

choice of therapy is not clear to be interviewed.

Meetings will resume on Monday 3rd October. Suggestions would be welcome for future speakers.

SCOTLAND

- April 13th — 'Management and Treatment of Gambling Problems' Dr. Mark Dickerson
May 11th — 'Training Nurses to be Behaviour Therapists' Mr. Phil Barker

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

The target population of the first sentence in your editorial in the Bulletin for January 1977 seems to be legally married, monogamous males still associating with their female partners.

It would be nice if you widened your discriminative limits a bit to include the rest of the B.A.B.P. membership!

Yours without a smartie,

Philip Conn
Hester Adrian Research Centre.

Dear Sirs,

I wish to thank David Woolford for his supportive letter. Incidentally I am amazed that out of a membership of around 500 we are the only two who have responded to our editors' request for members' own ideas and opinions. (I would have expected a 10% response, not 1 in 250).

I found his letter a bit gloomy. He seems to be saying that peer self-help groups are just about all we can hope for. I am more optimistic. I think the clinical scene is going through a phoney phase that will soon explode into something better. He mentions the need 'for a institute where discussion could be had without rebuff'. That is exactly what I think will happen in the not-too-distant future. The public pressure for psychological services now almost exceeds that for medical services. (See Desmond Pond's article in the recent B.P.S. Bulletin). Our university departments of psychology will have to form themselves into institutes and function as life-long centres of communication between academics and field workers for the mutual benefit of both.

Eysenck in his splendid pamphlet 'The Future of Psychiatry' advocates truckloads of clinical psychologists touring the country 'within measurable time'. I agree with him. Meanwhile, can I invite Mr. Woolford to come over here for an afternoon and we can start a self-help group? We might even play Albert Ellis's game of 'Ain't it Awful?' for the first half-hour.

Yours,

Valerie Stone
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