contributions as psychoanalysts?

The last question becomes persistent as I work on the Committee, and correspond with people from other disciplines who show interest in our work. As I look for ways to facilitate exchanges of ideas, and to carry out interdisciplinary studies, I find evidence suggesting our Society-Institute structures are no longer serving to deliver the insights that have accrued through the process of psychoanalysis.

The Psychoanalytic Society-Institute has served several functions in the past:

- 1) It has furnished a podium for presentation of scientific findings, and an appropriate audience for critical discussion.
- 2) It has developed a school for the selection and training of students of psychoanalysis.
- 3) It has served the community by making available low-cost psychoanalyses.

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## WALLERSTEIN SPEAKS on PSYCHOANALYTIC - ACADEMIC SCHISM

On 8 February, 1968, Dr. Robert Wallerstein presented a paper to the Institute under the sponsorship of the Institute-Society's committees on community education and community activities. The theme of the meeting was the role of psychoanalysis and psychoanalysts in relation to psychiatry and the intellectual and academic world.

Dr. Wallerstein began his paper by stating that he would make a political rather than a scientific statement, intending to explore the role of psychoanalysis in the world. He based his reflections on his experiences as a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford, California, where he worked with scholars from many fields. At the Center some 16 or 17 discrete fields were represented.

Dr. Wallerstein stated, "Surprising to me was how many serious scholars there were pursuing academic careers of distinction in disciplines one would think very close to psychoanalysis who have been essentially uninfluenced by analytic ideas; have not seen it necessary to incorporate analytic views on human personality functioning into their overall explanatory schemata." His main observation was that the Freudian revolution had not conquered the intellectual world with anything approaching the thoroughness he had taken for granted.

Psychiatry, Dr. Wallerstein said, is asking of analysis: Is it broad enough or concerned enough or alert enough to react meaningfully to the total spectrum of psychiatric concern, from the biological to the social? In psychology, a whole subfield, that of psycholinguistics, developed totally untouched by psychoanalysis. Even social work is turning less and less to psychoanalysis.

Dr. Wallerstein then developed his main theme, namely, psychoanalysis has not lived up to itself and up to its claims as a scholarly discipline. He

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EDITORIAL

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  - Kenneth Rubin, M. D.
  - James T. Thickstun, M. D.
- Correspondant - Mrs. Mimi Horowitz

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MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Samuel Futterman discussed psychedelic drugs at the C. M. A.'s Annual Regional Post Graduate Institute.

Max Hayman's paper, "The Myth of Social Drinking" has been reprinted in the Congressional Record.

Lawrence Friedman gave a series of ten lectures on "Psychoanalysis and Our Society" to the Beverly Hills Adult Education Program.

Rita Spies lectured on early child development at the Parent Education Program of the Country School and discussed the Pre-Adolescent Child at a Parent Workshop.

Edwin F. Price will be co-ordinator of a 2-1/2 year program at Kansas State Teachers College presented with the co-operation of the Menninger Foundation. The theme of the project will be integration of psychoanalytic understanding of children into the preparation of teachers.

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Dr. Abrahams in his report from the Community Activities Committee stresses the increasing isolation of the organized psychoanalytic community (i.e. the Society/Institute) from an engagement with the broader medical and intellectual communities and makes some specific recommendations toward reversing this process. Dr. Dorn presents some stimulating ideas toward a scientific collaboration with other disciplines interested in man's behavior including theology and political science. Dr. Wallerstein expresses a similar more liberal involvement in the academic world by psychoanalysts.

There is however, one area of our Society/Institute's work that seems to us to have been considerably stunted in recent years - that is in the services rendered through the Psychoanalytic clinic. Dr. Rubin, Director of the Clinic, reports in this issue of the Bulletin on the Clinic's efforts. We believe that it is possible to expand this contribution by a combination of various devices including again making it a requirement of candidates to analyze a clinic patient. Another possibility might be the use of income from the Mahon bequest to subsidize analysis of those who might otherwise go without.

Our Society/Institute is in one of the largest cities in the world. To this city are drawn thousands to the academic facilities located here. Many who attend, be they student or teacher, need and can benefit from psychoanalysis, yet for financial reasons they are excluded. Because the clinic functions marginally we take few patients. Surely we can meet the need.

The EDITORS

FOR MEMBERS ONLY

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING  
ELECTION AND INSTALLATION  
NEW OFFICERS

THURSDAY, June 20, 1968  
BEL-AIR HOTEL  
6:30 p. m.

