

History of the District Branches and of the District Branch Assembly American Psychiatric Association

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The Assembly of District Branches

The first meeting of the Assembly of District Branches of the American Psychiatric Association was held in Los Angeles on May 5, 1953. Representatives were present from all of the 16 District Branches that had been established at that time.

Dr. Joseph Abramson was elected the principal officer -- at that point designated as President, but almost immediately thereafter changed to Speaker in order to avoid confusion with the office of President of APA.

The formation of District Branches came about, Dr. Abramson said in a report prepared at the end of his term of office, in order to establish working branches of the APA and have them bring ideas and suggestions to the Assembly for discussion. The first District Branches as such had been established in 1952. The first beginnings of a "grass roots" movement had occurred two decades earlier, with the establishment of a few Affiliate Societies. "As well as I can ascertain," Dr. Abramson said, "the concept of Affiliate Societies came into being during the presidency of Dr. George Kirby" [1933-34]. Although one affiliate society had earlier been established, it was in 1933 that three additional affiliate societies were formed. These had no voice or official representation at Council. They "proved to be of no benefit either to Council or to the membership," Dr. Abramson said. "A few years ago ... Dr. D. Ewen Cameron was appointed to head a committee to investigate the matter further and to activate the Affiliate Societies and the District Branches. In reality, then, the present concept and philosophy of District Branches is the outgrowth of the work, enthusiasm, and philosophy of Dr. Cameron and his Committee.

"The idea behind the concept was ideal -- to widen the scope of active participation of the general membership and to bring Council into closer relationship with the members of APA. However, as conceived by our Constitution, it permitted the Assembly to 'consider only such matters referred to it by Council, and advise Council thereon.' This was the extent of the function of the Assembly as conceived by Council."

The Branches represented at the organizing meeting and their representatives were as follows:

- The Bronx, N.Y..... Dr. Hiland L. Flowers
- Central California..... Dr. Mark Zeifert
- Colorado..... Dr. Clyde E. Stanfield
- Kings County, N.Y..... Dr. Joseph L. Abramson
- Michigan..... Dr. Walter H. Obenauf
- Mid-Continental..... Dr. Milton Anderson
- Nassau County..... Dr. James L. McCartney
- New Jersey..... Dr. Crawford N. Baganz
- Ohio..... Dr. Lowell O. Dillon
- New York..... Dr. William Horwitz
- Pennsylvania..... Dr. M. A. Tarumianz
(representing Dr. Philip Q. Roche)
- North Pacific..... Dr. J. Lester Henderson
- Southern California..... Dr. Mathew Ross
- South Central..... Dr. Max E. Johnson
- Quebec..... Dr. Clifford H. Skitch
- Virginia..... Dr. John R. Saunders

During that first year the only office in addition to that of Speaker was Secretary of the Assembly, held by Dr. John R. Saunders. The budget for the first year was \$500. The business considered at that first meeting included a) whether there should be multiple nominations for officers and councilors of APA; b) the relationship between psychiatrists and clinical psychologists; c) the means of effective local and state influence on legislation, law enforcement, and public education; and d) the role of the Central Inspection Board in inspecting and rating mental hospitals.

At that first meeting in 1953, APA President Dr. Kenneth E. Appel told the representatives of the Branches that the Assembly might serve "to tap the pool of energy that exists in the young men who are members of APA and devise ways and means whereby they may get interested in and work for APA activities."

It was not long thereafter that representatives of various District Branches began to write letters indicating their dissatisfaction with the concept of the function of the Assembly as set forth in the Constitution. Only a month after the organizing meeting the Committee on Long-Term Planning met to discuss the potential value of the Assembly. "The Constitutional limitations appeared to this Committee to be 'unrealistic and undesirable,'" Dr. Abramson later reported. The Committee proposed that "the Assembly consider matters referred to it by Council and advise Council thereon, and present to Council suggestions and recommendations on any other matters pertaining to the objectives of the Association."

This revised concept of the Assembly's mission was approved by Council at its meeting in October 1953, presented to the membership at the next Annual Meeting, and then submitted to mail ballot.

In his report at the end of his term of office, Dr. Abramson said that the Assembly should have its own bylaws and that the office of Speaker-Elect should be established.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Assembly took place in St. Louis on May 3, 1954, with Dr. Abramson presiding. More than 50 persons attended, representing not only the District Branches but also various local psychiatric organizations and affiliate societies. The District Branches represented at this meeting, in addition to those represented at the organizing meeting a year earlier, were Connecticut, Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Maryland, Northern California, and Suffolk County, N.Y.

At that meeting the delegates a) unanimously approved the principles of the report of the committee designated to develop permanent offices for APA; b) requested that Council recommend to the membership committee of APA that it obtain a report from the District Branch for each applicant for membership; c) approved in principle a plan for holding APA regional interim meetings "in places widely separated from the location of the Annual Meeting"; d) voted to request again that Council instruct the nominating committee of APA to make multiple nominations for national office; and e) adopted a Procedural Code for conducting Assembly business, accrediting Delegates, and recognizing privileged guests. During this year the Assembly adopted a resolution that proportional representation in each District Branch be based on one vote per twenty members, with each District Branch represented by a single delegate who casts all of the votes allotted to his Branch.

Officers elected for the following year were: Speaker, Dr. Crawford N. Baganz; Speaker-Elect (then known as Deputy Speaker), Dr. Addison M. Duval; and Recorder, Dr. John R. Saunders.

Elected as regional members of the Policy Committee were: for Area One (Northeast), Dr. George E. Reed; Area Two (New York), Dr. Joseph Abramson; Area Three (South), Dr. David Wilson; Area Four (Midwest), Dr. Walter Obenauf; and Area Five (West), Dr. Mathew Ross.

When Dr. Ross presided at the Third Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held in Atlantic City on May 9 and 10, 1955, there were 23 District Branches. The following seven were approved during the course of the meeting: Eastern Missouri, Western Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Kentucky, Westchester County, New York, and Oklahoma. The creation of separate Branches for Kansas and Western Missouri resulted in the dissolution of the Mid-Continent District Branch and the total number of Branches was therefore 29.

It was at this meeting that standard designations for research conferences, scientific meetings, and the geographical regions of District Branches were established. The Assembly voted unanimously to adopt the terminology of *Regional Research Conferences* and *Divisional Scientific Meetings*, and to designate the District Branch regions as *Areas*.

The Speaker announced, to the enthusiastic response of the delegates, that the APA membership had approved the Constitutional amendment whereby the Assembly was empowered to initiate actions rather than act only on matters referred to it by Council.

The delegates voted not to press further their earlier requests for multiple nominations for the national offices but indicated that they favored the practice of naming six candidates for the three positions on Council each year. That same year a special committee of Council concurred and the practice of multiple nominations for Council was established.

Procedures for holding Divisional Scientific Meetings were also established. Dr. Alfred Auerback announced plans for the first Divisional Meeting, to be held in San Francisco on the coming October 27-30.

The Speaker-Elect, Dr. Duval, assumed the office of Speaker; Dr. Mathew Ross was elected Speaker-Elect; and Dr. John R. Saunders was re-elected Recorder. The following members of the Policy Committee were also elected: for Area One (Northeast), Dr. George E. Reed; Area Two (New York), Dr. W. A. Horwitz; Area Three (South), Dr. David Wilson; Area Four (Midwest), Dr. Walter H. Obenauf; and Area Five (West), Dr. William Y. Baker.

The budget request for the Assembly was increased from \$2000 to \$3000.

By the time of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, the number of Branches had grown to 31. Representatives of them met on April 30 in Chicago.

"During the present year the officers and the Policy Committee have devoted their primary interests to improvement in organization and procedures of the Assembly, to preparing written guides to assist in forming new Branches, and particularly toward obtaining increased geographical coverage of the District Branch plan," Speaker Duval reported. Georgia and Central New York were added as new Branches during the year; the Massachusetts District Branch was expanded to include Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and was redesignated as the Northern New England District Branch.

In the course of this meeting, Texas, North Carolina, Florida, and Minnesota were approved as new District Branches.

The Assembly voted to request that District Branches accept the responsibility for reporting the deaths of members to the APA office. It also approved a Divisional Meeting to be held in Montreal in the fall of 1956 and another to be held in Palm Beach, Fla., in December 1958.

Speaker-Elect Dr. Mathew Ross assumed the office of Speaker; Dr. David C. Wilson was elected Speaker-Elect; and Dr. John R. Saunders was re-elected Recorder.

At the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held in Chicago on May 13-14, 1957, the delegates approved District Branch applications from Illinois, South Carolina, Wisconsin, Hawaii, and New York Capital.

Speaker Mathew Ross reported that the Hawaii Divisional Meeting would be held a year later, immediately after the 1958 APA meeting. A pamphlet called "The District Branch, the Assembly, and the Association," he said, had been enclosed in the previous March issue of the *APA Mail Pouch*. Dr. David Wilson, the Speaker-Elect, had prepared an exhibit portraying the relationships and functions of the Assembly.

"District Branch Newsletters, rosters, area representative meetings, and a flood of letters and telephone calls have all served to improve communications within the Assembly," Dr. Ross reported to Council.

The Speaker-Elect, Dr. David C. Wilson, assumed the office of Speaker. Dr. Walter H. Obenauf was elected Speaker-Elect; and Dr. John R. Saunders was again re-elected Recorder. Area members were elected as follows:

Area I, Dr. Albert M. Biele; Area II, Dr. Lester E. Shapiro; Area III, Dr. J. G. N. Cushing; Area IV, Dr. James L. Sagebiel; Area V, Dr. Alfred Auerback.

Forty-five District Branches were represented by 60 Delegates at the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held on May 12, 1958, in San Francisco. New District Branches were approved for Delaware, Mississippi, and Northern Indiana. Approval was requested and received for Divisional Meetings to be held in Seattle in September 1959 and in New York City late in 1959. Speaker Wilson reported that Divisional Meetings had already been approved for Miami in December 1958 and Detroit in October 1959.

A clarification was made at this meeting of the status of "affiliate members." The delegates concluded that membership within APA itself should be limited to psychiatrists, while the category of affiliate, already recognized by Council, should pertain only to membership in the District Branch and should be available to nonpsychiatrist physicians having an interest in psychiatry.

The Speaker-Elect, Dr. Walter Obenauf, became the new Speaker; Dr. Alfred Auerback was elected Speaker-Elect; and Dr. John R. Saunders was elected to still another term as Recorder.

At the luncheon following the meeting the Assembly was addressed by Drs. Karl Menninger and D. Ewen Cameron.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Assembly was convened in Philadelphia on April 27, 1959, with representatives present from 47 of the 48 District Branches. The sole new application for District Branch status was from Rhode Island, and it was approved.

Dr. Obenauf, the Speaker, reported that during the past year some District Branch officers had become quite active in promoting the NIMH program for postgraduate training of general practitioners in psychiatry and that there had been a marked increase in cooperation between District Branches and such community agencies as mental health associations, bar associations, health insurance agencies, and nonpsychiatric medical societies.

A point of particular emphasis by Dr. Obenauf was the "splintering" of existing District Branches. He pointed out that the membership of APA had grown at a very rapid rate and during the previous year had passed the 10,000 mark. "Continued splintering could have serious consequences," he said. "There are now 48 District Branches. The attendance at the Assembly during the past two years has been about 70 persons; this year we will have about 90, and this number begins to reach the maximum for effective parliamentary action. Prudence dictates taking appropriate steps to preserve our effectiveness at the state level and at the same time to provide for meeting local needs."

It was reported that eight of the District Branches were known to be publishing Newsletters.

Dr. Alfred Auerback, the Speaker-Elect, assumed the office of Speaker. Dr. John R. Saunders was elected Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Lester Shapiro was elected Recorder. Dr. Robert Garber was elected Area Member for Area I; Dr. Hamilton Ford for Area III; and Dr. Edward Billings for Area V.

Forty-nine District Branches had come into being prior to the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, in Atlantic City on May 9-10, 1960. At this meeting, three new Branches, the Mid-Hudson, Ontario, and Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota, were welcomed by Speaker Alfred Auerback.

A matter of particular moment was the proposal to change the processing of applications for membership in APA so that henceforth the District Branches would act on the applications from within their respective jurisdictions. The proposal required an amendment to the APA Constitution, and while this amendment had already been submitted to the membership, at the time of the Assembly meeting, the outcome was still unknown. It was subsequently to be learned that the amendment had been approved.

The Assembly Parliamentarian and Recorder were authorized to work out rules for the new procedure in collaboration with Dr. Mary Jackson, chairman of the APA membership committee, and Mrs. Frances Davis of the APA staff. "Possibly a few District Branches will be constitutionally authorized to begin the processing of APA membership applications in their geographical area by next fall," said Dr. Auerback in his report to Council following the meeting of the Assembly.

The delegates expressed their satisfaction with and appreciation of the "smooth operation of the District Branch office in the Central Office," as a result of which all matters of import to the Branches were promptly being made known to them.

The Assembly voted approval of a Divisional Meeting to be held in Washington, D.C., in the fall of 1962, with the Maryland and Virginia District Branches serving as co-sponsors with the Washington District Branch.

Over a period of years the need had been expressed at meetings of the Assembly for an organization of mental hospital personnel, and this Eighth Annual Assembly passed a resolution stating its feeling that "the ancillary personnel in mental hospitals need some leadership" and recommending that APA should take the responsibility for this leadership.

It was reported that more than half of the District Branches were publishing Newsletters.

The Speaker-Elect, Dr. John R. Saunders, took office as the new Speaker. Dr. Edward G. Billings was elected Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Lester E. Shapiro was unanimously re-elected Recorder. The new Area Members elected to the Policy Committee were Dr. William L. Holt for Area II; Dr. G. Creswell Burns for Area V; and Dr. G. Wilse Robinson, for Area IV.

By the time of the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held on May 8, 1961, in Chicago, there were 53 District Branches with a total membership between 6000 and 7000. Representatives of 51 of them were in attendance at this meeting. The one new Branch to have been established during the prior year was the Prairie Provinces District Branch. Within the United States only West Virginia and Alabama were without District Branch coverage.

"During the year just ending," Speaker Saunders said in his report to Council, "a most important milestone was reached when the Constitutional amendment was approved whereby District Branches, when properly certified, may process applications for membership in APA." Eight District Branches had been so certified, he reported, and several others had signified their desire to process applications.

While no Divisional Meetings had been held during the year, three were scheduled during the remainder of 1961 -- in Salt Lake City during September, and in Milwaukee and in New York during November.

It was reported that 27 of the Branches were publishing Newsletters.

The Speaker-Elect, Dr. Billings, assumed the office of Speaker. Dr. G. Wilse Robinson was elected the new Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Lester E. Shapiro was re-elected Recorder. Dr. Robert Garber was chosen Area Member from Area I and Dr. Hamilton Ford for Area III. It was announced that Dr. Philip Reed would become Area Member for Area IV when Dr. Robinson vacated that position to become Speaker-Elect.

At the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held on May 5, 1962, in Toronto, Speaker Edward Billings presented a review of a year that was marked by particular productivity and expansion. While no new Branches had been established, three others had made application -- the State of West Virginia and the Onondaga and West Hudson Branches in New York State -- and were approved in the course of this meeting. Furthermore, chapters had been formed within the District Branches in Wisconsin, Ohio, New Jersey, and Oklahoma, a move which Dr. Billings characterized as "allaying previous concerns about splintering." Louisiana, Florida, and Southern California, he reported, had petitioned to establish chapters.

By this time 28 Branches had been approved for processing membership applications, and eight more were working toward that status. During the previous year the Branches had processed 196 applications. There were 30 Branches publishing Newsletters.

The Assembly's Committee on Health Insurance and Insurance Coverage continued its work "with noteworthy results." Throughout the year the Branches had afforded full collaboration with the APA Central Office's IBM system and had thereby helped in obtaining a more accurate file of the District Branch membership, which had passed the 7000 mark.

On fairly short schedule the Branches had been asked to analyze and comment on *Action for Mental Health*, the final report of the Joint Commission

on Mental Illness and Health, and despite the brief time allowed, every Branch had done so.

A Divisional Meeting, the 14th, had been planned for September 1963 in San Francisco.

During this year, because of the increasing size of the District Branch movement and the increasingly ambitious program, the Policy Committee for the first time held an "extra session," which had been proposed by Dr. Saunders during his term as Speaker.

Dr. G. Wilse Robinson was installed as Speaker. Dr. Robert Garber was elected Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Hamilton Ford was elected Recorder. Dr. Malcolm Farrell was elected Area Member for Area I; Dr. Duncan Whitehead for Area II; Dr. Frank Luton for Area III; Dr. Philip Reed for Area IV; and Dr. Sam Wick for Area V.

On May 5-7, 1963, the Assembly held its Eleventh Annual Meeting in St. Louis. Fifty-five Branches were represented. Two new ones had been created during the previous year, both by separation from a larger Branch. One of these was Arizona, formerly a part of the Intermountain District Branch; the other was Oregon, which had been a part of the North Pacific District Branch. The Speaker, Dr. G. Wilse Robinson, reported that new chapters were being established in various states.

Dr. Robinson put forward as one of the major concerns of the Assembly the development of a means for obtaining opinions from the various Branches so timed that the Assembly might advise Council appropriately in advance of Council's decisions. "There is only one way," he said, "and that is to have a meeting of the Assembly sometime during the administrative year." He reported that there was some opposition to this plan, particularly because of the additional time it required away from the office and the travel expense that must be borne by the delegates. However, the practice of a second meeting was undertaken starting the following year.

During this year nine committees of the Assembly functioned; specifically they were concerned with: a) mental health progress and improvement; b) Assembly arrangements; c) agenda review; d) solicitation of opinions in regard to national elections; e) the need for revision and amendments of the APA Constitution and bylaws; f) "Where Do We Go?"; g) liaison between APA committees and District Branches; h) nominations; and i) prepaid health plans.

The District Branches were consulted during the year on several major issues. Among them was the matter of restructuring the APA dues in order that Fellows of the Association would not encounter an automatic increase by the very act of having Fellowship status bestowed on them. Another concerned the implementation of the AMA's continuing program on mental illness and health, which the Assembly approved in principle. Still another was the late President Kennedy's historic speech to Congress regarding the mentally ill, which was endorsed by the Assembly.

During the year the Speaker and other officials visited a number of District Branches, with the aid of a Smith Kline & French grant, for the purpose of stimulating participation by the Branches in the Steering Committees of the states in implementing *Action for Mental Health*.

Dr. Robinson reported that 37 District Branches had been qualified to process membership applications.

Dr. Robert L. Garber, the Speaker-Elect, assumed the office of Speaker. Dr. Philip Reed was elected Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Hamilton Ford was re-elected Recorder. Dr. Ewing Crawfis became Area Member for Area IV, and Dr. John Saunders was appointed Parliamentarian, succeeding Dr. Walter Obenauf.

On May 7, 1963, Dr. Robert Garber, in assuming the office of Speaker, presented the delegates with a "Ten Point Program for the Assembly of District Branches" that has come to be viewed as an historic document.

In introducing this program, Dr. Garber told the delegates that "the District Branches have reached that point in their development where they are an indivisible part of the whole organizational structure of the APA. We must work to become a unified body -- not divide ourselves."

The ten points were as follows:

1. *Build Branch membership.* About 4000 psychiatrists at that time were known not to hold APA membership. The Branches were urged to undertake active recruitment.

2. *Support your Branch and your national Association.* This would include, among other things, a lively Newsletter, divisional meetings, and the establishment of chapters and/or regional groupings in appropriate cases.

