

would delegate professionals from the Health Authorities to sit on Local Authority Committees and advise them on psychiatric matters which should not be decided upon in isolation. In any case their joint meetings without statutory backing are likely to degenerate into mere ineffective debating sessions. The idea that all Psychiatric Social Workers should be employed by Local Authorities and be lent to hospital psychiatric units make a nonsensical set-up which might well hamper the work of the psychiatric teams.

I have advocated for some time that unless all psychiatric facilities and services and their personnel, whether in hospital or the community, are brought together and made responsible to one and only one authority, namely the future Health Authority, any scheme is likely to fail from its very inception and merely accentuate the present state of the psychiatric services running in parallel (if not in opposite directions) rather than in union.

If these conditions persist it may well become a necessity for the hospital-based psychiatric teams to consider forming their own community service and possibly implement ideas on the role and functions of the Community Psychiatric Nurse (Seidel, 1970).

To end on a more optimistic note, the recently inaugurated Group for Social and Community Psychiatry of the Royal College of Psychiatrists might perhaps make it one of its aims to establish guidelines for, advise planning authorities on, and generally foster the community sector of, the comprehensive psychiatric service of the future.

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REFERENCE

SEIDEL, U. P. (1970). 'The Community Psychiatric Nurse'. M.O. 3254, Vol. CXIV, No. 23, p. 317/8.

A COMPILATION OF PAPERS FOR THE USE OF POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS OF PSYCHIATRY

DEAR SIR,

The Clinical Tutors' Sub-Committee, through the courtesy of John Wyeth and Brother Ltd., have prepared a third printing of the compilation of selected papers for post-graduate students of psychiatry. A limited number are available, and those wanting copies should write to John Wyeth and Brother Ltd., Huntercombe Lane South, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berks.

This third printing has two additional papers, namely:

'Trial of maintenance therapy in schizophrenia', by J. P. Leff and J. K. Wing. *Brit. med. J.*, 1972, *iii*, 599-604; and

'Prophylactic lithium in affective disorders', by A. Coppen *et al.* *Lancet*, 1971, *ii*, 275-9.

Separate copies of these two extra papers may be obtained by those who wish to update their copies of the first two printings, by writing to Wyeth's at the above address enclosing a stamped (3p) addressed envelope (approximately 11 in. × 9 in.).

B. M. BARRACLOUGH.

ERRATUM

Metrazol (Leptazol, Cardiazol) with ECT

Dr. Corbett H. Thigpen writes as follows:

There was a typographical error in my letter appearing in the January 1973 issue of the *Journal* (Vol. 122, p. 123). *It is urgent that this correction be made.*

I fear that death might occur if a 10 per cent solution of Brevital were given intravenously. The sentence in the third paragraph should be corrected to read:

"The average patient is given approximately 8 c.c. of a *one per cent* (1%) solution of Sodium Methohexital (Brevital)."