REMEMBER THESE DATES

WESTERN REGIONAL PSYCHOANALYTIC SOCIETIES' MEETING

September 26-29, 1968  
HILTON INN  
San Diego, California

Herbert Marcuse, Ph. D.  
from San Diego  
Samuel Ritvo, M. D.  
from New York

Other participants to be announced



Since the Community Activities Committee had never functioned prior to January 1968, the initial focus was to discuss and formulate the functions and policies and to organize itself effectively as a committee. The active members have all expressed the feeling that the committee's *raison d'être* can best be seen as a potentially positive reaction to some of the cogent problems that challenge the psychoanalytic community. The most urgent challenge is the observation made by many that the psychoanalytic community is failing to penetrate the resistances of the scientific-intellectual world. In addition, we may be losing ground in areas of leadership in the medical community, as well as other sectors of humanitarian pursuits. We have lost the image of being revolutionary, visionary, innovative, experimental, scholarly, or even helpful. We are being accused of having schizoid-rigid personalities, being aloof, isolationistic and conservative. The necessity to explore the reasons for this depressing state of affairs is obvious before we find ourselves residing along side the dodo and amphioxus, and other relics of the past that manage to persist by the benevolence of curators of zoos.

The Community Activities Committee has felt it important to study the complex reasons for this imminent fossilization, and ways to effect a reversal of the trend. This was certainly in keeping with the spirit of the recent organization changes within the Institute-Society, and the ongoing reevaluation of the curriculum. However, one area which has not been given as much attention by the Institute-Society is how to facilitate, encourage, and support individual psychoanalysts' interaction with the community. Psychoanalysts may be actively or passively participating in the community, but their identity as psychoanalysts (as opposed to psychiatrists, MDs, or psychologists) is not consciously or even subliminally perceived. At any rate, few of us would disagree that the community can benefit from the insight into the psyche of men which psychoanalysis affords. The area of possible disagreement which persists is how and by whom can this promulgation be most effectively implemented. One project under consideration by the Community Activities Committee is organizing and administering a pilot Psychoanalytic Consultation Service. There have been a number of requests already from the community for psychoanalytic consultation (perhaps distinguishable from psychiatric consultation?). As yet the Institute-Society has no way to evaluate these requests, establish standards of appropriate interaction, and concretely offer service. Currently the Institute, by default, lets psychoanalysts go off into their community "on their own devices," and there is little attempt to integrate these approaches, share ideas, and facilitate communication among ourselves. A psychoanalytic consultation service has the potential of involving itself with groups of people which are substantially different than the Community Education Committee, such as action and political groups that are dealing

"STREPHOSYMBOLIA RECONSIDERED:

A Re-Study of a Specific Inhibition  
on the Use of Visual and Auditory  
Verbal Symbols. "

by

Maurice Walsh, M.D.

Presented

October 17, 1967

Dr. Walsh went beyond Rosen who had stressed the Oedipal origin of the strephosymbolic syndrome by presenting an analytic case which featured prominent oral and anal determinants for the patient's characteristic verbal inhibitions. Dr. Walsh extensively documented the strephosymbolic manifestations in his patient, including a note written by the patient to the analyst entitled, "An Odeous Oad." This document graphically demonstrated his patient's difficulties in spelling and in the reproduction of words in writing.

Dr. Walsh pointed out that the strephosymbolic syndrome in his patient closely resembled in its Oedipal features those in the case reported by Rosen. "However, for my patient, visual, verbal and auditory verbal symbols were heavily cathected with aggression, this being related to the hostile parents . . . The father image had a sadistic visual significance while that of the mother had a masochistic auditory significance. The patient himself had an inhibition in the interpretation of both visual and verbal symbols, thus preventing a synthesis of the father and mother images and keeping them apart, with the result that synthesis of the visual and the auditory elements of speech only imperfectly took place, both being heavily aggressively cathected. "

The patient had frequent automobile accidents, and these crashes represented "the patient's unconscious conception of the aggressive nature of the primal scene between the aggressive father and the phallic mother. "

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with such current issues as civil rights, war, criminal law, the death penalty, drug legislation, abortion, birth control, etc. It could also be a liaison between the Society-Institute and local, county, and national medical and educational institutions

The Community Activities Committee is considering various other ideas, some of which have a limited scope, and others rather expansive such as working eventually towards a psychoanalytically oriented community health center. The extent which any plan can be implemented depends inevitably on the direction of the response from the membership. We have just sent out a questionnaire similar to one issued in 1963. We hope that the membership will feel free to convey to us their comments and ideas, along with the pertinent information requested.