3. *Establish a staff facility for your Branch.*

4. *Support adequate appropriations for public psychiatric hospitals.*

5. *Assume leadership in state and community mental health planning councils.*

6. *Expand and consolidate close working relationships with medical societies.*

7. *Develop and expand general and private hospital psychiatric services.*

8. *Redouble efforts to educate other physicians in psychiatry.*

9. *Actively support and work with the citizens' mental health movement.*

10. *Work to improve the public image of psychiatry.*

A year later, at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, Dr. Garber told the delegates that "it has been gratifying this past year that the members of the Policy Committee have been able to visit so many District Branches and see at close range how enthusiastically the Ten Points have been received."

At that time the number of Branches had grown to 58, of which 56 were represented at the Assembly. It was reported to the delegates that during the year the Policy Committee had empowered the Immediate Past Speaker, Dr. Robinson, to formulate a History of the Assembly.

Dr. Garber spoke of the growing influence of the Assembly, as evidenced by the fact that an amendment to the APA Constitution now provided a vote for the Speaker on the APA Executive Committee and the fact that membership applications were being processed through 40 District Branches.

In the course of this meeting the delegates voted by a large majority in favor of an assessment proposed for financing the construction of additional space needed for the APA offices.

Dr. Philip E. Reed, the Speaker-Elect, took office as the new Speaker. Dr. Duncan Whitehead was elected the new Speaker-Elect, and Dr. Hamilton Ford was re-elected Recorder. The new Area Members were Dr. Benjamin J. Becker for Area II and Dr. G. Creswell Burns for Area V.

At the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Assembly, held May 2-4, 1964, in New York City, Speaker Philip Reed reported on the progress of his action program based on the Ten Point Program introduced by Dr. Garber during his term as Speaker. Dr. Reed's program consisted of four fundamental projects which enveloped the goals of the Garber propositions. "Project 'W' -- Help the Sick" has seen both the planning and extension of local and state psychiatric diagnostic and treatment programs; the public and lay press attitude toward public psychiatric hospitals seems to have improved, and the growth of psychiatric services for private patients in general and specialized hospitals has moved at a "record rate," due chiefly to organized psychiatry's fight for increased insurance coverage for mental illness, Dr. Reed reported. Under "Project 'X' -- Help the Healthy," lay groups were very active, with the help and encouragement of District Branch members, especially in supporting

Psychiatric Recovery Programs. "Project 'Y' -- Help Medicine" saw District Branch members more active in county and state medical society affairs. Efforts under "Project 'Z' -- Help Psychiatry" resulted in growth of District Branch membership and strengthening of Branch programs. Dr. Reed urged continued efforts to meet the goals of the projects.

The Airlie House Propositions developed by Council to overhaul the structure of APA had been presented to the Branches in November, and members had discussed them in some detail since then. The Assembly was represented from the beginning on the special task force of Council to work on the propositions.

In February the Assembly had passed along to the Executive Committee a statement regarding professionals not holding M.D. degrees in allied mental health fields. It recommended that "they shall not be members of the medical staff of a hospital but may render services to the hospital patients" under certain conditions: a) the medical staff must review and approve each individual's qualifications; b) they may not admit patients nor write orders for patient care; and c) they will be under the direct supervision of a psychiatrist on the medical staff or another medical staff person.

Dr. Reed reported on the opinions solicited concerning the nonmedical psychotherapist. Four points of view were found among members: a) do nothing, and the problem will go away; b) all nonmedical psychotherapists are unethical and inadequately trained and should be got rid of; c) all are good, and psychiatrists should foster and encourage their development; and d) the two professions should work together toward a flexible and effective treatment program. It was suggested that members share their various approaches through the Assembly.

In other business, the Assembly recommended that Council request the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals to re-evaluate its method of surveying psychiatric facilities; members were asked to explain in detail the staffing legislation pending in Congress to their friends who were AMA delegates; and members were cautioned against answering questionnaires in order to avoid repetition of the *Fact Magazine*-Goldwater scheme. The Assembly budget was increased to allow for the extra travel expense of delegates to the fall Assembly meetings. It was noted that membership was lagging, and members were urged to recruit second- and third-year residents, less than 50 per cent of whom were APA members.

The Ontario District Branch disbanded in January and the Prairie Provinces District Branch did the same in April. It was reported that the Quebec District Branch was also considering disbanding.

A District Branch for the State of Alabama was approved.

Branch members were alerted to the insurance coverage for mental illness provisions in the new UAW contract, since they would be asked to serve the workers and their dependents and to take part in making arrangements with insurance carriers.

Dr. Duncan Whitehead took office as Speaker. Dr. Hamilton Ford was elected Speaker-Elect and Dr. Malcolm J. Farrell was elected Recorder. New Area Members chosen were Dr. Harry H. Brunt, Jr., Area I; Dr. Benjamin J. Becker, Area II; Dr. Perry C. Talkington, Area III; Dr. John A. Adams, Area IV; and Dr. John Visher, Area V.

Connecticut District Branch

The roots of the Connecticut District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association extend down into the far, almost prehistoric, past with the organization of the Connecticut Society of Alienists, which was established around the beginning of the century. The first clear record of its existence is found in a note in the *American Journal of Insanity* for the year 1910, where a meeting of the organization in Bridgeport is reported. On this occasion, Dr. Frank Bond read a paper on alcoholism and its treatment and there was a discussion of the shooting of a policeman by a "lunatic at large." Like its birth, the demise of this organization is obscure and reference to it was made 20 years later when its funds were transferred to a new organization, the Connecticut Society for Psychiatry.

The Society came into being on May 10, 1934, when Dr. Roy L. Leak, superintendent of the Connecticut State Hospital at Middletown, invited 43 psychiatrists to form an association. Initially this was to be called the Connecticut Society for Neurology and Psychiatry, but since it was recognized that this might interfere with affiliation with the APA, it was decided to limit the group to psychiatrists. The purposes of the Society were spelled out, "to foster the study of nervous and mental disorders, to maintain an advanced standard of care of patients suffering from such disorders, to advocate and foster preventive psychiatry." The first president was Dr. A. R. Diefendorf, who was referred to as "the dean of Connecticut psychiatrists." History becomes very real to us when we read that the dues were set at \$1.00 per year.

From an early date the organization's interest in affiliation with the APA was evident. Four days after the first meeting another one was held to discuss how affiliation with APA could be established. Within a fortnight, 38 members had paid their dues and a formal vote was taken to approach the APA to establish a relationship. Some members at this meeting advised caution in this move, but the motion was made and carried to explore this liaison with the national organization.

The Society met regularly four times a year with many guest speakers and repeated attempts to have brief, 10-minute clinical papers given by members. In addition, the Society was very active in familiarizing itself with the problems of the state government in relation to mental health and played a forceful and active role in the formulation of policies which affected psychiatric patients and the practice of psychiatry in the state.

At an early date the Society offered its services to the governor to evaluate psychiatric services; from this offer grew the proposal for a central commissioner or commission for mental health. This idea developed into the establishment of a Department of Mental Health which became increasingly important in molding and shaping the practice of psychiatry in this state.

Late in 1935 the question arose as to whether the Society should remain affiliated with the State Medical Society and thus have an affiliate relationship with APA, or whether they should sever their connection with the State Medical

Society and therefore be eligible for district branch status. Apparently the membership found it difficult to consider separating from the State Medical Society and they therefore voted to maintain an affiliate status with the national organization. One of the factors which led to this decision appears to be that all members of the Connecticut Society did not have to be members of the APA, and the group wished to retain this type of organization. In July of 1937 the APA accepted the Connecticut Society as an affiliate. At that time the membership of the group was about 89 and the dues had doubled to \$2.00 per year.

In the course of the next few years interest in activity of the Society diminished and in March 1940 it was suggested that the Society be broadened to include the many neurologists who were interested in the organization. Accordingly, in December of that year, the constitution was altered to include the neurologists, and the name of the organization was changed to the Connecticut Society for Psychiatry and Neurology. For a time the program included a number of neurological papers.

During the war years the Society struggled to continue functioning. It did find many areas of interest in induction services, and, later, problems of rehabilitation. With the end of the war interest on the part of the psychiatrists in their organization renewed, and the group began to increase in membership. In August 1948 the reorganization plans of APA were conveyed to the Connecticut Society, which in turn began to review its roles and functions. In April 1951 the Society voted that members of APA who were also in the Society constitute themselves as a District Society and apply for a change of status in the APA from affiliate to district branch. Many discussions regarding the purpose of the organization were held in the following year. For a time the Connecticut District Branch and the Connecticut Society of Neurology and Psychiatry existed congruently. However, on Oct. 9, 1956, the Connecticut Society for Psychiatry and Neurology voted to disband and be absorbed by the Connecticut District Branch. Neurologists who had been members of the older organization did not raise any protest and dropped out of affiliation with the psychiatrists.

The District Branch has increasingly become the spokesman for the psychiatrists in the state and was actively involved in the key movements of recent years. It seriously considered the development of psychiatric services in general hospitals, carefully reviewed and evaluated a national program as presented in *Action for Mental Health*, was most active in the preparation of a confidentiality bill for psychiatrists which was passed by the legislature, and, most recently, it has been active in sponsoring teaching programs for general practitioners.

In 1965 its membership had reached 215. Officers for 1965-66 are Dr. Lane Ameen, president; Dr. Stephen Fleck, president-elect; Dr. John Houck, secretary and alternate delegate; and Dr. James C. Johnson, delegate.

New Jersey Neuropsychiatric Association

Henry A. Davidson, M.D.

The New Jersey District Branch was formed out of the old New Jersey Neuropsychiatric Association, established in 1935. Prior to that year, psychiatrists in northern New Jersey went to New York and those in the southern part of the state to Philadelphia for their organizational activities.

As was common in those days, most of the senior practitioners had had their training in state hospitals, or had funneled a general medical practice into psychiatry by increasing interest, attending meetings, taking courses, and reading articles. Dr. Lewis Loeser was probably the first of New Jersey's privately practicing psychiatrists to be graduated from a modern type of formal residency program. He had gone into practice in 1930. In the following year, Dr. Henry Davidson completed his residency and also opened an office. Before them, Drs. Christopher Beling, Ambrose Dowd, Charles Englander, M. W. Bergman, and H. A. Schacter were practicing psychiatry and neurology in Newark, and Dr. Theodore Robie in East Orange.

The idea of a New Jersey psychiatric and neurologic organization was developed by Dr. Loeser. Along with Dr. Davidson, he kept urging the two senior practitioners, Drs. Beling and Dowd, to call such a meeting. There was some discussion as to whether to include neurology and whether to include doctors in public mental hospitals; the decision was affirmative on both counts. There were not enough "pure" psychiatrists to create a viable organization, as it was agreed to invite doctors whose major, but not necessarily exclusive, interest was in psychiatry. Eventually Drs. Beling, Dowd, Loeser, and Davidson formed a steering committee and sent out 60 invitations covering all the practitioners in New Jersey who did much psychiatry, plus those in the three state hospitals (Marlboro, Trenton, and Greystone Park) then in existence, the staff at the VA Hospital at Lyons, and the Essex County Overbrook Hospital.

Forty-five men appeared at the Feb. 13, 1935 meeting at the Academy of Medicine in Newark. The roster included 20 in private practice, two doing full-time clinic work (one was Dr. James S. Plant, director of the nation's first tax-supported child guidance clinic), and 23 working full time on hospital staffs.

In the early years, the membership roster included three neurosurgeons and one neuropathologist. When the time came to convert the Association into

a District Branch, these nonpsychiatrists presented a problem, since the Branch was a completely psychiatric organization. They remained with the New Jersey Neuropsychiatric Association but did not join APA.

From the first meeting in 1935 until the early years of World War II, the Association held four or five scientific meetings a year, with major program emphasis on neurology. The council of the Association met regularly, usually once a month, most often in the office of the president. One of the Association's early interests was in graduate training, and several times during its 30-year history it organized courses in neurology and psychiatry, several of them shaped to meet the needs of members who aspired to Board certification.

The Association was incorporated in 1953.

In 1957, it took the first step toward organized affiliation with APA by becoming a District Branch. The membership rapidly expanded from the original 45 to the present census of 326. So considerable has been the growth that the trend toward centralization is being reversed, and chapters in four separate parts of the state are now in existence.

The population of the state is heavily weighted toward its northeast corner; but in the last decade, several factors have counterbalanced this. These include the rapid growth of South Jersey as a dormitory for Philadelphia; the swiftly expanded industrial communities around Trenton; the waxing popularity of the New Jersey shore (Atlantic City, Asbury Park, and points between); and the construction of two speedways -- the Garden State Parkway and the New Jersey Turnpike. From 1935 to 1948 all of its presidents came from the northeast corner. In 1948, Dr. J. B. Gordon from central New Jersey and in 1954 Dr. Frank Pignatoro from the shore area became president, symbolizing the fact that at last the New Jersey Neuropsychiatric Association was a truly statewide body.

One president of APA, Dr. Sam Hamilton, was a member of the New Jersey Association. The latter's 1949 president, Dr. Davidson, has served on the APA Council. Two former Assembly Speakers, Drs. Robert Garber and Crawford Baganz, were also presidents of the New Jersey Association, in 1958 and 1951, respectively; Dr. Garber became secretary of APA for 1965-66.

Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society

Robert H. Israel, M.D.

The Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society was originally conceived to bring together the commonwealth's neurologists and psychiatrists. The name selected was the Pennsylvania Neuropsychiatric Association but another group had preempted the name and would not surrender its rights. Reality had to be recognized and the name was shortened.

The organizing group, led by Dr. William C. Sandy with assistance from Dr. LeRoy M. A. Meader, included 25 physicians from Philadelphia and eastern Pennsylvania, five from Harrisburg and central Pennsylvania, and eight from Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania. The first annual meeting of the formally constituted organization was held in Pittsburgh on Oct. 5, 1939, where the decision was made to incorporate the Society and to arrange for affiliation with APA.

Early meetings reflected the Society's interest in new treatment and procedures, as evidenced by papers on the utilization of electroshock therapy. Special attention was also given to promoting training in penal psychiatry.

The involvement of the United States in World War II turned attention to psychiatry's role in the war effort, and a well-qualified psychiatrist was appointed to each examining board and each induction board throughout the state. At the April meeting in 1941 we were informed that Pennsylvania was one of the few states where this had been done. Succeeding programs throughout the next few years were largely occupied with our participation in Selective Service and other aspects of the war.

After the war the Society turned its attention to defining and fulfilling the proper function of a state psychiatric organization.

An address at the annual meeting by Supreme Court Justice Owen Roberts sparked a growing interest in encouraging the general public to become more involved in the problems of mental health and mental illness. The use of films, television, talks, a speaker's bureau, and liaison with religious organizations all combined to help focus the public's attention on our problems and contributions.

Speakers at our meetings probed the relationship of psychiatry to the courts, and committee members worked to promote collaboration between the medical and legal faculties of Pennsylvania universities.

Attention was focused on a proposed separate Department of Mental Health and the Society played an active role in insisting that institutions for the mentally ill and mentally retarded be headed by administrators who were properly qualified psychiatrists. Other actions were directed toward providing improved standards for state hospital personnel and opposing the use of the state hospital system for political purposes.

The membership joined other efforts to promote the creation of the Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and centered attention on the aims and organization of a psychiatric research and teaching center.

All psychiatrists were urged to participate actively in Mental Health Week, and the mental hospitals agreed to open their doors and invite public interest and inspection through the medium of organized tours. Many hospitals also arranged lecture programs and tours for college psychology and sociology groups, and similar programs for high school classes.

A new relationship began in 1949 when the Society was formally approved by APA as the District Branch for Pennsylvania and Delaware.

The onset of the 1950's coincided with a proposed new state Mental Health Act. Various constructive changes recommended by the Society were incorporated into the legislation which emerged as the Mental Health Act of 1951.

In response to our request, the Welfare Department in 1952 sponsored the distribution of the "Psychiatric Bulletin" to all physicians and osteopaths in the commonwealth in an effort to promote better understanding of psychiatric problems and better use of available resources by general practitioners.

Statistics developed by a Pennsylvania state hospital on the actual recovery rate of hospitalized patients, first presented at one of the Society's annual meetings, gave a much more hopeful outlook on the prognosis of these individuals than earlier data, and much of this material was later used in a successful effort to persuade Congress to grant a significant increase in the funds available for work in the mental health field.

A new constitution was adopted by the Society in 1961 in order to conform to APA standards.

Throughout the years we have been highly vocal in our efforts to hasten changes in laws, facilities, and management techniques which would keep mental patients out of jails, and to advocate psychiatric wards in general hospitals and psychiatric services to public schools and to the courts. While progress has at times been slow, the long-term perspective shows that the efforts have not been wasted and that there has been steady progress toward these goals in the commonwealth.

As might be expected, the organization has undergone evolution and changes. One interesting contribution has been the use of a newsletter which has been sent to members from time to time by the secretary; it has been of particular interest to members who have been forced to miss a meeting and who appreciate being informed of current psychiatric thinking and activities.

Except during World War II, two regular membership meetings have been held each year. One is held in conjunction with the meeting of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society and our major scientific program is now presented as a section of that organization. This is usually in the form of papers or seminars on topics of current interest and is oriented to attract and interest a general medical audience instead of limiting its appeal to psychiatrists.

1964 showed a resurgence of strength in the psychiatric field. The Comprehensive Mental Health Planning Program occupied the foreground of our interest and members of the Society played a leading role in charting the program and in facilitating the expanding utilization of psychiatric skills.

Current membership in the Society is 440; officers for 1965-66 are Dr. Jack Wolford, president; Dr. Morris W. Brody, president-elect; Dr. Jack B. Kremens, secretary; Dr. Saul Greizman, delegate; and Dr. J. Martin Myers, alternate delegate.

Brooklyn Psychiatric Society (Kings County)

Bernard H. Shulman, M.D.

In the fall of 1948 a group of psychiatrists met at the home of Dr. Morton Hand to discuss their interest in developing a common meeting ground for discussing problems in the psychiatric community, encouraging psychiatrists to continue professional training, holding scientific meetings, and assisting the community in understanding psychiatry better. The group included Drs. Joseph Abramson, Samuel Parker, Morris Riemer, Simon Rothenberg, Abbott Lippman, Julius Nelson, Howard Potter, Nathan Beckenstein, and Leon Simms. They decided an organizational meeting should be held, to which all physicians practicing psychiatry in Brooklyn would be invited for the purpose of forming a professional association.

On January 20, 1949, approximately 60 psychiatrists met at the Hotel Marguerite. A committee was elected by open ballot; it consisted of Drs. Parker, Potter, Abramson, Falsey, and Rothenberg. The following provisional officers were elected: Dr. Parker, president; Dr. Nelson, vice-president; Dr. Hand, secretary-treasurer. Four days later notification of the official establishment of a psychiatric society representing all of the 120-plus psychiatrists working or living in Kings County was sent to the Kings County Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and the American Psychiatric Association. It was called the Brooklyn Psychiatric Society.

The first formal election was held in March 1949, and the following were elected: Dr. Rothenberg, president; Dr. Parker, vice-president; Dr. Hand, secretary-treasurer; Drs. Potter, Beckenstein, Abramson, and Joseph Wortis, members of the executive committee.

The presidents who have succeeded Dr. Rothenberg were, in sequence, Drs. Parker, Abramson, Hand, David Engelhardt, Lippman, Morton Golden, Edward Falsey, Nathan Beckenstein, Milton Kurian, and Alexander Levine. The president-elect for 1966-67 is Dr. James Rappa.

