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June 2, 1938

Memorandum

Mrs. Libbin, Secretary
Psychoanalytic Study Group
Los Angeles, California

Dr. Tidd addressed the closed group on April 22. His subject was a brief report to the group of his experience in the past two years; in particular, he spoke of the method of examination at the Menninger Clinic and discussed the outline that is used for examination there. The use of this outline was illustrated by a case report.

The outstanding difference between this outline and other outlines in use in psychiatric sanitarium is the fact that the dynamic, psychoanalytic factors are stressed. The value of investigating and stressing these dynamic factors lies chiefly in the fact that by so doing, a rational form of treatment may be prescribed.

A general discussion followed in which Dr. Brunswick made some pertinent comments about the case reported. Dr. Montgomery compared the outline with that in use at the Bellevue Hospital. There were other comments of general nature and Dr. Tidd replied to Dr. Montgomery by pointing out that the type of work done at the Menninger Clinic was so entirely different from the type done at the Bellevue that it was difficult, if not impossible, to compare the two. He agreed with Dr. Brunswick's comments but pointed out that a definite effort was made at the Clinic to utilize only definitely established facts from the preliminary examination.

Dr. Simmel, who presided, closed the discussion stating that he felt the attempt at Menninger's was to view the patient from as broad a standpoint as is possible. He further expressed his feeling that from his experience in visiting the Clinic, the group there had made real progress in utilizing the Freudian concepts in a psychiatric hospital.