David Abrahams, M. D.

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- 4) It has maintained an extension school to share its concepts with colleagues in other behavioral sciences who may benefit by incorporating psychoanalytic ideas in their work. The extension school has also educated the lay public.

In this short presentation I will limit myself to point four. Implicit throughout however, is the thesis that we need to re-examine the entire Society-Institute structure. The psychoanalytic professional organization no longer provides the optimal stance that can be achieved. In fact, as operated today, the Society-Institute relies on many out-moded archaic, inefficient, and ineffectual methods, that fail to deliver to potential students, current candidates, colleagues in the behavioral sciences, and the professional and lay public, the best knowledge psychoanalysts and psychoanalysis can supply. It is time for our own "Flexner Report". We should propose the formation of our own "Millis Commission".

Psychoanalysis is a technique for the treatment of certain types of emotional disturbances. It is a potent therapeutic process, of inestimable help when properly applied to the appropriate condition. Such application led to the development of a basic psychology of man which differs from any other. The analyst's unique role of both observer and participant with his patient has yielded a body of knowledge on why man feels, thinks, and behaves as he does toward himself, other people, and his environment. No other form of treatment has provided a similar clarity of understanding with such breadth, depth, and precision (nor has my reading in other psychologies and in other behavioral sciences suggested equally exciting alternatives).

An evaluation of the history of psychoanalysis in the United States over the past twenty years reveals the analyst's uncertainty about where psychoanalysis belongs. At critical times, analysts have failed to acknowledge and/or insist that the psychoanalytic situation is a unique one. Thus, only a few years ago, a substantial number within the psychoanalytic group wanted to merge with psychiatry as a Board certified subspecialty. Some have tried to apply techniques of general psychology in their research methodology, and have become apologists for the psychoanalytic method.

Repetitive as it may be, it must be emphasized that psychoanalysis reveals the complex nature of psychic processes in a fashion which is different from any other approach. Like all sciences that exist at frontiers between the known and the unknown, it is incomplete, part of ongoing research, and in need of scholarly revisions from time to time. Its laboratory is the psychoanalytic situation.

Our failures are partially attributable to an inadequate means of communication with society.

Thus we have failed to establish that psychoanalysis is a basic behavioral science, contiguous with schools of anthropology, child development, education, history, law, political science, psychology, sociology, and theology. Until psychoanalysis is recognized as a discipline among other disciplines in the behavioral sciences, one can hardly expect the voices of a few exceptions to be more than whispers. Hopefully, departments of psychoanalysis will one day exist in the university at the interface where work goes on in the basic sciences, and simultaneously concerns itself with undergraduate and graduate work for the welfare of man.

It is time to state unequivocally that this has not occurred. Could we not do more to facilitate such developments. Where skepticism and honest doubts



Robert M. Dorn, M. D.

exist, model programs, pilot studies, and demonstration projects often serve to convince the inexperienced and the resistant to innovation. As an interim development, I would recommend we develop schools of psychoanalysis for the behavioral sciences, where scholars from all related disciplines participate. We can, first and foremost, supply a meeting place and foster an environment which encourages meaningful dialogue among peers

whose scholarly work within their specialties also focus on the human situation. We can teach from the psychoanalytic viewpoint, and we can broaden our field of observation, for we will also learn. We can offer analyses to those who wish the personal experience in depth.

It will take more than general lectures to demonstrate the true reaches of intrapsychic conflict. Our present day public lectures and post-graduate seminars fail to inspire colleagues struggling with contemporary topics. Even some of the undergraduate courses fail to invite candidates and members to apply analytic principles to the understanding of contemporary society. As an example, many analysts fail to point out that adolescents of today are different than those of the last generation, and that new approaches will be necessary before we can deal with their problems - whether on a therapeutic level or on an educational level. If the current generation of analysts fail to share with their students that they too have to reassess the current "scene", they rob each other of the mutually rewarding experience of current research opportunities. Often, younger colleagues feel an inspirational interest and concern in such areas; all-too-often they are made to feel or are helped to feel traitorous, rather than encouraged to explore their clinical ideas.

continued . . .