In 1950 the Society initiated the development of a coordinating committee of the psychiatric societies of the metropolitan area of New York. This

committee served as forerunner of the present Committee of Delegates of the District Branches of Area II, now known as the Council of the District Branches, with Dr. Morris Herman as chairman and Dr. Sam Parker as co-chairman.

In 1953 the Society was granted District Branch status by APA, and Dr. Joseph Abramson was first Speaker of the Assembly of District Branches. Dr. Potter served as treasurer of APA from 1947-1954, and many other members of this branch have served on committees of the national organization.

The Society has been active in a number of ways. For several years it sponsored programs on psychiatric aspects of organic diseases. These programs were held at several hospitals in Kings County and were attended by specialists in dermatology, gastrointestinal diseases, gynecology, and allergy.

The Society helped to form the Brooklyn Mental Health Association and other mental hygiene projects. With the cooperation of the Kings County Medical Society and the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Academy of General Practice, hundreds of seminars have been conducted by members of our group for the education of nonpsychiatric physicians. There have also been postgraduate seminars for psychiatric specialists, at which outstanding men lecture on current advances in such areas as psychoanalysis and group therapy.

The Society has given advice and counsel on legislation concerning medical responsibility in the State of New York. It has published a directory, and subsequent revisions, listing all psychiatrists practicing in Kings County. A newsletter is circulated to the membership five times a year.

In 1964 the Society was incorporated. It has a heavy schedule of projects already underway and planned. These include studies on psychiatry and religion, extension of insurance benefits to cover psychiatric illness, joint scientific meetings with the Kings County Medical Society and the Kings County Neurological Society, and a speakers panel to provide guest speakers to organizations requesting them.

Mid-Hudson District Branch

The Mid-Hudson District Branch of the APA was originally known as the Dutchess County Psychiatric Society. Its first meeting was held in February 1933 at Hudson River State Hospital. There were 49 charter members. The first officers were Dr. Milton M. Grover, president; Dr. J. F. McNeil, vice-president; Dr. Wirt C. Groom, treasurer; and Dr. E. S. Steblen, secretary. The superintendents of the four state institutions in Dutchess County were appointed to form a constitution. The executive session was followed by a scientific session and refreshments.

In November of that year, the members decided that the Society would institute a mental hygiene program in Dutchess County. Several committees were appointed, but the movement died. Two decades later, in the 1950's, the Dutchess County Health Society was formed without any help from the Society.

A golf tournament and a social meeting was held at the end of the year in 1934. In November 1937, a meeting at Harlem Valley State Hospital followed a day devoted to the study of insulin treatment.

In April 1942 the question was raised of having adequate material for the meetings. At that time the members decided to have one social and one scientific meeting a year to keep the Society alive.

In October 1953 the name was changed to the Dutchess County Psychiatric Society. It was decided that the officers should no longer be limited to the staffs of the psychiatric hospitals in the county, but should be opened to neuropsychiatrists in private practice. The advisability of affiliation with the American Psychiatric Association was stressed and all members were urged to join APA. The Society became an affiliate in May 1955. The members decided to have two scientific meetings in the fall, another in the spring, and a social affair in the spring. On April 18, 1956, the minutes were typed up for the first time and have been typed since.

In January 1957 the Society sent a letter to the governor calling his attention to the fact that New York State had lost its position as a leader in mental hygiene and in the matter of salaries for its psychiatrists.

In December 1957 the question of whether to remain an affiliate of APA or to organize as a district branch was discussed. During successive meetings committees were appointed and a constitution drawn up. In April 1960 the application for district branch status was approved by the New York State Assembly of District Branches.

The Society decided to give a \$25 Savings Bond for the best exhibit in behavioral science and allied fields at the Regional Science Fair in Poughkeepsie.

In May 1960 a joint meeting of the Dutchess County Psychiatric Society and the Mid-Hudson District Branch of APA was held. At another joint meeting in October of that year amendments to the constitution were made and it was agreed that all members of the Dutchess County Psychiatric Society who were not APA members would become affiliates. The Society later voted to disband as a society and transfer the funds in its treasury to the Mid-Hudson District Branch. At the second meeting of the District Branch, a history of the Society was read and submitted to the local paper for publication. In March 1962 the District Branch was certified to process new members. In October 1963 five honorary members were elected to the District Branch.

Our first president, Dr. Grover, died in July 1963.

Meetings of the District Branch follow the format of a business meeting followed by scientific sessions, with refreshments either preceding or following the meeting. There are also a year-end social and a golf tournament. The Branch is active in many related community affairs and participates actively in APA. There are now 95 members.

Nassau Neuropsychiatric Society

James L. McCartney, M.D., and Max Zuger, M.D.

Within a short time after World War II the population of Nassau County, N.Y., increased to unprecedented proportions, and with the influx came many physicians, including psychiatrists. By 1948 the psychiatrists practicing in and around Hempstead began to discuss the need for a society to promote the interests of the specialty; among these initiators were Drs. James L. McCartney, Reginald H. Steen, E. Milton Meeks, Alex Cold, Jack London, and H. Lawrence Sutton. Fourteen interested physicians met at Dr. McCartney's home on March 23, 1948, and decided to form an organization of neurologists and psychiatrists in the county to be called the Nassau Neuropsychiatric Society. Dr. McCartney was named president, Dr. Meeks vice-president, and Dr. Denker secretary-treasurer. The preliminary constitution proposed four meetings a year, for the stated purposes of exchanging ideas, working in the direction of closer cooperation with the medical profession as a whole, and encouraging acquaintanceship among psychiatrists.

In its first year the Society embarked on education programs both for lay groups and for professionals. The functions of psychiatrists were explained over a local radio station. Many lectures were given to lay groups, and roundtable discussions and postgraduate lectures for physicians on neuropsychiatry were accepted by the post graduate committee of the Nassau County Medical Society and were given at Nassau Hospital. Dr. McCartney held a number of conferences with the district attorney, and arrangements were made for members of the Society to be called on when psychiatric opinions were requested by the courts. A conference was held with the Health Commissioner concerning the establishment of a mental hygiene clinic.

During the second year Dr. McCartney completed the constitution and bylaws, which were approved and published.

In 1950-51 the Society decided to seek approval as a district branch of the APA. Steps were taken to get all the members of the Society to become members of the national organization. In 1952 the petition to the APA was accepted, and the Society became the third District Branch.

During that year, the Society was concerned with the growing numbers of nonphysicians who were entering into the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness. It urged that legislation be passed to amend the Medical Practice Act to include nervous and mental disorders. The Society opposed a bill that would license psychologists, on the basis that such licensing would indicate to the public that psychologists are recognized by the state as capable of treating nervous and mental disease. (The bill was passed but vetoed by Gov. Dewey.) The Society pressed for the establishment of a psychiatric clinic at Meadowbrook Hospital.

Following the passage of the Community Mental Health Services Act in 1954, the Society requested the creation of a special board to plan expansion of the county's "severely inadequate" mental health facilities and urged the county to take advantage of the state aid provision of the Act.

The Society continued to bring together all schools of psychiatric thinking into one organized, tolerant group. Under the presidency of Dr. Max Zuger in 1954-55, a series of scientific meetings were held where representatives of all the different schools of psychiatric thinking had an opportunity to express their views and clinical applications of their theories.

Since the Society was the third District Branch to be formed, it played a very active role in the early phases of the organization of the Assembly of District Branches. Drs. Lester Shapiro and Irving Chipkin were especially active in Assembly affairs.

Also during this period, the Society maintained active contact and participation with the County Medical Society, especially in considering such problems as emergency medical aid and the revision of the Workman's Compensation fees.

The bill to license psychologists again came up before the legislature in 1954-55, and again the Society's testimony against it played some part in preventing its adoption. Also that year plans were launched for implementing the Community Mental Health Act in the county. Although it was recommended that a member of the Society be appointed to the proposed County Board, no psychiatrist was included when it was finally formed in 1956. Psychiatry was not represented on the Board until 1962, when Drs. Steen and Pasquale Carone were appointed.

During the administration of Dr. Shapiro in 1955-56, regular meetings of the executive committee were introduced, together with formal presentation of its deliberations and recommendations to the membership. He also developed the committee structure of the Society and placed much emphasis on expediting the fulfillment of the Community Mental Health Act. Toward this end the Society sponsored a program jointly with the Nassau County Mental Health Association, in which the assistant director of the Community Mental Health Service of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, the director of the Westchester Community Board, and the Nassau County commissioner of welfare participated. The Society became a member of the Nassau County Council of Social Agencies. As Recorder of the Assembly of District Branches, Dr. Shapiro was active in setting up divisional meetings. After a year's lapse in giving postgraduate courses with the county Medical Society, the Society again became active in the program and Dr. Richard S. King was appointed chairman of the committee for this activity.

In 1956-57 the constitution was revised to provide for eight official meetings a year, four of them scientific sessions with guest speakers. By 1957-58, the business of the Society had grown to the point that it was necessary to employ clerical help. Also that year the Low Cost Panel for psychiatric services was conceived and began operating with the Nassau County Mental Health Association. Many members participated in the first divisional meeting, which was held in New York City that year. A coordinating committee of the delegates of district branches of New York was established. Members of the Society supported the new Academy of Medicine of the County Society by contributing generously to the building fund and for the library.

The Annual Award, a plaque for outstanding contribution to mental health in the county, was established in 1958-59, and the first award was given to Dr. Charles Nord, the first full-time medical director of the Mental Health Board and a member of the Society. President Dr. Aaron Bortin worked with the Nassau Academy of Medicine to establish a section of psychiatry and neurology. During the year he also created a committee on religion and psychiatry which was to lay the groundwork for the formation of the Nassau Chapter of the Academy of Religion and Health.

During the administration of Dr. Max Fink in 1959-60 the Society's newsletter was launched, the executive committee was reorganized to include five standing committees, and it was decided to incorporate the Society.

The following year the Society had the distinction of being the first specialty group to participate in a postgraduate program in medical education with the Nassau Academy of Medicine and later expanded the courses in the program. The constitution was revised again to incorporate the centralization of committees and in December 1960 the Society received a Certificate of Incorporation in the State of New York. Also that year the Society assumed the responsibility for primary screening of local applicants for membership in the APA. A study of hypnosis by the Society resulted in the approval of a statement in regard to its use which was accepted by the County Medical Society.

The Society continued an active and constructive role in medical, legislative, and community affairs. In April 1959 a resolution defining psychotherapy as being part of the art of medicine was adopted by the County and State Medical Societies. Members took increasingly more active roles in

other organizations. Dr. Steen was elected president of the County Medical Society; Dr. Chipkin, president-elect of the County Mental Health Association; Dr. Shapiro, Recorder of the Assembly of District Branches; Dr. Abraham Lenzner served on the APA liaison committee to the AHA; and Dr. McCartney became a member of the executive committee of the Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine.

After publication of the report of the Joint Commission on Mental Illness and Health, the Society discussed and endorsed several of its recommendations but expressed strong reservations about suggestions to expand mental health personnel without adequate medical safeguards. A committee was established to coordinate committee activities toward implementing the report.

The Scientific and Education Committee instituted a course in psychiatry for nonpsychiatric physicians and began to develop a faculty for this purpose.

In 1962-63 a special assessment of \$50 per member was approved by a large majority to establish a fund for educational and legislative action to insure that adequate medical responsibility be maintained in the treatment of the

emotionally ill. The Society strongly supported recommendations for removal of the per capita ceiling on state payments for local mental health services in order to facilitate expanding clinics and psychiatric services in general hospitals and establishing intensive treatment facilities at Meadowbrook Hospital and a residential center for treatment of children, including the retarded.

Support was given to the revision of the M'Naghten Rule and certification procedures for admission to state hospitals and to legislation providing the right to use property at Mitchel Field for mental, penal, or correctional hospitals.

A special five-year grant from NIMH was obtained that year for continuation of the postgraduate education series in psychiatry for nonpsychiatric physicians.

By 1965 the membership had grown to 141. Current officers are Dr. Henry Pechstein, president; Dr. Jay Staunton, president-elect; Dr. Herman Willner, secretary; Dr. Thomas A. Naclerio, delegate; and Dr. Lenzner, alternate delegate.

Queens County Psychiatric Society

Arthur W. Schappell, M.D.

In 1939 a group representing "all physicians in good standing, members of the Medical Society of Queens, interested in neurology and psychiatry" formed the Section on Neurology and Psychiatry of the Medical Society. The first chairman, as well as the moving spirit in organizing and recruiting members, was Dr. Robert Savitt of the staff of Creedmoor State Hospital. Dr. Milton Tarlau served for many years as secretary-treasurer and later as chairman. There were about 15 members, dues were three dollars a year, and the programs were held at the County Medical Society Building and one at Creedmoor State Hospital and Rivercrest Sanitarium each year. A social function was held in the spring.

The activities of the Section were interrupted by World War II. After this a rapid resurgence occurred with the general population shift to the suburbs and the generally increased interest and number of physicians training in psychiatry. Active participation with the Medical Society continued with the formation of a speakers' bureau and participation in mental health activities including the annual Mental Health Week. Dr. Martin Rudoy served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Mental Health and Cimitia Minora of the Medical Society until 1962; Dr. Elliot Wineburg has held the post since then.

In the next few years, rapid reorganization occurred and the formation of a Queens County District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association was undertaken with the help and encouragement of Dr. Lester Shapiro, who was chairman of the committee of delegates, New York State District Branches. The first officers (1958-59) were Dr. Arthur Schappell, president; Dr. Benjamin Becker, president-elect; and Dr. Martin Dollin, secretary-treasurer. Dr. Becker was the first delegate to the Assembly of District Branches from 1958 to 1961 while Dr. Dollin served as alternate delegate. The first issue of the Queens County Newsletter was published in the fall of 1958 and was the first newsletter in New York State. Dr. Becker was the first editor, succeeded by Dr. Paul Tomlinson and later by Dr. Wineburg, the present editor.

In 1959 incorporation proceedings were begun under the name of the "Queens County District Branch of the APA, Inc." Its purpose was to function as the Queens County District Branch of the APA and to cooperate with local and national mental health organizations. The incorporation was officially authorized by the APA on May 24, 1960, and a charter was granted by Dr. C. H. Hardin Branch. It was filed on June 30, 1960, in the office of the Secretary of State of New York State.

Dues had been raised to twenty dollars to provide for dinners preceding two of the meetings, a regular purchase of books for the Medical Society library, a donation to the APA building fund, and financial support of the New York State Assembly of District Branches and its committee of delegates.

On Feb. 1, 1960, the first directory of psychiatrists in Queens County was completed. Also in 1960 a new constitution was written conforming to that of the APA. Meetings were to be held five times, bimonthly, of which the last would be the annual business meeting in June, shortly before the annual APA national convention. Committees on membership, program, nominating, entertainment, forensic psychiatry, ethics, and relationship with allied professions were formed. A telephone referral service was established and we participated in the revision of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law.

In 1963, the Society, aware of the changing needs of psychiatry in Queens County, organized a committee to plan for future psychiatric facilities in this area. Two members are officially participating on the New York State Regional Planning Committee for Mental Health.

By 1964, the membership had grown to over 100. The quarterly Newsletter had been enlarged from two to four pages under the editorship of Dr. Wineburg and is mailed to more than 2000 people throughout the country. Also in 1964 the constitution and bylaws were revised to meet the requirements of the APA; later amendments provided for separation of the offices of secretary and treasurer and for a life membership category. In that year also, the Society voted to officially support the legal action taken by the Nassau County Psychiatric Society against the practice of psychotherapy by nonmedical practitioners.

The following officers served: Dr. Schappell, president, 1958-59; Dr. Becker, delegate, 1958-61, alternate delegate 1962-65, first editor of the Newsletter, president from 1959-61; Dr. Dollin, president-elect, 1959-61, president, 1961-63; Dr. Tomlinson, secretary-treasurer, 1959-61, president-elect, 1961-63, president 1963-65; Dr. Naftali Eskreis, secretary-treasurer 1961-63, president-elect, 1963-65, president, 1965-66; Dr. Jack Rubins, delegate, 1962-65, secretary-treasurer, 1963-65, president-elect, 1965-66; Dr. Stanley Brodsky, treasurer, beginning in 1965; and Dr. Morris Isenberg, secretary, beginning in 1965.

A History of the Queens County Psychiatric Society (1958-1984)

summarized by Pauline L. Kuyler, M.D., based on material written by:
Drs. Arthur Schappell, Benjamin Becker, Jack Rubins, and Morris Isenberg

In 1958 when the Queens County Psychiatric Society was founded, there was already a group of psychiatrists who had banded together in 1939 with neurologists to form the Section on Neurology and Psychiatry of the Medical Society of Queens County. The first chairman and moving spirit in the organization was Dr. Robert Savitt of the staff of Creedmoor Hospital. Dr. Milton Tarlau, a neurologist, served for many years as secretary-treasurer and later as chairman. There were 15 members and dues were three dollars a year. The many scientific meetings of the Section took place at the County Medical Society Building with one being held each year at Creedmoor State Hospital and the private hospital, Rivercrest Sanitarium, where Dr. Martin Dollin was director. A social function was held in the spring.

World War II interrupted the activities of the Section. At the same time, the war showed the great importance of psychiatry by the 40% psychiatric rejection rate of civilian inductees turned down in induction stations and the ability of psychiatrists at the front to return battle-fatigued soldiers to battle within a week. This was in sharp contrast with World War I, when similarly afflicted soldiers had been sent back as "shell shocked" and eventually discharged. This aroused interest in many physicians who went into psychiatric training. After the war, with the general population shift to Queens came a number of doctors specializing in Psychiatry. In 1946, in collaboration with the Medical Society, a speakers' bureau was formed by the invigorated section and mental health activities were fostered. A Mental Health Week was made an annual affair. Dr. Martin Rudoj served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Mental Health of the Medical Society until 1962, when he was replaced by Dr. Eliot Wineburg.

With help and encouragement of Dr. Lester Shapiro (Nassau County District Branch) who was then Chairman of the Committee of Delegates (now the New York State Psychiatric Society) there was a reorganization and the Queens County Psychiatric Society came into being in 1958. The Section on Neurology and Psychiatry was continued as a parallel organization. The first president of the new organization (1958- 1959) was Dr. Arthur Schappell, a neurologist, who also served as the first historian. Dr. Benjamin Becker was the first president-elect and the first delegate to the Assembly of District Branches. Dr. Martin Dollin was the first secretary-treasurer. The first issue of the Queens County District Branch Newsletter was published in the fall of 1958. It was the first newsletter in New York State. For this event we were thankful to the initiative and enterprise of the first editor, Dr. Benjamin Becker. In 1959, the incorporation proceedings were begun under the name of the "Queens County District Branch of the APA, Inc." Its purpose was to contribute to the work of the APA in cooperation with the other local organizations, and the state and national organizations. The incorporation was officially authorized by the APA on May 24, 1960.

The 1960's were very important in the development of our District Branch. A new constitution was written to conform to that of the APA. The first directory of psychiatrists in Queens County was completed. Meetings were to be held five times a year, bimonthly, of which the last would be annual meeting in June shortly after the APA convention. At this last meeting, the new officers of the Society were installed. Committees of membership, program, nominating, entertainment, forensic psychiatry, ethics, and relationship with allied professionals were formed. A telephone referral service was established and we participated in the revision of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law. Our Society began a regular purchase of books for the Medical Society library, made a donation to the APA building fund, and gave financial support to the New York State assembly of District Branches and its committee of delegates. Dues were raised to twenty dollars a year, which was sufficient for the Society's financial contributions to other organizations. There was money left

over to provide for two dinners preceding two of the meetings, one of which was devoted to neurology and the other to business.

