THE COLLEGE ENTERTAINS PSYCHOANALYSTS

The 29th International Psychoanalytic Congress was held in London from 20 to 25 July 1975, and on 21 July the Royal College of Psychiatrists entertained some of the delegates at an informal reception at the Royal Society of Medicine's building in Wimpole Street. Officers of the College, members of its Executive and Finance Committee, and Officers and Executive Committee members of the Psychotherapy Section acted as hosts. The guests were some hundred of the thousand or so delegates to the Congress, and they represented many nations, coming from Australia, Brazil, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Israel and the United States, to name but a few.

Professor W. Linford Rees, fulfilling one of his first engagements as President of the College, welcomed the guests and spoke of the contributions which psychoanalysts and psychiatrists had made to each other's specialties, in spite of the fact that they did not always see eye to eye on many subjects. Many psychoanalysts were in fact associated with the College, and he was delighted to know that Dr W. Gillespie, who had been President of the Congress last time it was held in the United Kingdom—in Edinburgh in 1961—and Dr Amedeo Limentani, the current President of the British Psychoanalytical Society, were Fellows of the College.

Delegates to the Congress must have had a busy week, as there was a full programme of lectures, seminars, discussion groups and films, a historical exhibition, a book exhibition, and a wide variety of social functions, ranging from a dinner-dance at the Grosvenor House Hotel to informal entertaining in London members' homes. The College's reception came near the beginning of this marathon and was a pleasantly relaxed occasion. Clearly the two specialties enjoyed making, or renewing, acquaintance with each other, and the portrait-lined Common Room at the Royal Society of Medicine's headquarters provided a cool and airy setting on a warm summer evening.

BOOKS OF THE 1970s*

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Part 1: Psychiatry, Medical Psychology, Psychotherapy

Reading in psychiatry, psychology and associated areas in the 1970s reveals some almost permanent features and also considerable change and movement. Familiar established textbooks must preserve character while modernizing content. The two principal texts each now lack the former principal author. *Clinical Psychiatry* by E. Slater and M. Roth (3rd edn 1969, Baillière Tindall, £8.50) remains the great English-language textbook in the European clinical and organic tradition. The psychobiological approach of *Henderson and Gillespie's Textbook of Psychiatry* continues in the 10th edition (1969, Oxford University Press, £2.80 pbk) revised and partly rewritten by I. R. C. Batchelor. *Tredgold's Mental Retardation* by R. Tredgold and K. Soddy (11th edn 1970, Baillière Tindall, £6) retains the importance first established in 1908. Shorter textbooks have appeared more recently. *Psychological Medicine: An Introduction to Psychiatry* by D. Curran, M. Partridge and P. Storey (7th edn 1972, Churchill Livingstone, £3.25) is clear, direct, even didactic and rather short on psychodynamics. *Psychiatry* by E. W. Anderson and W. H. Trethowan (3rd edn 1973, Baillière Tindall, £2.20) is concise, comprehensive but unlively reading. *Psychiatry for Students* by D. Stafford-Clark (4th edn 1974, Allen & Unwin, £2.65 pbk) is an easily read book featuring 'people, not cases'. New short texts complementing the formal textbooks are *Key to Psychiatry: A Textbook for Students* by M. J. Sainsbury (1974, Harvey Miller & Medcalf, £3.85) and *Psychological Medicine for Students* by J. Pollitt (1973, Churchill Livingstone, £1.50 pbk). *Essential Principles of Psychiatry* by S. Crown (1970, Pitman) and *U.C.H. Notes on Psychiatry*, edited by R. Tredgold and H. Wolff (1975, Duckworth, £7.50; £2.95 pbk) are 'house journals' of London medical schools

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