The Psychoanalytic Society-Institute could become a nodal point for such discussions. Contemporary problems are so numerous and so rich that analysts can only benefit by greater exposure to the facts of contemporary life. To date we have not offered behavioral scientists an opportunity to join in such an endeavor in an ongoing fashion. To this extent the "resistance" is ours. It behooves us to provide the "economic" situation, in the same fashion, that the properly-given interpretation must be economically accurate.

The professional and lay public is asking questions, seeking for answers, manifesting unrest and symptoms of anxiety, just as are many psychoanalysts, as individuals. While we refuse to settle for simplistic, holistic, or omniscient answers - while we continue to work out and clarify our own thinking - we can also supply the suitable environment that encourages study and consideration of ideas and proposals for future interdisciplinary research.

#### DISCUSSIONS:

\* Steward Hiltner: Let me offer one general comment, having read with appreciation and occasional vexation a good deal of psychoanalytic literature. Since I know the language, more or less, I am always intrigued and enlightened by what IS said. Where I tend to be vexed is in the arrest of social responsibility at the point where the analytic analysis has been made. As if it were all to be closed out with Q. E. D. Such a procedure is of course often quite correct in terms of "domestic policy." But I think what you are getting at is, so to speak, the development of a psychoanalytic "foreign policy." Whether as psychoanalysts, or as psychoanalytically-informed citizens, the next question is: So what do we recommend or do? And there can be no possible answer to this, I think, by CONFINING oneself to psychoanalytic perspectives - since all kinds of other things like politics and sociology must be reckoned with in terms of recommending or doing. So: purity must be set aside if responsibility is to be taken by the horns. Isn't there a kind of analytic perfectionism at this point - which analysis itself COULD tear apart if it chose? We have a somewhat similar temptation in theology, you know - a kind of purism.

To get down to your question about psychoanalysts and their address to religion and religious questions, by all means this is needed. I have read most of the pieces on religion in the analytical journals. Without many exceptions, they suffer from a kind of Lincoln Steffens "expose" attitude, not much veiled; or else they are cryptically apologetic pieces on behalf of religion -- whereas we need more objectivity and more light. Your own crying piece shows the general stance I would covet for further work. But no analyst could write a decent piece on mysticism if he didn't know. James, R. Otto, and others, in addition to psychoanalysis.

Nor could he do a job on prayer unless he knows Heiler and others on prayer, considered the place of a patient's reflections between analytic sessions and after them -- and put the whole thing together constructively.

My Menninger colleague, Paul Pruyser, a psychologist and not an analyst although analytically oriented, has just finished the draft of a magnificent psychoanalytically oriented psychology of religion. He will give parts of this as the Beecher lectures at Yale next spring; and I think Harper's will be publishing it about a year or so hence. From here on, I think Pruyser will properly set the standard for analytic considerations of religion. I think it is close to being a great book: the best since James and Boisen.

I find myself peculiarly intrigued by the question of self-dialogue and its relation to prayer in the religious sense. But psychoanalysts writing about religion seem to want to keep religion far away from what they work with every day, and eschew analysis of the "closer" elements of how they deal with and make use of (therapeutically) their patients' medications and self-reflections. When are such reflections useful? When are they impediments? Try to make some criteria relevant; then use in analyzing prayer.

I found recently, with all my indebtedness to Freud's 1907 article and Reik's later work, that no analyst has yet done a further job on ritual - granting that even psychoanalytic societies have their ritual and, at least in this instance, that it is not necessarily pathological. How about some new ground cutting about ritual and worship?

\* Harold D. Lasswell: It is hoped that Dr. Dorn's initiative will receive prompt and enduring support from his colleagues. So far as fellow specialists on man are concerned, they are more than eager to welcome whatever contributions of theory, data or procedure can be made by psychoanalysts. Many policy makers are equally receptive and hopeful.

I predict that the principal contributions to be made by psychoanalysts to the understanding of collective behavior will be factual and inventive. By the latter I mean that they can be expected to come up with creative ideas about institutional changes that will adapt the diverse cultural inheritances of man to the conspicuous perils of a divided world.

The implication is not that there will be no further influence on theories of an explanatory character. The point is that we are relatively over-supplied with theories that lack verification, and that many of these hypotheses have been inspired by the categories and the date of psychoanalysis. Since the policy problems make it necessary to step into the future, it is important to keep abreast of the changing combination of psychocultural factors that affect response.

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For this reason facts are urgently needed. They are needed as part of a continuing flow of data obtainable from two sources: the regular routine of the psychoanalyst; special projects conducted by analysts. For a long time it has seemed to me that members of the profession are insufficiently aware of the fact that every case is important for the study of significant collective phenomena. Hence, it is crucial that Dr. Dorn's proposal be given hands and feet by practitioners who agree to the central filing of basic (confidential) information about age, sex, cultural background, social class exposures and affiliations (and so on).