By 1964, the membership had grown to 100. The quarterly Newsletter had been enlarged from two to four pages under the editorship of Dr. Eliot Wineburg, and was mailed to over 2000 people and organizations throughout the country. Also the 1964 constitution and bylaws were revised to meet the new requirements of the APA constitution. Later amendments provided for the separation of the offices of secretary and treasurer, and for a life membership category. In that year, the society voted officially to support the legal action taken by the Nassau County Psychiatric Society against the independent practice of psychotherapy by non-medical practitioners. This led to tumultuous times in our Society with our members taking strong stands on both sides of the issue. As it was, the matter died a quiet death. In 1965, it was moved to strengthen the public image of psychiatry. For this purpose, members were assessed for a fund to be used for any legislative or educational endeavor for the enhancement of the image of the psychiatrist as a practitioner of psychotherapy.

Non-medical practitioners have continued to seek a broader role in providing mental health services. Over the years, the Society has taken a strong position that only a psychiatrist can evaluate mental patients, as a whole, and arrive at a diagnosis and treatment plan including psychotherapy and medication. When attempts have been made by non-medical professionals to expand their scope of practice to include diagnosis and medication management, the Psychiatric Society has remained firm in the position that these professionals should work under the supervision of a psychiatrist.

In the latter part of the 1960's the Queens County Psychiatric Society continued its active participation in the community. Dr. Jack Schnee arranged several yearly courses in psychiatry for the general practitioner. In 1967, a symposium on the problems of adolescents, sponsored by Geigy, was attended by five hundred physicians. A year later, 200 came to a symposium on the acute psychiatric problems in medical practice.

In 1968, Dr. Melvyn Miller assumed the chairs of the referral committee and the legislative committee. He met with state senators and assemblymen to discuss mental health legislation and delivery of mental care in Queens County. New committees on manpower, rehabilitation, mental health planning, and private practice were formed to deal with the widening areas of the DB's activities. The applicability of these committees became evident the last year of the sixties decade when a recodification of the Mental Hygiene Law of the State took place. The civil rights movement began to focus on the rights of mental patients and the commitment laws. Psychiatrists fought to protect the health and human rights of these patients, which were being inadvertently infringed upon in the momentous decisions of the period. For example, the psychiatrists were against the discharge of patients within 72 hours of admission, which time did not even allow for laboratory returns.

Worse was yet to come when the governor signed into law the release of thousands of mental patients from what was now called Creedmoor Psychiatric Center (CPC) without sufficient planning for services in the surrounding communities. The inpatient census of CPC decreased from 5600 to 1600 in a period of 4 years. Although the changes had the praiseworthy objective of protecting the civil rights of the mental patients, they seemed to have economical and political undertones. This gave rise to the revolving-door phenomenon and an increase in the homeless. In 1974, Dr. Erick Folman noted the decrease in size of CPC and the closing of St. Albans facility for veterans. Many of the individuals who might have been treated in those facilities were roaming the streets penniless, and confused.

Beginning in the 1950's and the 1960's, a revolution was taking place in the practice of psychiatry. The helplessness and therapeutic limitations of the

psychiatrists of the thirties were yielding to hope and the greater ability of the specialty to aid the mentally ill. In addition to ECT, which had been part of the psychiatrists armamentarium in the forties, the antipsychotic drugs were introduced in 1952, and the antidepressant preparations and minor tranquilizers a few years later. Recovery rates of 70% in major depressions became common. The discovery of penicillin miraculously led to the disappearance on psychiatric wards of the victims of general paralysis of the insane. Whereas formerly, the community was surprised to see a patient discharged from a state hospital as recovered, it now began to expect doctors to be miracle workers.

In the 1970's, the Queens County Psychiatric Society showed renewed vigor. A history of the Society written by Drs. Becker, Rubins, and Schappell appeared in the February 1970 edition of the NYS District Branches Bulletin. Dr. Becker, ever aware of the medical basis of psychiatry, made arrangements with the Queens County Medical Society for an annual joint meeting to discuss topics of mutual interest. At Dr. Schappell's motion, in February 1971 the section of Neurology and Psychiatry of the Queens County Medical Society was separated from our organization. Neurologists and other physicians now had the privilege of affiliate membership

In the Society an alteration was made in the scientific program to conform to the requirements of the American Psychiatric Association. A continuing medical education to enhance the image of the psychiatrist was formalized with a certificate of attendance. The average number of those attending was 70. In 1975, our Dr. Irving Farber conferred with Dr. Lewis Robbins of LIJ-Hillside Medical Center and William Werner, the Director of Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, to initiate a common CME program of 12 scheduled lectures under the title of "Modern Trends in Psychiatry." This program proved very popular and became a yearly event. Among the lecturers were Drs. Jonathan Cole, Jonathan Himmelhoch, Stella Chess, Silvano Arieti, Arthur Rifkin, Virginia Saddock, Irwin Perr, Irving Bieber, Stanly Lesse, and George Tarjan. Our Society also arranged joint meetings with the Nassau Psychiatric Society.

In 1976, an overhaul of the Constitution was necessitated because of drastic changes in the constitutions of the APA and the DB Assembly, to which our constitution had to conform. Provision was made for greater use of the mail ballot. Still more committees became necessary to keep up with the broadening requirements on the Society. A committee on women in psychiatry was formed to emphasize the wider role of women in the field. To further the protection of the public and to help the doctor, a committee on the impaired physician came into being. A community and hospital psychiatry committee was to explore the results of the deinstitutionalization, and a fourth was formed on public affairs. Many women psychiatrists began to take an active part in the affairs of the Society, heading many committees and assuming officer positions. Again in 1978, a new directory was issued under the supervision of Dr. Eliot Wineburg. In the community, New Gardens General Hospital closed its doors and with it the only psychiatric ward in a private hospital in Queens County, where inpatients could be treated by their own psychiatrist.

On the state level, Dr. Daniel Chansky struggled with Medicaid problems. Private and public hospitals were receiving two and three times the fees allowed the private psychiatrist for a psychiatric session, even when given by a social worker or psychologist. Whereas a Medicaid patient could have many sessions a week in a hospital, the private practitioner was permitted only one a week. In the Assembly of the APA, our representative, Dr. Howard Berk participated in the discussions on the DSM-III, helping to retain the ICD-9-CM, which were of immense aid to private practice. While the antidepressant and antipsychotic preparations as well as lithium were making the task of psychiatry easier, they were so efficacious that journals were reporting 85% of psychiatric patients were being treated by the general practitioner and the internist. Locally, private psychiatrists who primarily wrote prescriptions sprouted up. Many private psychiatrists at the same time were taking part-time positions in local institutions

The 1980's began with a crisis when the Secretary and the Treasurer of the Queens District Branch declined to run for the office of President-Elect. According to our constitution, only three officers were eligible for the higher position. The problem was resolved by a Past-President agreeing to run again. This led to the elimination of this praiseworthy constitutional requirement for eligibility and made the office of President-Elect open to the general membership. On May 17, 1981, Dr. Jack Rubins was honored on his retirement at a Dinner-Dance with the largest attendance ever. In the following year, honorary plaques were given to Drs. Benjamin Becker, Martin Dollin, Morris Isenberg, Samuel Karlin, and Aaron Meister on their retirements after more than 30 years in practice. This marked the conclusion of the distinguished career of the especially dedicated and outstanding Dr. Benjamin Becker, who played a dominant role in the affairs of the Queens County Psychiatric Society since its founding. More than any one else in the Society, he saw to it that capable psychiatrists joined the Society and that the interests of psychiatry were upheld.

Although in 1984 the membership of the Queens DB had risen to 300 and dues of \$90.00 were sufficient to defray the outlays, the Society was confronted with serious problems. Attendance at the CME lectures had fallen in competition with the many CME programs in the community. The organization of the DB was maintained by a small core of loyal members. There was hope in addition of many women psychiatrists and foreign medical graduates. The Committee on Women had arranged a lecture on "Psychiatric Practice and Young Women in the Feminist Era," given by Dr. Ann Ruth Turkel. Meetings of the Forensic Psychiatry Committee under the leadership of Dr. Stanley Brodsky were enthusiastically attended by psychiatrists, lawyers, and even a judge. These experiences substantiated the belief that psychiatry was surviving and flourishing as a specialty.

PLK: 9/9/03

A HISTORY OF THE QUEENS COUNTY PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY (1984-2004)

by Pauline L. Kuyler, M.D.,
including material written by Manoj Shah, M.D.

In the 1980's health economics and public education became very important in understanding how psychiatrists practice. Fewer patients were being treated in hospitals and more patients were being treated in what was called "the community." Government money was less directly involved in providing services, and more involved in insuring or monitoring services. Insurance, both public and private, including the lack of insurance, had an increasing effect on the practice of psychiatry. With more patients in "the community" advocacy organizations were formed, with calls for eliminating the stigma of mental illness and of psychiatric treatment, and for giving individuals with mental illness a better chance to live a good life.

The members of the Queens County Psychiatric Society (QCPS, also known as the Queens DB of the APA) established contact with various advocacy organizations. Dr. Stanley Brodsky and Dr. Rose Hartman met with leaders of AMI/PATH (Alliance for the Mentally Ill/People Acting Together with Hope), an affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), serving families in Queens and Nassau County. Dr. Pauline Kuyler regularly attended meetings of the Queens Mental Health Council and the Queens County Mental Health Society.

In 1986, National Mental Illness Awareness Week (MIAW) was observed, for the first time. The organizers of this program, which included NAMI and APA believed that it was important to educate the public about mental illness, and that earlier emphasis on mental health had not helped the public understand the significance of mental illness, and what treatments were available. Dr. Zoe Douca-Lutz organized a MIAW fair at Queens Hospital Center. For many years, Ors. Douca-Lutz and Kuyler continued to be active in MIAW programs for educating the public.

Dr Jack Schnee continued his work in helping preparing summaries of basic information in psychopharmacology. The summaries he prepared were helpful in teaching non-medical staff of mental health programs, and could even be used as a quick review for physicians. Dr. Schnee chaired a Committee on Psychiatric Therapies, which discussed changes in therapy and of the way therapies were being used in the current economic climate.

The Legislative Committee was ably chaired by Dr. Melvyn Miller from 1968 to 1986. He was very patient in preparing Dr. Pauline Kuyler to take over the position. She held this position until 2000, when it was taken over by Dr. Glenn Martin. In 1987, the New York State Psychiatric Association (NYSPA) supported a bill to mandate that any health insurance which was called comprehensive must include mental health coverage. This eventually passed, but insurance companies found ways to evade the intention of the bill. Also, in 1987, NYSPA and the Medical Society of the County of Queens (MSCQ) became involved in opposing the elimination of the Medicaid/Medicare Crossover. This eventually led to a law suit, which was settled in favor of physicians in 1996. For many years, Medicare insurance allowed only \$250 reimbursement for out patient psychiatric therapy. The APA Office of Government Relations had been trying to get Congress to change this for many years. In 1988, Congress raised the limit for outpatient psychiatric benefits for Medicare to \$1100. With continued lobbying by various advocacy groups, the Congress eventually removed the limits on psychiatric outpatient care.

Women became more prominent in the leadership of organized psychiatry. In 1984, when Dr. Carol Nadelson became the first woman president of the APA, Dr. Alice Stahl became the first woman president of the QCPS. The QCPS Committee on Women had been organized during the 1970s by Drs. Inga Well, and Linda Gochfeld. Throughout the years, the Committee has provided a forum and social support group for women psychiatrists. Several members of the Queens Committee on Women attended the monthly meetings of Committee on Women of the Nassau Psychiatric Society. As women became more involved in the leadership of the Society, the Committee on Women had meetings less frequently. In the early 1990's, Dr. Elaine Eng took

over the chair of the Committee, and was active in planning CME programs on topics such as the effects of endocrine changes on the psychology of women, and psychology related to the perinatal period. In 1998, Dr. Weil represented the Committee in responding to a request by a community group to be on a panel discussion informing a group of teen-age girls about career choices. Dr. Weil participated in the panel at the Forest Hills Community house, and reported on the panel at a meeting of the Committee.

Throughout the years, the Newsletter has been very important in providing information to the members of the Society. At onetime, the Newsletter was published 6 times a year, but, for many years, it has been published quarterly. The Editorship has been held by Drs. Benjamin Becker, Irving Farber, Eliot Wineberg, Paul Kymissis, and Stanley Brodsky. Dr. Farber held the position at two different times. In 2004, the editor of the Newsletter was Dr. Jeffrey Borenstein.

The strength and composition of the membership of the Society went through significant changes during the 1980 and 1990's. In the early 1980's, there were over 300 members, and, even in 1987, there were 291 members. The Society leadership was still dominated by those who had their training during or shortly after World War II. The membership gradually fell and reached a low of 211 in 1995. Since then, the membership has gradually grown, reaching 225 in 2004. The leadership has passed to a younger generation with a more varied background. In 1999, Dr. Shauna Reinblatt was chosen to be the Member-in-Training (MIT) representative to the NYSPA, and in 2000, Dr. Adam Chester became the Early Career Psychiatrist (ECP) representative to the NYSPA.

In the early 1990's, there was much attention given to planning for health care reform. Psychiatrists practicing in Queens were very aware that Queens had one of the highest percentages of people without health insurance. This was because Queens had many immigrants and many working poor. In 1994, Dr. Pauline Kuyler wrote a Newsletter article on why the Queens DB should be a strong supporter of a single-payer universal health care system. Dr. Seth Vivek and Dr. Stanley Brodsky each wrote comments, discussing the advantages of a market driven system, and the need for caution in making major changes too quickly.

By 1996, the federal plans for an organized health care system had fallen through, and it became extremely important for psychiatrists to understand how business interests were reorganizing the health insurance system. Dr. Blair Skolnick took over the Chair of the Private Practice Committee of the Society. He led several CME programs on what a psychiatrist needs to know to work effectively with the managed care entities. He kept himself informed on how each of the managed care companies was functioning, and he became a helpful resource for information on how to cope with the many problems psychiatrists were having with managed care companies. Mr. Seth Stein, the Executive Director of the New York State Psychiatric Association, was also helpful in providing this information. The APA provided help with these problems through their Managed Care Help Line.

Through the years, the QCPS has made changes to update its technology. In 1992, the Society bought an Apple Computer for the use of our Executive Secretary, Debbie Wessely. It was not until she began using the more modern PC in 1998, that she was able to use the computer for the Newsletter, the Directory and other convenient functions. Also, in 1998, the Society got a toll-free telephone number, to make it easier for the public to call for referrals. The number of calls for referrals has increased over the years. At one time there had been only 3 or 4 calls a week. In recent years, especially after the September 11 attack in 2001, the number of calls has increased. In 2003, there are about 15 calls a week.

The members of QCPS have had significant input in the APA Assembly of District Branches and the New York State Psychiatric Society. For many years, during the 1980's, the District Branch was ably represented in the Assembly by

Drs. Howard Berk and Dr. Daniel Chansky. After the untimely death of Dr. Berk, in 1966, Dr. Pauline Kuyler joined Dr. Chansky in the Assembly. For many years, Dr. Chansky served as treasurer of NYSPA. Beginning in 1995, when Dr. Chansky had health problems, Dr. Seeth Vivek began attending meetings in his stead, and in 1997, Dr. Kuyler left the Assembly. Since 1997, the DB has been well represented by Dr. Vivek, Dr. Manoj Shah and Dr. Glenn Martin. During the 2002-2004 term Dr. Martin served as Secretary of NYSPA. In 2004, Dr. Vivek was elected Treasurer of NYSPA, and Dr. Deborah Cross was elected vice president. Dr. Cross had been active in the Capital District DB for many years. We were happy to welcome her when she transferred to the Queens DB, in 2002.

In 1999, the long held custom of the Queens Psychiatric Society of having a President and a President-Elect each year was changed. Instead, a President and a Vice-President were elected. This gave more flexibility to members in deciding how they could best serve the Society in leadership positions. A president could serve for more than one year, and a Vice-President did not have to become President right away, if there were reasons to vary the timing. In 2002, the dues for the QCPS were \$200 a year. Meetings of the Executive Council were held once a month, except during the summer months.

When the QCPS began in 1958, the need for educational opportunities was very important. Continuing Medical Education (CME) has continued to be the best attended of our activities, and the setting in which members get together to know each other and share ideas. During the 1980's and early 1990's, the CME programs were coordinated by Dr. Dan Chansky. This responsibility was taken over by Dr. Manoj Shah.

The CME activities under Dr. Shah's leadership included several innovative themes. Joint programs with the Brooklyn Psychiatric Society, the Bronx Psychiatric Society, and the Greater Long Island Psychiatric Society were held. This gave an opportunity to members of each of the societies to get to know each other and share ideas. During two APA elections, Dr. Shah invited Presidential Candidates to address our membership and discuss issues important to all of us. After the 9/11/2001 terrorist attack, a joint meeting was held with the Academy of Medicine of Queens County and the community was invited. Other CME activities included programs related to womens issues, multicultural issues, and forensic psychiatry as well as topics in psychopharmacology.

PLK: 6/06/04

PRESIDENTS of the QUEENS COUNTY PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY

Dr. ArthurW. Schappell, M.D. 1958-1959
Dr. Benjamin Becker 1959-1 961
Dr. Martin Dollin 1961-1 963
Dr. Paul J. Tomiinson 1963-1 965
Dr. Naftali Eskreis 1965-1 967
Dr. Jack Rubins 1967-1 969
Dr. Morris Isenberg 1969-1 970
Dr. Stanley H. Brodsky 1970-1971
Dr. Albert Hotkins 1971-1972
Dr. Herbert Waltzer 1972-1973
Dr. E. Erick Folman 1973-1 974
Dr. Melvyn Miller 1974-1975
Dr. Irving Farber 1975-1976
Dr. Ira M. Israel 1976
Dr. Elliot Wineburg 1977-1978
Dr. Daniel Chansky 1978-1980
Dr. Jack Schnee 1980-1982
Dr. Stanley H. Brodsky 1982-1984
Dr. Alice S. Stahl 1984-1985
Dr. Leonard Henschel 1985-1966
Dr. Rose S. Hartmann 1986-1987
Dr. Daniel Chansky 1987-1988
Dr. Pauline L. Kuyler 1988-1989
Dr. Leonard Hensehel 1989-1990
Dr. Daniel Chansky 1990-1991
Dr. Abbas Nahas 1991-1993
Dr. Blair Sko 1993-1994
Dr. Monique Simon 1994-1995
Dr. Seeth Vivek 1995-1 997
Dr. Manoj Shah 1997-1 998
Dr. Michael Gordon 1998-1 999
Dr. Glenn Martin 1999-2000
Dr. Dinshaw Bamji 2000-2002
Dr. Vinod Dhar 2002-2004
Dr. Jeffrey Borenstein 2004-

Suffolk County District Branch

Robert F. Wagner, M.D.

The Suffolk County District Branch of the APA emerged in 1957 as the successor to the Long Island Psychiatric Society, which enjoyed a long and enviable history. During the years when Long Island was sparsely settled the Society provided an opportunity for professional people to meet several times a year and listen to outstanding lecturers from the metropolitan area. When the APA organized the District Branches to represent distinct geographical areas, it was with reluctance that we changed the name and the area served by the Long Island Psychiatric Society, but we hope we have not changed its spirit.

The Suffolk County District Branch was formally organized in 1956 and 1957, and regards itself as the voice of organized psychiatry in this area. It conducts five scientific meetings a year to which the interested professional public is invited. In 1964 a new constitution was adopted which meets the requirements of the APA for processing new members.

