

May 4, 1963

To:

Albert Kandelin, M.D., Chairman
The History Committee

From:

Ernst Levy, M.D.

Re:

Board of Sponsors

On the premise that all details of the history of our Institute are of interest, a premise based on the assurance repeatedly given to me by my younger colleagues, I should like to recall one rather forgotten episode that followed closely the so-called split.

After the split we in our group must have felt somewhat in need of moral support and in need of being looked upon as a respected psychoanalytic institution by the national and international psychoanalytic community. This gave birth to the idea that the Los Angeles Institute for Psychoanalysis should have a Board of Sponsors consisting of widely known and respected personages. It was decided to ask a number of such analysts for permission to put their names on our stationery as sponsors as well as promising them that we would keep them informed about our activities, all of which would imply that they approved of us and our point of view.

Consequently I wrote to them, a list of perhaps twenty people. Most or all of them answered. Unfortunately I forget the names of most of them. Some of them expressed their willingness to be our sponsors, some of them regretted not to be able to take sides between the two groups,

(continued)

which sponsorship would mean. But I do remember that, among a number of others, Anna Freud declared her willingness in a very gracious letter, also that Douglas Bond accepted with rather flattering words. Soon after this was done the entire file containing the correspondence got lost in the mail either on the way from the Institute to my house or the other way around. As far as I remember nothing was ever done about the Board of Sponsors; their names as far as I can remember never even appeared on our stationery. The whole thing just faded out into oblivion.