A key question concerns the depth of the identification of individuals who occupy various positions in society with the symbols that refer to the larger social environment. To what extent, for example, is the phenomenon of "alienation" increasing or decreasing?

There need be no fear that the data obtained would have immediate policy relevance. So far as short cut action programs are concerned, the data obtained by the use of survey procedures is far more pertinent. The information generated by the psychoanalyst is pertinent to the "middle range" and "long range" policy innovations that may be wisely introduced into the total process of socialization.

I have noticed many indications of the fact that psychiatrists are increasingly concerned with collective processes. Dr. Dorn's suggestions may well result in setting up a procedure by means of which their aspirations may be made realistic.



\* Seward Hiltner, A. B., Ph. D., D. D., has been Professor of Theology and Personality at Princeton University since 1961. He was the Sloan Visiting Professor at Menninger Clinic in 1957 and is the author of several volumes in the fields of religion and mental health and in pastoral counseling as well as serving as an editor of various professional journals in these areas.

\* Harold D. Laswell, Ph. B., Ph. D., has been Professor of Law at Yale University since 1948. He was on the staff of the Washington School of Psychiatry as a political scientist and was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Science at Stanford in 1954. Among the many books he has written are Psychopathology and Politics and The Analysis of Political Behavior.

discussed analytic training, choosing of candidates, difficulties inherent in the subject matter of psychoanalysis, etc. He feels that a major alteration in governing assumptions about the nature of the intellectual life within our institutes and societies is necessary.

Discussants: Wallerstein Paper

Dr. Robert Dorn stated that psychoanalysis had been oversold and that reassessment of it could prove a blessing. He agreed with Dr. Wallerstein that psychoanalysis had not conquered the intellectual world. He discussed the stresses on psychoanalysis in contemporary culture: crash programs, immediate applicability, demand for simplistic and holistic theories. Dr. Dorn elaborated on the theme that psychoanalysis has not developed true teaching-learning centers and remains uncomfortable with ambiguity. He felt that the criteria for choosing candidates needed re-thinking.

Dr. Lyman Harrison got his "Irish" up on the theme that the Institute-Society as a body has failed egregiously to face social issues and to involve itself as a body in the educational, community and research goings-on that ought rightfully to concern it. He deplored the passive position of the Institute regarding such areas as support of individuals in research projects or in sponsoring a psychoanalytically oriented hospital for mental illness or in interacting with and participating in community mental health programs.

Dr. Maiman Leavitt pointed out that the Institute had made some effort to put its own house in order by the recent reorganization, yet he felt that psychoanalysis was letting many vital matters go by default. He stated that either psychoanalysis moves on with the times or it will be left behind. He discussed the up-coming appointment of a new psychiatric head at UCLA, and to what extent had the Institute concerned itself with this portentous appointment.

Dr. Gould discussed a long-range program at UCLA with Negro children. He stated that there was no psychoanalytic participation in this program, even though psychoanalysis is uniquely equipped to do so.

It was agreed that another meeting might be helpful for further consideration by our Society/Institute.

Reported by: Frederick Kurth, M. D.

by

Frederick Kurth, M. D.

Presented

November 17, 1967

On the weekend of March 29 the Candidates Association sponsored a meeting at Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego. Forty souls were present including thirteen candidates, eleven wives and assorted children. Sunday morning Dr. Douglas Orr addressed us on the topic "Amazon Women, Some Aspects of Analyzing Myths". The previous evening, after the children had all eaten together at a great round table, the grownups enjoyed an evening of dining and dancing at the hotel.

Newly accepted candidates:

Paul H. Ackerman, M. D., is currently in the Public Health Service finishing up his tour of duty at the Federal Prison at Terminal Island. He is also involved in part time private practice in Fullerton. He received his Bachelor's Degree at Amhurst in 1958 and his M. D. at Yale in 1962. He received his psychiatric training at Yale. He expresses a special interest in adolescents and in forensic psychiatry in addition to psychoanalysis. He originally hails from New York City.

William H. Boyd, M. D. is a third year resident at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute. He is originally from Iowa. He received his Bachelor's Degree in 1958 at the University of Iowa and his M. D. in 1962 at the same university. He was in general practice for two years in Osage, Iowa prior to his psychiatric residency. He stresses a special interest in addition to psychoanalysis in doing special work in research with pathological gamblers. He is currently involved in a study at UCLA in this field.