Suffolk County is unusual in that it has within its borders three very large mental hospitals, two private mental hospitals, a veterans hospital, and one state school. The Society's early practice of having its meetings in these hospitals has continued. For many years Society members consisted largely of institutional psychiatrists, but as the community has grown, the District Branch has been able to welcome to its activities more and more psychiatrists in private practice. At the present time the Society has representatives from all types of psychiatric practice.

Current membership is 88; current officers are Dr. Benjamin P. Riley, president; Dr. Selwyn J. Pereira, president-elect; Dr. William J. Turner, secretary; Dr. Irving Pinsley, treasurer; Dr. William L. Harris, delegate; and Dr. Olga Von Tauber, alternate delegate.

West Hudson District Branch

Theodore W. Neumann, M.D.

The West Hudson District Branch of the APA was organized and a slate of officers was elected at a meeting on March 30, 1962. This District Branch includes the counties of Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, and Delaware in lower New York State.

The individual who did most of the initial work and gave impetus to the formation of the West Hudson District Branch was John Neander, M.D., of Nanuet. Dr. Neander was elected first president of the District Branch but before the branch formation could be ratified by the Assembly of District Branches of the APA he died very suddenly. By unanimous agreement, the Branch considers Dr. Neander its first president, even though he was not formally installed in office. His loss is one that all of his associates in the District Branch felt very strongly. The president-elect was Dr. Jerome Seides, who became president after Dr. Neander's death. Other officers elected at that meeting were Drs. Theodore Neumann, recorder; Kenneth Lifshitz, treasurer; Louis English, delegate; Oleh Wolansky, alternate; Solomon Kleiner and Fritz Brewer, councillors.

The petition of the District Branch was presented to the Assembly of District Branches at the Toronto meeting in 1962 by Dr. Cornelia B. Wilbur, who was appointed delegate for this meeting. The petition was acted upon favorably and on May 9, 1962, the West Hudson District Branch was accepted.

On May 18, Dr. Neumann was named newsletter editor and contributing editor from the District Branch to the New York State District Branch Bulletin.

Subsequent to the Toronto meeting, Dr. English resigned as delegate, and Dr. Wilbur was elected as his successor. When Dr. Wilbur moved to West Virginia in February 1966, Dr. Bertram Pepper replaced her as delegate.

On September 21, 1962, the Branch met at Rockland State Hospital and passed a resolution to hold a scientific meeting each year in honor of Dr. Neander, to be known as the John F. Neander Memorial Lecture and Meeting. They resolved to select an outstanding individual in psychiatry to participate each year.

In 1963 it was decided that Dr. Seides would carry out the term as president for which he was elected. Therefore, he was in the presidential office almost two years. The other officers were Dr. Isaac Wolfson, president-elect; Dr. Neumann, secretary; Dr. Lifshitz, treasurer; Dr. Wilbur, delegate; and Dr. Wolansky, alternate delegate. Officers for 1964-65 were Dr. Wolfson, president; Dr. Neumann, secretary; Dr. Lifshitz, treasurer; Dr. Wilbur, delegate; Dr. Wolansky, alternate delegate; and Dr. Hyman Pleasure, president-elect. Dr. Pleasure was president for 1965-66, the secretary and treasurer remained the same, Dr. Pepper was alternate delegate, and Dr. Hagop Mashikian was president-elect.

On September 30, 1963, the Branch was notified that it was certified for the processing of membership applications. Chairman of the membership committee was Dr. Wolfson. The Branch had 48 members in 1965.

Westchester County District Branch

William K. McKnight, M.D.

The beginning of the Psychiatric Society of Westchester County extends back to the County Medical Society's mental health committee, established in 1934. The next step came in 1952 with the formation of a Section on Psychiatry and Neurology within the Westchester Academy of Medicine, with Dr. Bernard Glueck as president, and the subsequent discontinuation of the mental health committee in 1955. The following year the Section informally organized as the Westchester District Branch of the APA, with officers common to both groups. In 1961 the Psychiatric Society of Westchester County was incorporated, with a separate membership roster from that of the Section of Psychiatry and Neurology of the Academy. The bylaws of the Society were completed and approved; and the bylaws of the Section were revised and approved.

A certificate of incorporation was filed with the Secretary of the State of New York in February 1961; Dr. Miltiades Zaphiropoulos was president at that time. The incorporators were Drs. John P. Lambert, William A. Schonfeld, Minette Davis, William K. McKnight, Alvin R. Yapalater, James M. Horner, and Thomas S. Harper. In April 1961 the Society established liaison with the Westchester Community Mental Health Board, the first of its kind in the state, which from its inception in 1954 has had a member of the Society, Dr. James H. Wall, as its chairman.

On September 13, 1961, APA approved the Society's constitution and its procedures for processing new member applications. During the presidency of Dr. McKnight in 1962-63, a Distinguished Service Award of the Society was established, and committees on ethics, occupational psychiatry, and history were set up. The County Medical Society subcommittee on mental health was reactivated in 1965. Dr. John P. Briggs was president for 1965-66.

The Society's membership has grown in ten years from the original 20 to 170. Four dinner meetings and one social affair are usually held each year. Joint scientific meetings with other groups are conducted from time to time. Committee activities have been influential in improving the psychiatric climate of the county. Close working relationships have been developed with the local Mental Health Association, the Westchester County Council of Social Agencies, and other community agencies, including the Regional Mental Health Planning Committee.

Seminars in psychiatry for physicians in general practice were conducted during the fall of 1964 and in the spring of 1965, the latter being held in the various general hospitals in the county.

Georgia Psychiatric Association

Charles B. Fulghum, M.D., and John Warkentin, M.D.

The history of the Georgia Psychiatric Association as presently constituted began in 1954, but its ancestry goes back much further. Long before World War II the Atlanta Society of Neurology flourished, with psychiatrists and neurologists from over the whole state coming to Atlanta to attend its meetings and social functions. In time the interest in psychiatry became predominant. The attendance at the neurological meetings fell off sharply, and, in an effort to revitalize the group, the name was changed to "The Atlanta Society of Psychiatry and Neurology." The change of name was not sufficient, however, and from 1950 onward this organization was inactive.

Before World War II Georgia had few trained psychiatrists. In Atlanta, Dr. Newdigate M. Owensby had an office practice in Atlanta and operated the Brookhaven Manor in nearby Stone Mountain; Dr. Walter Young gave lectures in psychiatry at Emory University Medical School. Drs. James N. Brawner, Albert F. Brawner, and James N. Brawner, Jr. operated a private psychiatric hospital in Smyrna. Drs. H. D. Allen and Edwin Allen owned one in Milledgeville. There were periodically temporary psychiatrists at the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, Lawson General Army Hospital in Atlanta, and Lenwood VA Hospital in Augusta. Dr. Hervey M. Cleckley taught psychiatry at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. And there was always Milledgeville State Hospital, with a minimum of trained psychiatrists. One of its superintendents, Dr. Theophilus O. Powell, was president of APA in 1896.

Immediately following World War II many young Georgians who had trained as psychiatrists returned to the state -- some of them native sons, others men who had been stationed in Georgia during the War and afterward elected to return, or remain, to make this their permanent home.

By 1954, 28 new psychiatrists had moved to the state. In the spring of that year Judge Frank A. Smith, then president of the Georgia Association for Mental Health, wrote to Dr. J. R. Shannon Mays in Macon to ask if he would organize a committee of psychiatrists for the Association and assign them to subcommittees on legislation, mental health administration, private practice, public education, hospitals and clinics, and permanent organization. Initially they met under the name of the "Committee of Psychiatrists for the Georgia Mental Health Association."

This committee made recommendations and resolutions of historical importance. For example, they recommended that the legislature consider sex deviants to be persons who are emotionally and medically ill and should therefore be accorded treatment. They also recommended that the per diem rate for patients at Milledgeville State Hospital be raised to \$2.75; that \$75,000 per year be accorded to Milledgeville to maintain an intensive treatment team for research training of residents and for treating selected patients; and that a psychiatric residency training program be established in conjunction with Emory Medical School and the Medical College of Georgia. They endorsed and offered to sponsor a State Health Department plan for community mental health clinics and child guidance centers. During the ensuing years, most of the Committee's recommendations have been put into effect, while others still await action.

When this Committee first met, in July 1954, its members felt that they faced an advantageous opportunity to form a Georgia Psychiatric Association.

They named a Constitution Committee, and at a meeting the following September submitted a formal petition signed by 31 members to Dr. Daniel Blain, then medical director of APA, requesting District Branch status.

A copy of their constitution and bylaws and a roster of officers, trustees, and committees were forwarded with the petition. The Georgians asked to be designated "The Georgia Psychiatric Association, a District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association." They were reluctant to accept for membership in the state Association every member of the APA, since some local surgeons then held full membership.

A second draft of the constitution was accepted by APA and the Georgia Psychiatric Association became an official District Branch, holding its organizational meeting in Atlanta on May 23, 1955. Thirty-four charter members were present. The first officers elected were Dr. J. R. Shannon Mays, president; Dr. Joseph S. Skobba, president-elect; and Dr. Thomas M. Hall, secretary-treasurer.

Among the Association's very early concerns was a storm of controversy regarding the administration of Milledgeville State Hospital. The Association was eager to assist in reorganizing the hospital but was handicapped in that several of its charter members were among the psychiatrists being investigated by the state legislative committees. Nevertheless the Association discussed and debated the issues and spoke out wherever prudence permitted. The Association takes pride in the considerable progress that has been made at Milledgeville, and in the plans for several state mental health centers, the first of which recently opened in Atlanta.

Presidents of the Association have been, in addition to Dr. Mays, Drs. Skobba, James N. Brawner, Jr., Y. H. Yarbrough, H. D. Allen, Leonard T. Maholick, H. Rives Chalmers, James McCranie, Sidney Isenberg, Charles R. Smith, Thomas M. Hall, and John Warkentin. Dr. Julius Johnson will take office as president on May 12, 1966.

The Georgia District Branch now has 115 members. Our steady growth in membership is continuing. In the spring of 1966 we adopted an up-to-date constitution, and have been authorized to process new members for the national APA through our own Membership Committee. The residency training centers at Emory, Augusta, Milledgeville, and the new Georgia Mental Health Institute in Atlanta have a total of about 50 residents in psychiatric training, and we are hoping that many of them will remain to work in Georgia. The climate is a very attractive one in our state, both in the literal sense and also in terms of opportunity for psychiatric services. Our meetings have been contributing much to the enthusiasm and professional stimulation of Georgia psychiatrists. During the past year we have been meeting in attractive resort hotels at Callaway Gardens and Atlanta, from Friday noon until Sunday noon, and for the first time in our history the wives and husbands of members were invited to attend all professional meetings. The social portions of these weekend meetings have been most pleasant and relaxed and serve further to promote a healthy comradeship between members.

Kentucky Psychiatric Association

Carl Wiesel, M.D.

The Kentucky Psychiatric Association was formed in 1938 in order to further the study of subjects pertaining to the nature, treatment, and prevention of mental disorders; to further the interests, the maintenance, and advancement of standards of hospitals for mental and emotional disorders, of outpatient clinics, and of all other agencies concerned with the medical, social, and legal aspects of these disorders; to further psychiatric education and research; to apply psychiatric knowledge to other sciences and to the public welfare of the citizens of the State of Kentucky; to bring together the psychiatrists of the state on a regular basis in order to stimulate good fellowship, common interests, and functions related to the American Psychiatric Association.

Among the founders were Dr. Spafford Ackerly, professor of psychiatry at the University of Louisville Medical School; Dr. F. K. Foley, superintendent of Eastern State Hospital, Lexington; Dr. Isham Kimball, superintendent of Central State Hospital; Dr. J. D. Reichard, medical officer in charge of the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, Lexington; and Dr. W. E. Gardner, Louisville. The first president was Dr. Kimball.

At that time, Dr. Ackerly was the sole psychiatrist on the staff of the medical school, Dr. Gardner the sole psychiatrist in private practice in Louisville, and Dr. Sprague the sole psychiatrist in private practice in Lexington. Conditions in the four state hospitals were primitive; the superintendents were usually political appointees and frequently unqualified. Dr. Ackerly waged a campaign to improve conditions; he enlisted the aid of the owner of the Louisville Courier-Journal, who sent reporters to investigate conditions. As a result of their survey the booklet "They Can Be Cured" was published, and at a dinner which Dr. Ackerly gave for the legislature, copies were distributed; films were also shown of the conditions in the hospitals. Largely as a result, the Chandler-Wallace Bill was passed in 1938, creating a director of hospitals and abolishing political appointments as superintendents.

The Association was originally conceived as a means of mutual support by men who joined together to improve psychiatric conditions. It served as a forum for discussion rather than a springboard for action, which was more often taken

on an individual basis. Consequently, recorded minutes were not kept at the beginning, and the earliest consist of a report of the fourth annual meeting, in January 1941. During this two-day session at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, Lexington, there was a symposium on anti-social behavior, a presidential address, a film on treatment of drug addicts at the Lexington hospital, and a scientific session. The minutes were signed by Dr. Robert H. Felix, then secretary-treasurer and later to become president not only of the Kentucky Association but also of APA.

The Association was inactive during World War II, and no minutes are available from 1942 until 1950, when the tenth annual meeting took place in Louisville. After the meetings had resumed a format was established of an annual meeting in Louisville in conjunction with the meeting of the state medical association.

In its early years membership was open to physicians other than psychiatrists, and at one time included internists, neurologists, and neurosurgeons. For a time psychologists and social workers were admitted to associate membership. When the Association became a district branch in 1957, membership became limited to psychiatrists. Physicians other than psychiatrists who had held membership were thereafter designated affiliates.

The constitution was amended at the time the Association became a district branch and again in 1961. During the past several years a spring meeting has been held in Lexington -- usually a dinner meeting with a guest speaker, and open to wives. The business meeting followed by a scientific session continues to be held annually in Louisville. The present membership is 83, consisting of psychiatrists in private practice, medical school faculty, and the staffs of the VA, PHS, and state hospitals. The majority are located in Louisville and Lexington.

Several committees have been working in conjunction with committees of the state medical association and community organizations interested in mental health. The future and aims of the Association were discussed at the meeting of September 1964. The opinion was unanimously expressed that the Association should become more active and assume a greater role in community psychiatry, providing leadership in these days of renewed interest in mental health.

Maryland Psychiatric Society

William W. Elgin, M.D., and Barry M. Murdock, M.D.

An organization meeting to establish the Maryland Psychiatric Society was held at the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Building in Baltimore on Oct. 9, 1908. An article in the Baltimore Sun on Oct. 11, 1908, records this fact and comments that it is "the only state-wide society of its kind in the United States." Reference is also made to the fact that the section on neurology of the Johns Hopkins faculty appointed a committee to work with the new society.

The first meeting of the Society was held at the Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Towson on Nov. 6, 1908, at which time 34 charter members were present. At that meeting Dr. Hurd was appointed chairman and Dr. W. R. Dunton secretary. Dr. Dunton was to play a prominent role not only in this Society but in later psychiatric organizations and publications over a period of many years. At the first meeting the members decided to hold subsequent meetings quarterly in the various psychiatric institutions around the state and in nearby communities. It was decided that no permanent chairman would be appointed, but that the host at each quarterly meeting would be appointed chairman for that occasion. The main goal of the Society was stated as "better care of the insane."

At the earlier meetings of the Society a great deal of attention was focused on the role of the state in the care of the insane, aftercare, the role of expert witnesses, and similar topics. At a June 1909 meeting there was considerable discussion over the role of the expert witness and of a bill which had been proposed to establish a panel of court-appointed impartial witnesses. At the January 1909 meeting the value of the Wasserman Test in the diagnosis of syphilis and the relation of this disorder to general paresis were discussed.

Reference to the role of occupation and recreation in the treatment of mental illness appears in the Society's minutes beginning in 1911. The members were preoccupied with this and related topics from then on. The first issue of the *Maryland Psychiatric Quarterly* appeared in July 1911. It was founded by Drs. Herring and Wade, and Drs. Herring and Dunton were joint editors. The scope of the *Quarterly* was outlined "to embrace, first, the administrative side of hospital life; second, the medical service in our state hospitals as well as in the corporate and private hospitals; third, the Social Service Department; fourth, the extension of occupational and recreational life among the insane; and, fifth, the Psychiatric News Section."

The first issue contained a short resume of the organization of the Society and a short history of its activities to that time. It says, in part, "the membership at present numbers 67 including a number of general practitioners, charity workers, lawyers, and psychologists, as well as those more directly concerned with the care of the insane." Also in the first issue is an early paper by Dr. Adolf Meyer on aftercare of the insane. From then on events of the Society were regularly reported in the *Quarterly*.

As mentioned above, the concern of both the Society and the *Quarterly* became largely that of occupational and recreational therapy with relatively few articles or discussions for purely scientific interest. Some exceptions can be cited, however. For instance, at the twentieth meeting of the Society, there were a number of articles on the problem of suicide. Papers by Dr. Meyer and an attorney, Mr. Julian Jones, on the problems of commitment in the state of Maryland were published in 1917. During the war years there were references to the role of psychiatrists in the military services.

Some items of interest that reflected the times include reference in 1922 to the "uplifters" and activities of the prohibitionists, noting that even then prohibition was out of hand, and the fact that the subscription price of the *Quarterly* for one year was 50 cents.

The last issue of the *Quarterly* appeared in January 1923. The last reported meeting of the Maryland Psychiatric Society was held at Rosewood on Dec. 13, 1922. The Society was an organization composed mainly of institutional psychiatrists, since there were so few psychiatrists in private practice. Two other things must also be remembered: first, the Society included

not only psychiatrists and neurologists, but also internists, and the lines of distinction were not as clear as they later became; second, the Society was basically, and most importantly, the Neuropsychiatric Section of the Baltimore City Medical Society.

There seems to be little information available between 1922 and the summer of 1930. During this period, however, a group of internists who had a strong influence in the field and who dealt with mild psychiatric cases, psychoneurotic problems, and psychosomatic illness, took an active part in the Society.

During the 1930's the Society held monthly meetings during the winter, except in December, under the auspices of the Baltimore City Medical Society. These were purely scientific meetings and little thought was given to attempting to influence legislatures or public thinking. This was left to the Mental Hygiene Society. The average meeting was attended by 25 or 35 physicians. There were usually two papers, followed by considerable discussion since the neurologists were reluctant to accept any explanation of symptoms on a functional basis. Psychoanalysis, of course, was in the air.

Meanwhile two groups were forming: the men who were interested in psychoanalysis established the Washington-Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society, and their attendance at meetings of the Maryland Psychiatric Society diminished; others, greatly influenced by Dr. Meyer's psychobiological approach and by the writings of Dr. William A. White at St. Elizabeths, constituted a non-analytic group.

During the 1930's the state hospital people became more active in psychiatric affairs, and also during this time the trend toward private practice became more pronounced. This latter group naturally had special interests which the institutional orientation of the Society did not meet, and after a time, under the leadership of Dr. Wendell Muncie, they formed the Maryland Association of Private Practicing Psychiatrists. Three organizations, each going its separate way, now existed.

During the decade 1930 to 1940 Society meetings seemed to swing away from the purely scientific to greater stress upon attempts to popularize psychiatry, and it was not uncommon to have 100 to 150 people present, many of whom were social workers, psychiatrists' wives, and the interested public.

During these ten years, the presidents of the Society included Drs. William W. Elgin, Whitman Newell, Manfred Guttmacher, Wendell Muncie, Thomas Rennie, Lawrence Woolley, Leslie Hohman, and Harry Murdock.

World War II had an immediate and profound effect upon psychiatrists of all ages. House staffs fell off, many of the men in practice went in the uniformed services, and others worked in induction stations and draft boards. It is not definitely known whether meetings were suspended, as in the case of some national organizations, but the activities diminished considerably.

After the War when the men returned there was an influx of candidates for training in psychiatry, due equally to the GI Bill of Rights, the Mental Health Act which created training grants, and to the fact that they had become interested in psychiatry through their work in the services. Between 1946 and 1950 was a period of rebuilding and transfusing new blood into psychiatry. By the mid 1950's people began to finish their training and many who were interested in psychoanalysis went into private practice.

The Society began to limit its meetings to more scientific programs and became a District Branch of the APA in May 1954. This meant a complete revision of the constitution and bylaws and the establishment of limited classes of membership, since only members of the APA could vote and hold office in the affairs of the District Branch. Also at about this time a group of psychiatrists of considerable experience began to feel that there should be some purely scientific forum which reached all physicians in the field. They hoped that a reorganization would prevent those psychiatrists and psychoanalysts in private practice from drifting away from the Society. The credit for this reorganization

and for the reawakening of the Society should go in large part to Dr. Leonard Gallant, although others, including Drs. Jerome Frank, Eugene Meyer, Kathryn Schultz, Virginia Huffer, Joseph Lichtenberg, Jerome Styr, and Leon Eisenberg, played major roles in the renaissance. This reorganization went a long way toward accomplishing the desired effect and during the latter part of the 1950's the almost defunct Inter-Society Council was revived and an attempt was made to formalize its meetings.

Part of this latter development and the formalization of the Inter-Society Council resulted from the fact that in addition to being a scientific body, the feeling was strong among the members that the Society should lend its weight to various efforts to improve psychiatric education, psychiatric training, and knowledge of psychiatry in the schools, courts, etc. The Society became interested in the reorganization of the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in the question of privileged communications, and in the establishment of community clinics. This latter interest has continued and is still an important aspect of the Society's activities.

During the latter 1950's and early 1960's the various classifications of membership were further restricted so that today the active membership is confined to physicians who are primarily active in the practice of psychiatry. In 1965, there were 219 members.

Since the 1950's the balance of power has swung away from the institutions for a variety of reasons. It is not wholly because of the number of

psychiatrists in private practice, but in some measure it is because of the number of foreign graduates in the institutions. Some of them have not shown much interest in the Society; others still feel strange and ill at ease and tend to avoid the meetings or to be hesitant about taking an active part in them. However, this trend seems to be diminishing as some of the foreign physicians have been assimilated into the professional community. During the past five years particularly, since the APA has adopted the principle of new members coming in through their local Society, the District Branch of the Society has received more attention.

At the present time the Society holds monthly meetings from October through April. The majority of these are still held in the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty Building, although for the past several years, one or two meetings a year are held at one or another of the psychiatric hospitals. One meeting a year is a joint meeting with the Maryland Association of Private Practicing Psychiatrists and the Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society. As a result of these widened interests of the Society, the gap which existed among the three major organizations is now of relatively minor importance, particularly since practically every member of the other two organizations is also a member of the Maryland Psychiatric Society.

Tennessee District Branch

Henry B. Brackin, Jr., M.D.

The first effort to establish a state association of psychiatrists in Tennessee dates back to 1950, when a state charter was obtained by five physicians constituting a body named the Tennessee Psychiatric Association. Unfortunately the efforts of these men -- Drs. Jesse C. Hill, Herbert L. Pope, W. Laney Whitehurst, B. F. Peterson, and Fred Dupree -- did not bear fruit and the group did not remain active.

Four years later, in April 1954, Dr. Otto Billig issued an invitation to psychiatrists in Tennessee to meet in Nashville in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Tennessee Medical Association, for the purpose of organizing a state psychiatric association. The following doctors attended this meeting: Eric Bell, Jr., Basil T. Bennett, Wade H. Boswell, Henry B. Brackin, Sr., Henry B. Brackin, Jr., Oscar Hauk, Frank Luton, Malcolm Y. Marshall, William F. Orr, Samuel Paster, Herbert L. Pope, Cyril J. Ruilmann, Phineas J. Sparer, Frank W. Stevens, Joe E. Sutherland, W. Laney Whitehurst, and Harry Witzum. A charter was offered to the group and accepted. Those who had obtained the charter and those who attended this meeting were designated founding members. Dr. Billig served as temporary chairman and Dr. Bell as temporary secretary.

A constitution was drafted, dues were set at three dollars per year, and officers were elected. Proposed business for consideration at a later meeting included whether the organization would choose to become part of the Tennessee Medical Association or the American Psychiatric Association; a consideration of new commitment laws; and a plan for working with the Governor's Committee on Alcoholism.

The first officers to be elected were Dr. Luton, president; Dr. Hill, president-elect; Dr. Sparer, vice-president; Dr. Brackin, Jr., secretary; and Dr. Stevens, treasurer.

It was subsequently decided to have two organizations, one of them the Tennessee District Branch of APA, which was formed at the annual meeting in April 1958. This organization was accepted into the Assembly of District Branches the following month. The same officers served both organizations, although eligibility for membership differed. Dr. Ruilmann was elected the first delegate to the Assembly but left the state before serving. Dr. Luton served in his place. He was succeeded by Dr. Robert Foote, who still serves in that capacity.

After several years of carrying on two organizations, problems of membership eligibility were settled. In April 1963 it was decided to disband the

Tennessee Psychiatric Association and retain the district branch. A new constitution was approved, permitting the district branch to process new members into APA.

A newsletter, called "The Psychogram," was first issued by Dr. Bruce Walls, while he was secretary during 1961-62. During the following two years Dr. Brackin, Jr. served as editor, and the printing was done in the occupational therapy shop at Eastern State Hospital. Dr. Frank Latham has served as editor since April 1964.

The presidents of the branch have been founding members Drs. Luton, Hill, Sparer, and Hauk, and Drs. Hollis Miles, Bedford Peterson, Carrol Turner, Foote, Wade Boswell, Joseph Baker, Dick McCool, and Charles B. Smith. Dr. Henry Brackin, Sr. is president-elect. Secretaries have been Drs. Brackin, Jr., Guy Zimmerman, Foote, and Smith.

In its eleven years the Association has taken on an increasing amount of business. It has dealt actively with the problems of paramedical specialists; the passage of a new commitment law; the passage of a law granting privileged communication to psychiatrists; and the development of a Tennessee Congress on Mental Health, held in November 1963. Professional educational programs at annual spring meetings have attracted the interest of other specialties. Among out-of-state speakers have been Dr. Daniel Blain, past president of APA, and Dr. Wilse Robinson, past speaker of the Assembly of District Branches.

In the recent past members have been encouraged to form chapters, particularly to promote active involvement in community problems. Middle and West Tennessee have already been organized into chapters and are working with such problems as private psychiatric hospital facilities and other community concerns. Educational courses for the nonpsychiatric physician are being planned.

As the District Branch has grown there has been a parallel growth of interest on the part of its members in the activities of the state and local medical associations. Members of the District Branch have served on mental health committees of these organizations.

The original membership of 21 has grown to more than one hundred. The members feel that the Branch is vigorous, has made a contribution to the State of Tennessee, and is constantly expanding its responsibilities. They are currently engaged in assisting in the development of the Second Tennessee Congress on Mental Health to be held in November 1966.

Neuropsychiatric Society of Virginia

The organizational meeting of the present District Branch of Virginia took place on Oct. 20, 1953, following the circulation of a petition by Dr. John Saunders to the psychiatrists of the state. The history of organized psychiatry within the state goes back much earlier, to 1935, when the Neuropsychiatric Society of Virginia was established.

Dr. David C. Wilson, then chairman and professor of psychiatry at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, called together a group of physicians interested in neurology, psychiatry, and neurosurgery, for a meeting in Charlottesville on May 18, 1935. Charter members at that and a subsequent meeting included Drs. Wilson, R. Finley Gayle, Jr., E. H. Alderman, H. R. Masters, Edward Holderby, J. O. Hurt, W. G. Crutchfield, R. F. Slaughter, Frank Strickler, T. N. Spessard, E. H. Williams, G. B. Arnold, D. L. Harrell, Jr., F. H. Redwood, J. A. Shields, O. B. Darden, J. P. King, and T. L. Gemmill.

Dr. Wilson was elected first president of this group and Dr. Gayle, vice-president. (After the establishment of the District Branch, Dr. Wilson became one of the early Speakers of the Assembly, and subsequently, in 1958-59, a first vice-president of APA. Dr. Gayle later became president of APA, in 1955-56.)

The minutes indicate that in 1938 the Neuropsychiatric Society explored the matter of affiliating with APA, but did not meet the requirements in that its membership included physicians other than psychiatrists and neurologists.

The Neuropsychiatric Society was initially opposed to the proposed APA reorganization in regard to establishing district branches, and in October 1950 it passed a resolution opposing reorganization into such a district branch. This action followed the attendance the previous May of Dr. James Morrow, then president of the Society, at an APA Council meeting at which the matter of district branches was discussed; Dr. Morrow reported to the Society that it was his impression that the movement to reorganize APA into district branches was still a live issue and that it was therefore appropriate for the Society to state some formal position regarding this matter.

Three years later, in April 1953, when the district branch movement was again discussed, the Society decided to take no action regarding its own possible affiliation. It was at about that time that Dr. Saunders presented a petition for signatures of those wishing to form a district branch. The required number of signatures was obtained, and the organizational meeting held, at which Dr. Saunders was elected president, Dr. Claude Neil, vice-president, and Dr. Wilson, secretary-treasurer.

Consequently, following the organization of the District Branch, two separate psychiatric organizations existed, since the Neuropsychiatric Society also continued to function. The organizations maintained separate officers, although meetings were usually held concurrently and the District Branch activities were limited primarily to business matters. Most of the members of either organization also held membership in the other. The strongest area of opposition centered on the requirement that members of the District Branch must also be members of APA, a membership requirement that did not apply for the Neuropsychiatric Society, approximately 20 of whose members were not members of APA. Some Society members also did not like the idea of having to exclude neurologists and neurosurgeons from membership.

However, in April 1954 the possibility of merging the two organizations was considered. In October 1955 the consensus of the Society's membership was in favor of merging with the District Branch. Liaison committees were appointed from both groups to work toward formulating a new constitution acceptable to APA and also permitting the Neuropsychiatric Society to continue as a District Branch.

To accommodate nonmembers of APA the concept of "affiliates" was introduced into the District Branch constitution. On April 20, 1956, the two groups merged to establish the "Neuropsychiatric Society of Virginia, a District Branch of APA," which has continued to function under that designation.

Drs. Wilson and Saunders served as early presidents and delegates of this District Branch. Dr. Fred Woodson was delegate and subsequent alternate member for Area Three of the policy committee. Dr. Saunders has also served as recorder, parliamentarian, and Speaker of the Assembly, as well as vice-president of APA. Dr. Addison Duval was treasurer of APA while a member of the Society. Five of the original 18 charter members are still active members and Dr. Wilson is an honorary member.

In October 1964, the Society presented the APA portraits of two of the original APA founders, Drs. Francis T. Stribling and John Minson Galt II, both Virginians.

Currently the Society meets twice yearly, an annual meeting in the spring and a fall meeting held in conjunction with the Medical Society of Virginia. It has published a newsletter since August 1959. Current membership is 120.

Washington (D.C.) Psychiatric Society

Zigmond Lebensohn, M.D.

Following World War II, psychiatrists in Washington, D.C., were divided into four different societies, none of which was completely representative. The senior group was the Section on Neurology and Psychiatry of the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, whose interests were predominantly neurological and whose membership was limited to members of the Medical Society. The Washington-Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society represented a specialty within a specialty. The Society for the Advancement of Psychotherapy represented a small group of psychiatrists with specialized interests. The Medical Society of St. Elizabeths Hospital restricted its membership to staff and alumni of that institution. Each Society had its own monthly or bi-monthly meetings, with much keen competition among the various program chairmen for the best available talent. As a result the meetings became so numerous and the quality of the programs so diluted that attendance began to drop alarmingly.

At this stage 24 Washington psychiatrists representing each of the existing societies met to study this problem. The initial meeting was held on January 6, 1949, at which time Dr. Addison M. Duval was elected chairman *pro tem* and Dr. Henry P. Laughlin secretary. A committee of six representatives-at-large was subsequently elected to study the problem further and to formulate an appropriate program. It was decided to form a new group, the Washington Psychiatric Society, and invitations to join were sent to all eligible "doctors of medicine specializing in the field of psychiatry" in the area. More than 110 "charter members" attended the first organizational meeting on February 10, 1949. The constitution which had been drafted by the committee was adopted at that time.

Articles of Incorporation under the D.C. laws identifying the Society as a nonprofit scientific and educational body were taken out in the early summer of that year. In May the Society was accepted as a duly accredited affiliate society of the APA. In 1953 a new, but overlapping, professional organization was formed which sought and secured status as a District Branch of the APA. Two years later the Metropolitan Washington District Branch of the APA was formally merged with the senior organization. The constitution was revised, permission was secured from APA to retain the older group's name, and the merged group then took over the functions of both organizations. The main purpose of the Society is stated "to represent psychiatry and foster its progress in the Washington area."

In pursuing these objectives, the Society has provided an outstanding scientific program with many renowned speakers. All scientific meetings are open to all physicians interested in attending. The Society has established and maintained the closest possible relations with the Medical Society of the District of Columbia and the several county medical societies in the metropolitan area. In this way, and by holding joint meetings with other societies, it has promoted closer relationships between psychiatry and other branches of medicine.

One of the earliest projects of the new Society was publishing a directory of psychiatrists and clinical facilities in the Washington area. In 1951 the Society sponsored an essay contest for psychiatric residents and later added a \$100 prize for the winner. This project, it is felt, has served to stimulate and encourage psychiatric research among the younger members.

As the Society has grown in size and strength it has concerned itself more and more with community problems, as reflected in its committee structure and the ever-increasing responsibilities of its Council. It has dealt with such matters as improving the counseling services of the public schools, promoting more psychiatric services in local general hospitals, exploring the relationship between psychiatry and religion, improving the relations between psychiatry and law, and studying the problem of the alcoholic patient. Its various committees have cooperated constructively with other professional groups such as the D.C. Bar Association and with lay groups such as the D.C. Mental Health Association.

An excellent morale exists among the Society's 407 members. The Newsletter, annual dinner dance, and social hour following some of the scientific sessions have contributed to this feeling.

The Society is devoted to "providing a local forum where all aspects of psychiatry can be discussed, building a scientific group which can relate itself constructively both to medicine and the community, and forming an organization which is truly representative of psychiatry in the best sense of that word."

Current officers are Dr. John J. Schultz, president; Dr. Paul Chodoff, president-elect; Dr. Richard A. Steinbach, secretary; Dr. Robert B. Neu, delegate; and Dr. John E. Nardini, alternate delegate.

West Virginia District Branch

R. W. Hibbard, M.D.

In April 1962, fearing that West Virginia might be the last state to form a District Branch, Dr. Roy Edwards recruited the 20 charter members required to form a Branch. At a meeting in Charleston, he was elected president; Dr. T. S.

Knapp, vice-president; Dr. Edith Czerny, secretary; and Dr. R. W. Hibbard, treasurer and editor of the newsletter.

Illinois Psychiatric Society

William B. Spiegel, M.D.

The earliest reference to the Illinois Psychiatric Society occurs in a letter of September 24, 1936, from Dr. Jacob Kasanin of Michael Reese Hospital to Dr. Charles F. Read, managing officer of Elgin State Hospital. "There is a great need for a society for the exchange of psychiatric ideas and opinions, and most of the psychiatrists in Chicago are enthusiastic about it," Dr. Kasanin said.

A second letter dated two years later listed psychiatrists who might be invited to the organization meeting but suggested caution in selecting charter members, "as undoubtedly there will be a great deal of opposition to organization of the Society." The nature of the opposition was not specified.

The organization meeting took place on Oct. 18, 1938, at the Palmer House and was attended by 22 psychiatrists. They were: Drs. Franz Alexander, Walter H. Baer, Peter Passoe, Morris Braude, Douglas G. Campbell, Thomas M. French, Francis J. Gerty, Roy Grinker, Ralph C. Hamill, Jacob Kasanin, A. A. Low, Warren G. Murray, Clarence Neymann, Lewis J. Pollock, Leon Saul, Paul L. Schroeder, David Slight, Alfred Solomon, Meyer Solomon, Conrad S. Sommer, George Wilson, and M. Douglas Singer, who presided.

The group designated a temporary council to draw up a constitution and bylaws, to select charter members, and to set a time for the next organizing meeting. Dr. Singer was elected chairman of the temporary council and Dr. Sommer, secretary; other members were Drs. Gerty, Hamill, Kasanin, Neymann, and Slight. This council met that same evening, prepared a constitution and bylaws, arranged for them to be sent to each charter member, and set the next organizing meeting for the first Thursday in December.

The second meeting took place at the Palmer House on Dec. 1. Of approximately 100 who had been invited, approximately half attended. The constitution and bylaws were amended and accepted and officers were elected to serve for 16 months, until April 1940. These were Dr. Singer, president, Dr. Hamill, vice-president, Dr. Sommer, secretary-treasurer, and Drs. Bassoe and Slight, councilors. A discussion of the stigma associated with commitment to mental hospitals led to the appointment of a committee to investigate procedures in other states and to recommend changes for Illinois. Members of the committee included Dr. French, chairman, and Drs. Gerty, Low, Neymann, and Slight.

The first regular monthly meeting of the new Society was held on Jan. 5, 1939, in the Medical and Dental Arts Building. Dinner (at \$1.03 including tax and tip!) was served. The meeting was attended by about 225 psychiatrists. Eight names were recommended for membership and two for junior membership. The scientific program included a presidential address by Dr. Singer and a symposium on the physiological action of insulin and metrazol as

used in shock therapy by Drs. S. Soskin, E. Gellhorn, and R. Gerard. An assessment of \$2.00 was voted to defray the expenses of entertaining members of the APA during its annual meeting in Chicago the following May.

Meetings were also held in Chicago in February and March. The first meeting outside of Chicago was held at Manteno State Hospital in April 1939. At a meeting later that year, in October, a memorial obituary to Dr. Sigmund Freud was read by Dr. Alexander.

Through the years the membership of the Society has reflected the full range of psychiatric viewpoints. The scientific programs have included a wide variety of topics, including new therapeutic procedures, various physiological, psychoanalytic, pharmacological, neurological, and psychological studies, and discussions of the relationships between psychiatry and other professions, including the law. The membership has included nearly all of the leaders in psychiatry in Chicago and many who have been prominent in the APA and elsewhere on the national scene.

The Society's first president, Dr. Singer, was elected president of APA but died before taking office. The fourth president, Dr. Gerty, served as president of APA in 1958-59. Other presidents of the Society have been Drs. Charles Read, Walter Baer, Clarence Neymann, David Slight, John Madden, Joseph Luhan, Ralph Hamill, David Rotman, Benjamin Boshes, V. G. Urse, D. Louis Steinberg, William Haines, Jules Masserman, Alfred P. Bay, H. H. Garner, Percival Bailey, Roy R. Grinker, Hugh T. Carmichael, Kalman Gyrfas, Nathaniel Apter, Frances Hannett, Joel Hankler, Melvin Sabshin, Lester Rudy, Arthur Miller, and John Adams.

In 1941 the Society became an affiliate of APA and in 1957 a district branch. It was approved to process APA membership applications jointly with its own membership applications in 1964. In 1966 it became incorporated in Illinois as a nonprofit organization.