Richard Friedman, M. D. is a Fellow in Child Psychiatry at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute. Originally from New York City, he received his Bachelor's Degree at UCLA in 1958 and his M. D. at the University of Chicago in 1962. Prior to his psychiatric training he was a flight surgeon with the Air Force, stationed in Okinawa.

John McClure, M. D. is a first year resident at Brentwood V. A. Hospital. He was a General Practitioner in the Redondo Beach area for twelve years prior to his psychiatric training. He received both his Bachelor's and his M. D. at Stanford and graduated in 1952 with his M. D.

William Rickles, M. D. is on the full time research staff at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute with special interest in sleep physiology and psychophysiology. He completed his residency at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute last July. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Southern Methodist University in 1955 and his M. D. at Harvard in 1960. He originally hails from Marshall, Texas. He became interested in psychophysiology during his three years service in the Air Force when he was stationed in the midwest doing research in Aerospace Medicine.

Dr. Kurth presented two patients, both so-called borderline, with a second patient having started analysis during a post-partum psychosis. The specific clinical problem which this paper attempted to deal with was the inaccessibility and hopelessness that frequently dominates the transference of the gravely ill patient. It is precisely the inability of the analytic relationship to make contact with the genuine and spontaneous self of these patients which was clinically documented and clinically interpreted.

Such patients may appear disintegrated from time to time, such as during the stress of childbirth, but generally function more or less cohesively. Paranoid elements are prominent, idealization and devaluation likewise, but it is the splitting-off of feelings and spontaneity in the transference which Dr. Kurth made the focus of the material.

Dr. Kurth presented his clinical work with these patients, submitting that the ego cohesiveness the patients maintained was effected by the mechanism of self-holding, specifically a rectal self-holding. He detailed the defensive uses the patients made of the rectum in phantasy, and that these phantasies enabled the patients to remain intact, though inaccessible in the transference until specifically interpreted and worked with.

Dr. Zaitlin suggested that Dr. Kurth has presented an important mechanism for the ego's self preservation, but would not restrict the concept of the limiting container to the rectum, suggesting mouth, etc. which may be used. He added that one must assume a quantitative aspect to the rage which makes it disrupt progress toward integration; such as quantity takes on a qualitative aspect in which everything is bad with resultant hypertrophy of the stimulus barrier. He suggested that the limiting container may be of particular significance in learning problems, and added that it is pertinent to problems of identity. He felt that the second patient fitted less well to the concept of the rectal container, suggesting a more idyllic womb symbolism in her dreams.

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Frederick Vagner, M. D. is the Chief Resident in his third year of training at the Sepulveda Hospital. He originally hails from New York City. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Wagner College in 1958 and his Medical Degree from Seton Hall in 1962.

Reported by: Robert E. Caraway, M. D.

Dr. Walsh pointed out that the ordinal aspect of words, a function of their phonetic qualities, is related in memory to the early mother and is thus heavily cathected with pregenital, primitive, and early type affects. "The visual aspects of words, on the other hand, are cathected with affect and memory traces concerning the late oedipal, latency, and adolescent relationships. . . . the failure to synthesize the ordinal and visual aspects of the word was related to regression." In stressing regression as responsible for the strephosymbolic symptoms, Dr. Walsh differed from Rosen who felt initial failure in synthesizing phonetic and visual aspects of words produced the symptomatology.

Dr. Walsh ended his paper with a far-ranging discussion of speech and word sounds generally. Of particular note was his observation of the explosive and spirant quality of obscene words. He stated that these are primitive sounds, heavily cathected with emotion, principally defused aggression. He made the trenchant suggestion, that "in addition to respiratory eroticism (Fenichel) one would be justified in speaking of a respiratory aggressivism."

Dr. Call presented some ideas regarding general learning problems, pointing out that John Dewey said learning is a total experience of the individual; that Freud delineated several causes of learning problems such as id-ego conflicts, guilt, and energy depletion due to conflicts in other areas; that Anna Freud stressed the castrating aspect of being unable to learn; and that Piaget stressed environmental factors. Dr. Call mentioned brief examples from his experience, such as a child to whom mathematical cancelling-out meant annihilating, a girl to whom chemistry meant the kitchen, a girl who saw words as being soft and numbers as being hard and a patient with a learning problem stemming from identification with a mother who had the same problem.