The 73 psychiatrists who attended the first regular monthly meeting in January 1939 are considered to be charter members. Another 45 became members later that same year. As of January 1966, 50 of the 73 charter members were living. Three of these had become life members; 26 were active members, one was an associate, ten had resigned as nonresidents, and eleven had dropped their membership.

The Society membership as of January 1966 was 475, of whom 441 were also APA members. Current officers are Dr. Harold Visotsky, president; Dr. Robert Daniels, secretary; Dr. William Spiegel, delegate; and Dr. Thomas Tourlentes, alternate delegate.

Northern Indiana Psychiatric Society

J. H. Matthew, M.D.

The inception of the Northern Indiana Psychiatric Society dates to a meeting on November 20, 1957, at the St. Joseph County Guidance Clinic in South Bend. The meeting was held as a result of the desire of the staff of the Beatty Memorial Hospital in Westville (principally that of Dr. David Morton) to unite the area's psychiatrists in a district branch of the APA.

The meeting was attended by 12 physicians who had indicated an interest in exploring the possibilities of organizing a professional society for physicians in the northern part of the state and adjacent areas interested principally in psychiatry. Plans were made to obtain necessary information preparatory to a formal affiliation with both APA and the Indiana Neuropsychiatric Association.

By March of 1958, three meetings had been held and a committee was formulating a constitution and bylaws modeled on those of the Indiana Neuropsychiatric Association. A statement regarding the proposed organization was drawn by Dr. Harry Brandman and adopted as an appropriate description of what the organization may be. It read, in part: "Psychiatrists, mostly those in the 17 counties of northern Indiana which send patients to the Dr. Norman M. Beatty Memorial Hospital in Westville, have met to discuss the matters of an organization of themselves. Approximately 18 of them have agreed to assemble at monthly intervals, and to share their problems and pre-occupations, to inform and enlighten one another, to visualize and itemize their needs, and, finally, to become as one man in the practice of psychiatry in northern Indiana. They will share of themselves in a variety and multitude of ways with all those individuals and organizations, lay or professional or otherwise, who seek to support and preserve mental health. They will invite other physicians from nearby states and welcome their participation and interest." They called for a "surrender of biases and enlargement of the field of one's clinical vision."

Those psychiatrists present came from a variety of settings: institutions (state hospitals, penal institutions, nursing homes); city, county, or state operated clinics; and private practice.

They planned to keep one another informed by presenting case reports, topics, and symposiums "often practical, but not excluding the vitalizing academic aspects" on subjects related to the hospital and education of the

resident or younger doctor. They vowed not to limit their discussions to clinical psychiatry, but to move into the humanities, social sciences, ministry, the law, the newspaper, and periodicals. They pledged to share their knowledge with the general practitioner; to develop liaison with the legal profession, especially as in regard to forensic medicine, and with other law enforcement agencies; and to become acquainted with allied organizations, such as the department of public welfare, social service work, religious groups, charitable and philanthropic societies, political organizations, service clubs, veterans groups, and groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous. With regard to industry, they considered recognition and treatment of emotional disturbances in work, nervous disorders in relation to strain, illnesses and injuries at work, and the dependency problems "that are hiding under work injuries."

They saw a tremendous gap in the care, surveillance, further therapeutic measures, and enlightenment and support of patients discharged from state hospitals and recognized the paramount importance of families, churches, neighborhoods, and family doctors in providing aftercare.

The first regular meeting of the Society was held April 23, 1958, with Dr. Grant E. Metcalf presiding. At that time the final copy of the constitution and bylaws were presented to the 19 charter members. The Society was awarded district branch status the following month. The first officers were Dr. Metcalf, president; Dr. Brandman, president-elect; Dr. Charles Eades, secretary; Dr. John Keating, treasurer; and Dr. Theodore Hill, council member. By 1965, the membership had grown to 31.

The Society has established a pattern of holding monthly meetings with the annual installation of officers at the APA annual meeting in the spring. Following that, a summer outing is usually held, and meetings resume in September. A monthly newsletter is issued by the secretary. Articles of incorporation have been formulated.

The Society makes a persistent effort to encourage all possible candidates for membership in the area.

Current officers are Dr. Lester D. Borough, president; Dr. Hans Meyer, president-elect; Dr. J. R. Matthew, secretary; Dr. Metcalf, delegate; and Dr. Keating, alternate delegate.

Kansas Psychiatric Society

R. E. Reinert, M.D.

The Kansas Psychiatric Society, an affiliate of the American Psychiatric Association, was organized in 1942 with the purpose of providing an organization through which both the scientific and practical aspects of psychiatry in Kansas could be promoted. Dr. Robert R. Knight, later medical director of the Austen Riggs Center, Inc., Stockbridge, Mass., was the first president.

The impetus for organizing the Society came almost entirely from the staff of The Menninger Foundation. There were, of course, few other psychiatrists in Kansas in 1942; Topeka State Hospital was severely understaffed and Winter Veterans Hospital was not established until four years later. In addition to Foundation members, the superintendent of Topeka State Hospital and a psychiatrist assigned to Fort Leavenworth were among the early officers of the Society.

Through quarterly meetings held at various psychiatric institutions in the state, members became acquainted with each other's work and local problems and heard scientific papers read and discussed. As a group the Society was interested in promoting better facilities for treating patients, more adequate salaries for psychiatric personnel, and better training opportunities for young psychiatrists, among other things.

Because of World War II and other problems the Society was inactive between 1944 and 1947.

Dr. Knight, who continued as president for several years, called a meeting of the Society on April 15, 1947, for the purpose of electing new members and new officers and to set forth plans for the Society to reactivate.

A month later, at the annual meeting of the APA, a day and a half were set aside for group discussions of problems and policies, under the guidance of the special committee on reorganization, of which Dr. Karl Menninger was chairman.

From 1947 to 1950 the major concern of the Society was the gross neglect of the mentally ill in the state institutions of Kansas. Although the actual part played by the Society in making Kansas a leading state in the nation in respect to its state hospital programs was small, the minutes of its meetings during those years reflected its desire to work on this problem.

The establishment of Winter Veterans Hospital in 1946 gave psychiatry in Kansas a considerable boost. By 1949, of 163 members and associates of the Society, 97 were the staff and residents at Winter VA Hospital.

From 1950 to 1955, the minutes reflect considerable interest in matters of internal organization, probably because APA was encouraging the development of district branches.

The psychiatrists of Kansas first became members of a district branch through the Mid-Continent Psychiatric Society. In 1956 the Kansas State Psychiatric Society was granted permission to separate from the Mid-Continent Society in order to become the Kansas District Branch of the APA. The officers

of the Kansas Psychiatric Society continued to function as officers of the District Branch.

The first newsletter of the Kansas District Branch was published in April 1960. Dr. James Folsom, later chief of staff of the VA Hospital, Tuscaloosa, Ala., was its first editor.

The Society from time to time over the years has been faced with the problem of flagging interest. In 1960 the problem had grown so serious that the question of disbanding was put before the membership but was rejected. Out of this concern came the organization of a committee structure paralleling that of APA, with each member of the Society assigned to a working committee.

In January 1961 the Society was certified by APA to process membership applications through our organization.

In 1962 the tenure of office for the president, president-elect, secretary, and treasurer was changed from one year to two years; trustees serve a four-year term.

There are 22 active standing committees that parallel the APA committees. In 1964 the Society adopted the APA plan of three coordinating chairmen for the committees under technical aspects, professional standards, and community aspects. All members of the organization were appointed to these committees, which do most of the professional work of the Society. Administering such a complex organization without an executive secretarial staff has proved to be a major problem.

The constitution of the Society was last amended and revised in September 1961.

The Society became incorporated in Kansas on October 1, 1963, with its objects and purposes stated as follows: "To foster the progress of and to represent psychiatry in the State of Kansas and to assist the American Psychiatric Association in promoting its aims and objectives."

The subjects of the scientific meetings held over the past two years reflect some of the major concerns of psychiatry in Kansas; meetings were held on Relations with Psychology, Community Mental Health Centers, Private Practice, Nursing Homes, and Alcoholism.

Membership in the Society ranges between 150 and 180 members, about 10 per cent of whom are in full-time private practice.

By 1965 it was clear that the attempt to fulfill the objectives in the preamble of the Society's constitution through the work of 22 committees was not going to prove entirely successful; some of the more energetic workers got lost in inactive committees and the amount of overlapping responsibility required a degree of coordination that was impossible without an executive staff. Plans now call for a simplified structure, namely, fewer committees with each having more scope and responsibility. The plans in this direction by APA, as reflected in the Airlie House Propositions, are serving as guides for our own reorganization.

Michigan District Branch

Eugene J. Alexander, M.D.

The professional society from which the Michigan District Branch developed had its beginnings on November 19, 1908, in a meeting held in Detroit and attended by 30 charter members. Leaders in the organization of this group were Drs. Edmund A. Christian, Albert M. Barrett, Bell Burr, and David Inglis, who, having met incidentally, decided to found a society to hold regular meetings for "the promulgation of professional fellowship and clinical advancement in neurology and psychiatry."

In the first constitution, the purpose was stated "to further the progress of the study of neurology and psychiatry." It was later learned that the founders also intended that the Society would satisfy "the urgent need for fellowship with one another, and with other men of mutual interests and with kindred feelings and ambitions." They had also stressed that there be clinical studies and that cases be demonstrated by presenting patients at the meetings. The earliest extant copy of the constitution, a 1912 revision of the original, stipulated that "any regular physician or scientist of good repute who was interested in the study of neurology or psychiatry, and has written something distinctive in either field" might be come a member. The requirement of submitting a paper remained in effect until 1950. Membership was limited to 40 at the beginning.

Following World War I the Society found itself in a "rather deep rut of professional inertia and impending disintegration." This state continued and in 1934 a proposal was made to disband. Had it not been for the talent, energy, and enthusiasm of the late Dr. Martin H. Hoffman, the Society might have accepted the proposal. He rejuvenated and reorganized the Society, generated enthusiasm among the members, and was elected president the following year. At that time membership had reached a low point of 19 members and 20 affiliate members. Subsequently, membership has rapidly expanded and there were 452 members in 1965.

The Society thus formed was named the Detroit Society of Neurology and Psychiatry. In 1939 it became known as the Michigan Society of Neurology and in 1964 the Michigan Society of Psychiatry and Neurology.

In 1942 the Society, by then primarily psychiatric, became an affiliate society of the APA. In 1953 those psychiatrists who were members of the APA, as almost all of the Society's members were, applied for, and were granted, recognition as the Michigan District Branch of the APA. It was one of the earliest Branches to be formed.

The Michigan Society of Psychiatry and Neurology continues to exist, because it contains nonpsychiatrist physicians and paramedical affiliates whose long association with the psychiatrist members is valued by both. Officers of the two organizations are identical and the functioning structure is actually that of the District Branch. Separate but very similar constitutions presently exist for the two groups in order to meet two objectives: a) to comply strictly with APA governing rules concerning District Branches; and b) to preserve ties with professional associates who are not psychiatrists.

The first constitution of the District Branch was written in 1953 and approved by the APA. The Branch was incorporated in January 1960. Since it was one of the first district branches, the Michigan District Branch took an active part in the development of the district branch movement within the APA. The Branch was determined to become integrated into the organizational structure of the APA. An important early step was to secure APA permission to process all applicants for membership in the national organization, and in 1961 Michigan became the first District Branch approved to do so. The constitution has been revised and amended several times to conform to APA requirements. Local committees follow the same pattern and consider the same topics as the APA committees do. Dr. Walter Obenauf, first delegate to the Assembly of District Branches from Michigan, became Speaker of the Assembly in 1958 and Treasurer of the APA in 1963. Another Michigan member, Dr. Jacques Gottlieb, was on the APA Council in 1958.

To celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the organization in 1958, members compiled material about its history and presented it to the members four years later at an "Inaugural Ball."

The Western Michigan Psychiatric Society, organized recently, meets several times a year for scientific sessions. Most of its members are also members of the District Branch.

The Branch has been conscious of improving its relationships with other medical organizations. It has always held one of its monthly meetings in association with the annual meeting of the State Medical Society. The Central Neuropsychiatric Association was invited to meet in Detroit in 1954, and did so. A yearly research award of \$100 was instituted to stimulate younger men to do original work. The Branch has contributed to the building fund of the County Medical Society, formed a liaison committee to the State Medical Society, sponsored a Midwest Divisional Meeting in Detroit in 1959, and organized a speakers pool to address lay and medical groups on psychiatric topics, with 93 members participating at one time. The culmination of these increasing contacts with nonpsychiatrist physicians occurred in 1960 and 1961 when the federal government awarded the Branch \$21,000 per year for a training program for Michigan physicians on psychiatric subjects as they pertain to general medical practice. The program is still continuing and has been enthusiastically received.

Since February 1959 the Branch has published a newsletter nine or ten times each year. Currently edited by Dr. Dean Carron, it contains news, announcements, clinical briefs, and minutes of Council and business meetings and accepts advertising.

Members have interested themselves in legislation affecting the practice of medicine, with several members appearing before the legislators to express their opinions. They supported legislation regarding the needs of emotionally disturbed children and, in 1958, opposed a state bill to certify psychologists. This bill passed, but the principle that a psychologist should have genuine collaboration with a physician is, in the Branch's opinion, being followed by ethical psychologists, although there is no statutory necessity that they do so. Members believe that as a result of this controversy psychiatrists were pushed closer to the rest of medicine and toward more leadership in the community in mental health matters.

Examples of this community activity include their co-sponsoring the Governor's Conference on Mental Health in February 1954; this conference represented an attempt to improve the services of the state mental hospital system by determining where and how the necessary money might be spent most effectively. The Branch has also participated in meetings with the Michigan Society for Mental Health, sponsored a program on mental health at the Wayne State University television station, and held joint meetings in recent years with the Michigan Bar Association. In 1960 the Branch cooperated with Gov. Williams' Citizens' Mental Health Inquiry Board, with 10 of its members serving on a medical committee to visit the state hospitals under investigation regarding alleged abuse of patients; (no evidence of such abuse was found). In 1964 it actively aided the Mental Health Department in implementing the state Community Mental Health Services Act. Also in 1964 the Branch participated in new medical care insurance planning. A member, Dr. Benjamin Jeffries, was elected as a director of Michigan Blue Shield, the first time a psychiatrist has served in that position.

By 1960 the increase in activities necessitated that the Branch employ an executive secretary.

Western Missouri District Branch

G. Wilse Robinson, M.D.

In October 1948, at the request of Dr. Karl Menninger, a meeting was held in the President Hotel, Kansas City, to consider the APA reorganization plan of the 1940's, which he devised. Dr. Menninger had suggested that a district branch be organized to cover all of Kansas and the western part of Missouri.

This procedure was agreed upon at that meeting, and APA was petitioned for a charter. However, it was agreed that all of Missouri and Kansas should be included. The first officers were Dr. G. Wilse Robinson, Jr., president; Dr. Jesse Casey, vice-president; and Dr. Paul Hines, secretary-treasurer.

A constitution was adopted and a petition forwarded to APA. The petition was accepted, and thus the second district branch came into existence. It was known as the Mid-Continent Psychiatric Association. Shortly afterward psychiatrists in Arkansas, too few in number to form a separate branch, asked to be included, and were accepted. A bit later psychiatrists from Oklahoma made a similar successful request. Meetings were held each spring in Kansas City, with some fine scientific programs.

Dr. George Jackson represented the Mid-Continent group at the first organizational meeting of the Assembly, in Los Angeles in 1953. The following year members in Kansas began planning their separate district branch, and in 1955 they withdrew. At about that time Oklahoma and Arkansas both reached the point of undertaking separate branches, and it became evident that the Mid-Continent Psychiatric Association was no longer a feasible political entity. It has continued as a scientific organization.

At the meeting in the spring of 1955 a resolution was passed granting permission to any group to withdraw and form its own branch. At the fall meeting of Council that year a petition was presented, signed by more than 30 members living in Western Missouri, requesting that a Western Missouri District Branch be established. Council approved and forwarded the petition to the membership and the Assembly, which also approved.

The Branch was first represented at the Assembly Meeting in Chicago in 1956 by Dr. Robinson. In 1957 he was elected alternate area representative to the Policy Committee and a year later became area representative. He was later to serve, in 1963, as Speaker of the Assembly.

Other officers elected at the first meeting were Dr. E. Hayden Trowbridge, Jr., president; Dr. John J. O'Hearne, president-elect; and Dr. Victor J. Bikales, secretary-treasurer. Other presidents have been Drs. Paul Barone, Albert Preston, Harold Meyers, Sigmund Gundle, Manson B. Pettit, Robert Barnes, and G. Wilse Robinson. The branch was incorporated on October 31, 1962.

The Western Missouri District Branch has fulfilled the recommendations of the Policy Committee, an indication that the Branch is active. It now processes new members directly into APA, publishes a newsletter, holds three business meetings per year, and has 46 members.

Sioux Psychiatric Society

Harry C. Henderson, M.D.

The Sioux Psychiatric Society, a district branch of APA, covers the states of Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The first formal correspondence concerning its formation took place in the summer of 1955, but it was not until five years later, at the 1960 annual meeting of APA, that approval was granted for establishing the branch. The first business meeting took place in September 1960, with Dr. Cecil L. Wittson serving as president and Dr. Lawrence G. Behan as president-elect. There were 22 charter members.

A problem confronting the organization has been the very large geographic area which it covers. In more recent years, at the suggestion of Dr. Behan, the officers of the executive council have been concentrated within a small geographic area centering on the eastern part of Nebraska, where the largest group of members reside.

A related problem has been an effective means of switching officers from year to year. While it has been generally felt that it is wise to do so, the great distances involved have led us to feel that for a period of several years it would

be wise for most of the officers to come from the Nebraska area for a two-year period, followed by a rotation to the Dakotas for one year, followed by another two-year period for Nebraska. Only in this way, at this stage of development, can the branch arrange to be more than a paper organization.

In 1963 the late Dr. Thaddeus Krush initiated a monthly executive council meeting and also set up committees at the district branch level corresponding to many of the committees at the national level. In 1964 the district branch was given authority by APA to process membership applications. Also that year a regular column on the history of psychiatry was initiated in the Society's newsletter, "Smoke Signals."

By 1966, membership had grown to 103. Chapters are currently being established in each of the three states covered by the Society.

It was the late Dr. Krush who suggested, during his term as president, that the branch call itself the Sioux Psychiatric Society. This title has been widely accepted.

Ohio Psychiatric Association

C. J. Leannonth, M.D.

The Ohio Psychiatric Association was organized by a small group of psychiatrists attending the annual Ohio State Medical Association meeting in Cleveland in the spring of 1950. The leader of the group was Dr. Thomas A. Ratliff; others known to be present were Dr. Calvin Baker, then commissioner of the Ohio Department of Mental Hygiene, and Dr. Charles L. Anderson.

The organizing group, after polling Ohio psychiatrists regarding their interest in having a state association, applied to the Council of APA. The Association then held its first official meeting in 1951 in Cincinnati in conjunction with the annual meeting of the OSMA. Dr. Daniel Blain, then medical director of APA, announced that APA Council had officially approved this Association as a District Branch. It was the third to be established, and the first to cover a single state. Dr. Ratliff, of Cincinnati, was elected the first president.

All of the presidents have spent many hours helping to build the state organization. Dr. Ratliff, as the organizing force, a past councilor, and first president, deserves special mention. Another of outstanding merit was the late Dr. Ewing Crawfis, tragically killed in an airplane crash late in 1965; he founded the OPA Newsletter in June 1958 and was its first editor, served as president of the Association in 1961-62, and was delegate to the Assembly of District Branches from 1958 until 1964.