Dr. Call pointed out that the first learning task does not concern sounds, but rather the putting together of the human face. He stressed the importance of the capacity to liberate oneself from the rigidity of early synthesis. He referred to experience with a group of children with psychogenic megacolon treated before the Oedipal phase with the result that the Oedipal situation could then be used positively from a learning standpoint.

Reported by: Frederick Kurth, M.D.



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For many years the clinic has maintained a small but valuable service to the community. Every year about six persons are taken into low-cost analysis from a pool of accepted applicants. A smaller number of patients are placed in once-a-week psychotherapy. In addition, in the process of replying to requests and applications we are able to steer people in the proper direction toward help, even if our facility is not the proper one.

The Clinic's main purpose is to provide as good a sampling as we can of interesting, analyzable patients who cannot afford private fees. We select patients who should be able to be analyzed by candidates under supervision. Even though it is no longer required that a candidate analyze a patient from the Clinic, about the same number as before take patients from the Clinic.

Interviews for the purpose of evaluation of applicants for analysis are performed by an interested group of volunteer members of the Institute/Society. Expansion of present services is very difficult because there is a limit to volunteer operations and funding is a perennial problem. If we could secure funds, it would be possible to expand services by paying analysts to treat clinic patients. Also, we then could accept more difficult cases because more experienced analysts would tend to be involved in treating clinic patients.

Kenneth Rubin, M. D.  
Director of the Clinic

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THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY  
of the  
LOS ANGELES PSYCHOANALYTIC  
SOCIETY - INSTITUTE

Installation Luncheon: Friday, June 7, 1968  
Bel-Air Hotel: 11:30 a. m.

Program: Installation of new officers  
Speaker: Mr. Donald Freed, Lecturer,  
Philosophy of Literature Department,  
at UCLA; Chairman of Humanities Department  
at Every Women's Village.

Topic: The Theater of the Future

Drawing for door prizes: Various objects d'Art will be contributed by our members. We are going to hold a drawing and the profit will be added to our contribution to Camarillo State Hospital for our project of the year.

Husbands and guests are welcome.





F. Robert Rodman will resume practice in West Los Angeles this summer. He has been serving in the Army during which time he published "Interrupting Psychotherapy With Patients Who Exceed The Limits" in the British Journal of Medical Psychology, volume 40.

Jerome Karasic is currently teaching full time at UCLA, chairman of the committee for continuing education in psychiatry, and engaged in a private psychoanalytic practice.

Lee B. Gold spoke at San Fernando State College to a Nursery School's parent's group on "Violence and the Child."

Thomas Mintz has published "Tickle the Itch That Moves" in Psychosomatic Medicine, volume 29.

Simon Horenstein lectured on "The Impact of Chronic Illness and Death on the Family" to the Department of Social Welfare in Lancaster.

Ralph Greenson met with Anna Freud at Yale University to discuss problems of research. He also presented a paper to the Western New England Psychoanalytic Society on "The Technique of Dealing with Errors in Technique".

Edwin Kleinman participated in a case presentation at the New York meeting of the A. Psa. A. He also spoke to a group called "The Roundtable" on "Communication Difficulties between the Sexes."

Justin Call is on an in-residence-sabbatical for one year for writing, research, reading, and thinking. At the New York meeting he presented material on patterns of arousal and activity in boys and girls from birth to age 4 days. He serves as regional consultant for Project Head Start. He has given many talks and lectures.

Leo Rangell, his activities locally and nationally, are well known. His international activities have included serving as an invited teacher to the Argentine Psycho-analytic Association and plans for a future visit to the Australian Psychoanalytic Study Group for the International Psa. Association. One local item is his election to the Southern California Psychoanalytic Society and Institute.

Rudolf Ekstein has published several papers and given many lectures on various aspects of childhood psychosis, teaching and learning, and the education and supervision of psychoanalysts. Publications have been in Psychology Today, Reiss-Davis Clinic Bulletin, The Psychoanalytic Study of the Child, and The International Journal of Psychiatry.

The last year has been active and interesting. Even during the usually quiet summer months of 1967 we found it necessary to meet regularly for business reasons. In addition to these meetings however, we were fortunate to have Dr. Rudolf Ekstein talk to us on June 23rd on psychoanalytic education. After the summer was over we entered a period of considerable activity. Our Extension Division, chaired by Dr. Philip Baratta, presented a series of three lectures open to the general public. On November 10th, 1967, Dr. Ralph R. Greenson gave the first lecture of this series which was entitled "Some Common Misunderstandings of Psychoanalysis". On January 6th, 1968, Dr. Judd Marmor spoke on "Psychosocial Aspects of Urban Violence". The last lecture of this series was given on March 1st, 1968, by Dr. Leo Rangell and was entitled "The Crisis of Maturity". These lectures were given at Sherwood Hall in La Jolla and the attendance ranged from around 350 to 250 people. A major portion of our activity in the next several years at least will have to be given to community education. This lecture series was the first major step in that direction and was generally successful. The Extension Division has also been conducting seminars for social workers and for dentists.

As well as this activity of the Extension Division, we were fortunate to have two case seminars and three papers presented. On December 8th, 1967, Dr. Martin Grotjahn discussed group psychotherapy. On January 19th, 1968 Dr. Ralph Greenson conducted a case seminar on a patient currently in psychoanalysis with a member of our Study Group, as did Dr. Norman Reider on March 22nd, 1968. On April 5th, 1968, Dr. Rudolf Ekstein gave a very interesting child case presentation using slides to demonstrate some of the material. The title of this paper was "The Acquisition of Learning Readiness: Task or Conflict?" On April 7th, 1968, Dr. Phyllis Greenacre presented a paper, "On Perversion".

Dr. Saul Karlen, a psychoanalyst formerly of New York moved here this April to live and practice in La Jolla. Dr. Sanford Izner is expected to arrive from Detroit probably some time in June also to reside and practice in La Jolla. We are delighted of course to have these additions to our group.

Our Annual Meeting will be held in June. At that time Dr. Douglass V. Orr will be succeeded as President by Dr. Allan D. Rosenblatt.

Reported by: Phillip Pennington, M. D.

Reported by: James T. Thickstun, M. D.

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Dr. Greenson stated that this paper touches upon a serious problem and should be the starting point for a series of seminars. He took issue with the hypothesis of the rectum as a container for the self; it would be more accurate to consider it as a container for only a part of the self. He pointed out that the proximity of the rectum to the female reproductive organs gives it another meaning different from that outlined in the paper, citing a case of megacolon reported by Erikson in which the feces represented a baby so that the patient could identify with the lost pregnant mother. While the search for the container is important as a new idea, the equally important search for separateness should not be obscured.

Dr. Brandchaft questioned the primacy of the concept of the containing function of the rectum, pointing out that the second patient demonstrated the use of omnipotent mechanisms and projective

identification. The patient projected destructive parts of the self, including feces, into outer objects including the analyst, was unable to differentiate inside from outside and became terrified of being attacked. The analyst must show his capacity to contain the patient's projections before differentiation and proceed. Dr. Brandchaft referred to Dr. Bion's detailed description of the mind as an organ of expelling.

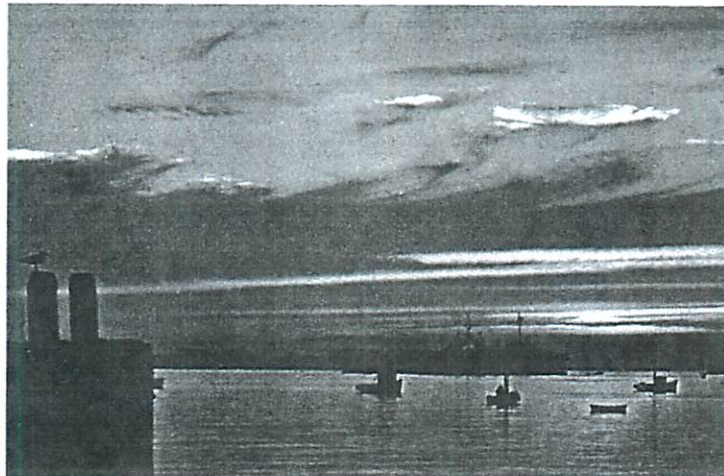
Dr. Beckwith also stressed the expelling function of the rectum along with its containing function. Dr. Nemeth emphasized the difference between separate and being cast aside as worthless feces, and suggested that much holding in analysis is done non-verbally.

Dr. Rapaport pointed out that the infant in utero is also contained, and questioned the focus on the rectum as a container. He also stressed the anxiety about being contained that arises from loss of identity.

Reported by: Andrew Patterson, M. D.

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WESTERN REGIONAL  
PSYCHOANALYTIC  
SOCIETIES' MEETINGS



September 26-29, 1968  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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