Until 1962 the Association continued the practice of holding only one meeting a year, always a spring meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Ohio State Medical Association. The council held an additional meeting each year. Under the presidency of Dr. Philip Piker in 1962-63, the Association held interim meetings in Cincinnati and Cleveland with the local neuropsychiatric societies.

In 1963 an official seal for the Association with the image of Dr. William McClay Awl was adopted by Council. Dr. Philip Rond, who developed the seal,

also presented and had accepted a Living History of the Association. Dr. Irving Pine, president during 1963-64, introduced meetings between the Association's Council members, the Medical Association Committee on Mental Hygiene members, and the director of the State Department of Mental Hygiene, then Mr. Martin Janis. This innovation gave Mr. Janis an opportunity for professional contacts with psychiatrists outside his department.

In 1962 the Association took in as a chapter the Cleveland Neuropsychiatric Society, Psychiatric Section. The following year the Central Ohio Neuropsychiatric Society became a chapter and the Akron Chapter was established in 1964. A Todelo chapter was approved in February 1966.

The Association has grown in membership, in status, and in activity. It has entered upon a greater concern for the mental health of all Ohioans. Many of its members have been active in the Ohio Comprehensive Mental Health Planning Project. A former president, Dr. George T. Harding, Jr., served as chairman of the Project, and Dr. Philip Rond was chairman of the task force on rehabilitation and restoration of the mentally ill.

For the first few years either the president or the president-elect represented the Association as delegate to the Assembly. Dr. James Sagebiel of Dayton was the first delegate to the Assembly specifically elected as such. He was also the first Area Member for Area IV. In 1958 Dr. Crawfis attended the APA Assembly Meeting as a substitute for Dr. Sagebiel, who was ill. Dr. Crawfis was elected delegate the following year. He became the Alternate Area Member for Area IV in 1961 and the Area Member in 1963. Dr. Irwin Perr is now delegate to the Assembly. Another indication of the vigor and growth of the Association was its hiring an executive secretary in 1965.

The Association had 325 members in 1965. Its officers for 1965-66 are Dr. W. Donald Ross, president; Dr. John A. Whieldon, president-elect; Dr. Philip C. Rond, secretary; and Dr. Irwin N. Perr, delegate.

Central California Psychiatric Society

Sandra Merzoian

In April 1952 Dr. Mark Zeifert of Fresno addressed a letter to APA members living in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, and stated, in part, as follows:

For some time I have been thinking about the organization of a Central California Psychiatric Society.... There are about 40 men practicing psychiatry between Auburn and Bakersfield, many of whom are ... unable to maintain contact with either the San Francisco or Los Angeles Societies. It has occurred to some of us also that even if we were able to maintain such contact we would inevitably fail to gain any appreciable recognition because of our small number....

Another possible reason for organizing a Society in the Valley is that our patients come from long distances and it would be well for us to know each other personally so that we might be better able to make referrals to each other on the basis of what we have to offer....

Many details would have to be considered, such as who would be eligible for membership and whether membership in APA should be a requirement -- with the idea of ultimately identifying the Central Valley Society with the APA much as the other regional societies are identified....

Dr. Zeifert held an organizational meeting in June 1952 at his offices and on Sep. 13, 1952, the Central California Psychiatric Society was organized and held its first meeting in Fresno. Officers elected at that time were Dr. Zeifert, president; Dr. Rudolph B. Toiler, president-elect; and Dr. Vayle S. Briden, secretary-treasurer. A proposed constitution was discussed and formulated. Dues were set at \$1.00 per year.

At the second official meeting of the Society in January 1953, the constitution was presented to the membership for ratification and an application for affiliation with APA was considered.

At the 1953 annual meeting of the APA in Los Angeles, the application of the Society for district branch status was accepted, making it the first district branch on the West Coast.

During the first year's operation, the membership of the Society totaled 40. As of February 1966, the membership was 100. The area represented by the Society has increased in population from 1.6 million in 1952 to more than 2.7 million in 32 counties today.

Current officers are Dr. Mark L. Gerstie, president; Dr. Arthur M. Hanson, president-elect; Dr. George A. Gross, secretary; and Dr. Edward Rudin, treasurer.

Northern California Psychiatric Society

William A. Bellamy, M.D.

The predecessor of the Northern California Psychiatric Society was established in 1914 as the San Francisco Neurological Society. It reorganized in 1932 to meet the expanding neuropsychiatric, psychosomatic, and pediatric interests in psychiatry. In 1954 it reorganized again, this time to qualify as a District Branch of APA with the specific goal of creating a more effective voice of psychiatry. It was accepted as a District Branch in 1954.

The strong, progressive nature of the Society is demonstrated by the following achievements.

The Society pioneered in the holding of divisional meetings, hosting the First Western Divisional Meeting in San Francisco in 1955. The organization and planning of that meeting was such that its format was adopted for nearly all of the subsequent divisional meetings.

By 1957 the Short Doyle Act (an enabling act to aid in establishing community mental health services) was successfully passed by the California State Legislature. The Society effectively presented psychiatric goals and principles in an information program to legislators, medical societies, community organizations, and other important groups. Its success with this legislation affirmed the strength and stature planned for through reorganization as a District Branch, and this was accomplished in a brief three-year period.

In these two achievements the Society had the amicable cooperation of the other two District Branches in California. In 1959 an Inter-Branch Committee was formed to foster a stronger, state-wide voice of psychiatry, and to insure that none of the state District Branches would be deprived of its autonomy.

The foresight in this action was demonstrated in the crisis occasioned by the forced resignation of the Director of the California State Department of Mental Hygiene in 1963. At a meeting with the governor, problems were candidly discussed. The Inter-Branch Committee offered to form a governor's nominating committee, provided it could make recommendations concerning the conditions of employment of the new director. The progressive mental health program in California initiated by the governor and his directors was furthered by these studies, and the inter-branch organization stands ready to be of further help should this be necessary. In recognition of these activities the Assembly of District Branches commended the District Branches in California for their "prompt and unified action."

In 12 years the Society has expanded from 100 to 500 members. Current officers are Dr. Norman Graff, president; Dr. Richard L. Sutherland, vice-president; Dr. William R. Sheehy, president-elect; Dr. Robert L. Marvin, treasurer; and Dr. Richard W. Murray, secretary.

Southern California Psychiatric Society

Harry H. Nierenberg, M.D.

The Southern California Psychiatric Society was founded in November 1952 to consolidate the state's psychiatrists, who at that time were scattered among several different groups. The initiative in founding the Society came from Drs. Mathew Ross, Jerome Kummer, Allen Enelow, and Marvin Klemes, who with five other prominent psychiatrists formed a steering committee. One hundred and fifty-six charter members signed the constitution. The Society was accepted as an APA district branch six months after its founding at the annual meeting of APA in May 1953.

By 1957 the business of the Society had grown to the point that it was necessary to employ a part-time secretary and rent a permanent office. The secretarial service has since been increased to full-time. A modest mimeographed information sheet had developed by 1955 into a printed monthly newsletter of greater scope with a full-time editor and staff. The first directory of membership and psychiatric facilities was published in 1957; additional editions were published in 1958 and 1960. Despite the relatively large increase in membership, the income from dues was not sufficient to offset the costs of the Society's projects. Over the years, the dues increased from \$10.00 to the current \$25.00 per year.

Because of the large geographic area covered, the Society formed three chapters from 1963-1965.

The Society is led by a 12-member Council, assisted by officers, committee chairmen, and others. Its committee structure is similar to that of APA. Standing committees have assumed more and more work as the Society's activities increased. In its 12 years, the Society has enlisted the participation of eminent psychiatrists in the community to serve as officers, councilors, and committeemen, as well as to participate in scientific programs.

The broad goals of the Society include a) serving as a scientific forum for Southern California psychiatrists; b) exerting unified action in dealing with local, state, and national mental health problems; c) maintaining the standards and image of the psychiatric practitioner; and d) fostering improvement in mental health facilities and psychiatric practice.

Pursuit of these goals has involved the presentation of scientific papers in psychiatry and allied fields and variation of the scientific meetings to encompass panels, forums, and workshops on timely topics. Speakers from other parts of the country have frequently been on the program. To reach the

varied interests and geographic locations of the psychiatrists in Southern California, the program and location of the annual meetings are carefully planned.

The Society has held joint meetings with general practitioners and sponsored meetings originated by other groups. It participated actively in Western Divisional meetings, hosting one of them, and played an active role in the 1964 APA annual meeting in Los Angeles.

The establishment of a psychiatric referral service in 1960 and of a speakers' bureau are examples of the Society's efforts to fulfill the needs of the community.

The Society has taken public stands on legislative issues and participated by lobbying and contacting newspapers, legislators, and other influences in connection with mental health legislation. It has fought abolition of voluntary admission of mental patients as well as certification of psychologists. It has also taken strong stands on hypnosis, LSD, carbon dioxide treatment, and other controversial issues. The Society was active in making recommendations for clinics, inpatient services, and some state-supported mental health bills, such as the Short Doyle Act. It established major medical insurance for its members and fought for the inclusion of psychiatric illnesses in health insurance programs.

The Society was influential in the APA decision to drop the requirement that a psychiatrist must first be a member of the national organization and then of the district branch. It opposed the suggestion to form a single district branch within the state of California but did enter into the Inter-Branch Committee established in 1960 to deal with problems common to the three district branches in the state.

The constitution of the Society was amended several times, the most recent version being patterned on the model established by the Assembly of District Branches. Membership in the Society now numbers 775.

A recent issue was the matter of certification in child psychiatry. The Society's point of view regarding a liberal grandfathering provision was accepted by the Assembly at the October 1965 meeting.

Growth and population changes in Southern California pose many organizational problems now being considered, among other issues, by a long-range planning committee.

Colorado District Branch

The initial organization of psychiatric interests in Colorado was in the Colorado Neurological Society, which was constituted in 1920 and succeeded in 1946 by the Colorado Neuropsychiatric Society. Comprised of psychiatrists, neuropsychiatrists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, neuroanatomists, and certain physicians with special interest in the related fields, the parent organization, an early affiliate of APA, held informal social and scientific sessions across a broad range of interests. Its meetings were rotated among the several institutions in Denver, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo.

On September 27, 1952, the Society held a preliminary organizational meeting, at which officers were elected and a constitution, bylaws, and charter petition were approved. Following acceptance of its revised constitution and by laws by APA, the Branch held its first official meeting on September 12, 1953.

Advent of the District Branch movement nationally coincided with the mounting problems locally posed by burgeoning psychiatric administrative matters requiring discussion and action amid understandable disinterest among the vocal minority of nonpsychiatrists with varying tolerance. The transfer of purely psychiatric business and administrative responsibility to the District Branch in 1952 was welcomed also by the minority specialties with the exception of their concern that the camaraderie and interdisciplinary exchange of the Society might be diluted or destroyed. (Parenthetically, the Colorado Neuropsychiatric Society has remained active with social camaraderie and interdisciplinary scientific programming, and still includes a majority of District Branch members but happily defers administrative psychiatric matters to the Branch.)

From a "paper organization" in 1952 the Colorado District Branch has

grown by 1966 to embrace 119 members and fellows; seven life members, life fellows, emeritus members; and 24 associate members. In common with other district branches, through the first half of this decade our branch has achieved progressive stature as spokesman for the organized specialty in support of allied professional, community, legislative, and other activities in the state, regionally, and nationally.

Indicative of the range and impact of present activities is a partial list of representative functions: the branch has been represented at each of the national Assembly of District Branches meetings since 1953. It has provided such leadership as: three members of APA Council, one vice-president of APA, one speaker of the Assembly, one member of the Policy Committee of the Assembly since 1958, one area member of the Assembly, one president of the Colorado Medical Society, one president and one president-elect of the Denver Medical Society, one president of the Denver Metropolitan Mental Health Association, one member of the Denver Board of Health and Hospitals, two representatives on the Governor's Advisory Committee on insanity pleas, and three members of the advisory committee to the Colorado Department of Institutions.

In addition the branch sponsors consultative visitation to state psychiatric institutions, maintains liaison with the Colorado Psychological Association and other allied professional groups, and is represented on the committee for acquisition of psychiatric publications and the Work Endowment Fund of the Denver Medical Library.

In December 1960, the branch was accredited by APA for processing new members.

Hawaii Psychiatric Society

George F. Schnack, M.D.

Informal discussion between interested physicians and contact with both the Bronx Society of Neurology and Psychiatry and the Honolulu Surgical Society preceded the organizational meeting of the Honolulu Society of Neurology and Psychiatry on October 20, 1948. Twenty-three doctors, including psychiatrists, neurologists, dermatologists, and other specialists, elected Dr. Richard Kepner, initiator of the action, president, and Dr. H. Joseph Simon secretary-treasurer. Additional members were elected during subsequent meetings, and in April 1949 the constitution was adopted and the name fixed as the Society of Neurology and Psychiatry of Hawaii. Drs. Kepner and Simon were reconfirmed in their posts at that time, and Dr. Thomas Bennett was elected vice-president.

During its first year the Society was concerned with a clinic run by psychologists at the University of Hawaii which offered psychotherapy and treatment for mental patients and psychological examination for the public. Drs. Daniel Blain and Karl Bowman were guests of the Society that year. In 1952 the psychiatric staff at Tripler Army Hospital hosted a dinner in honor of Dr. Henry Brosin, and the Society helped the Mental Health Association defray part of the expenses for a visit of Dr. K. R. Masani from India. The Society was addressed in 1953 by Sir MacDonald Critchley, dean of the Neurological Institute in London.

At about that time interest waned and activity all but disappeared until 1955, when three visitors presented talks to the Society: Dr. Fred Schwartz of Sydney, Australia; Cmdr. Harry A. Wilmer of Oakland Naval Hospital; and Dr. Curtis Marshall of Johns Hopkins Hospital. Affiliation with APA was under consideration during 1956, when the preliminary plans of APA to hold a regional research conference in Honolulu also stirred interest. In December the Society decided not to attempt to change the laws of the territory in the direction of the Durham decision, which called for acquitting a defendant whose criminal act was determined to be a product of his "mental defect or disease."

The following year Dr. Y. T. Wong presented an application for District Branch status to the APA Council. After the proposed constitution and bylaws were approved, the application was accepted. On June 19, 1957, the Society voted to disband and to reorganize as the "Hawaii Psychiatric Society, a District Branch of the APA." Former members who were not psychiatrists became affiliate members under the new constitution. Immediately, activity and interest picked up. The Society sponsored an address by Dr. Gerald Kaplan to the entire medical profession. The discussion of holding a regional research conference in Honolulu resulted in the Hawaii Divisional Meeting (later known as the Third Western Divisional Meeting) held immediately after the 1958 APA Annual Meeting. Dr. Alfred Auerback of San Francisco and Dr. Robert Kimmich, president of the Hawaii Branch, were instrumental in scheduling this meeting.

The Society had become friendly with the Hawaii Psychological Association, co-hosting with them a reception for Carl Rogers, Ph.D., but the question of certification or licensure for psychologists split the groups in 1959, particularly over the point of psychiatrists' supervising psychotherapy conducted by clinical psychologists. Agreement was not reached between the two until 1961, when they held a joint meeting. Also that year, Dr. Winfred Overholser spoke to the members on "The Psychiatric Revolution" and Dr. George Schnack represented the Society at the Assembly of District Branches for the first time; his experience there led to his appointment as editor of a newsletter. He also began negotiations for another divisional meeting in Hawaii.

The following year the Society joined the Mental Health Association in a long-term project to revise the mental health laws and began to concern itself

seriously with the state of psychiatry in Hawaii. Dr. William Cody, president, instituted regular meetings of the executive council for the first time. In the spring of 1962 NIMH awarded the Society a three-year grant to teach psychiatric aspects of medicine to nonpsychiatric physicians. Later that year the Society co-sponsored two conferences on community mental health and participated in the Governor's Conference on Rehabilitation of the Mentally Ill Adult and the AMA's First National Congress on Mental Illness and Health. The Society took a strong part in the organization of state planning for mental health. The bill for certification of psychologists, prepared jointly by the two associations, failed to pass.

In 1963-64 several representatives of the Society attended the joint meeting of APA and the Japanese Society of Psychiatry and Neurology in Tokyo. After the meeting, Drs. Schnack and Kwong Yen Lum, former Society president, served as co-chairmen for a Conference on Mental Health, with guest speakers Drs. Edward Greenwood, Howard Kern, William Sheeley, Robert Garber, and Millard Bethes (of AMA). The Society was represented at the Workshop on Rehabilitation of the Mentally Ill at the Divisional Meeting in San Francisco, where it was unanimously agreed to have the next divisional meeting in Hawaii. Courses for nonpsychiatrists continued in Honolulu, and one was given in Hilo. The Society gave active support to emergency mental health bills, although they failed to pass, and after studying the salary schedule for state psychiatrists recommended a 30 per cent increase to the Health Department. About one-quarter of the membership became deeply involved in many phases of state planning for community mental health programs. The following year the Society's testimony in favor of mental health bills paid off, with five of six they supported winning approval. Only the psychologist certification bill failed to pass. Five years of leadership by Dr. Schnack and Judge Gerald Corbett culminated in the creation of a Family Court that year.

In 1965 the NIMH-supported courses were completed with courses given on Maui and Kauai. The Seventh Western Divisional Meeting, held in Hawaii in the fall, attracted about 500 guests. Invited speakers included Drs. Howard Rome, Philip Reed, Eugene Brody, John Cauter (of the University of New South Wales, Australia), John Racy (of American University, Beirut, Lebanon), and Gregory Bateson. The credit for its success is due to the steering committee, Drs. Lum, Auerback, Cody, Furukawa, Kemble, and Schnack (chairman).

The Society has supported the proposed revision of the law on criminal responsibility, which provides modernization of concepts of mental illness and mental retardation, substitutes the wording of the new New York law for the M'Naghten Rule, and makes changes in procedure so that only the judge can release an alleged criminal from the state hospital, and that only after receiving advice from a panel of at least two Board-certified psychiatrists. The Society also went on record as urging more research and planning in the whole field of corrections and opposed the Governor's decision to locate the state prison in an isolated area.

This year the Society held a cocktail party for 30 internationally known psychiatrists visiting the East-West Center for a conference on Mental Health in Asia and the Pacific. Four Society members were invited to a regional conference in Las Vegas by the American Academy of General Practice to discuss dissemination of psychiatric knowledge to nonpsychiatric physicians. Dr. Alan Stoller, from Melbourne, Australia, and president of the World Federation for Mental Health, spoke to the Society on mongolism.

The Society is currently revising its constitution with a view both to incorporation under the laws of the state of Hawaii and to closer agreement with the APA constitution and bylaws.

Intermountain Psychiatric Association

Myrick Pullen, M.D.

The Intermountain Psychiatric Association was organized in the spring of 1951 to provide contact among the psychiatrists in the states of Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and, except the Reno area, Nevada. At that time, the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Utah was new, and there were few psychiatrists in any of the states. Dr. Jack Tedrow of Salt Lake City did most of the spade work for the first meeting and served as president for the first two years. Early meetings were held in Salt Lake City and were limited to one day and one evening.

For the first several years, the Association served the purpose of gathering those in this area together to exchange ideas and to provide an opportunity to get acquainted. The social function was very important since everyone was professionally isolated. In 1954, New Mexico was added to the area. This addition brought the area covered by the Association to a size comparable to all of the United States east of the Mississippi except Florida and Michigan. After considerable discussion and study, the Association voted in 1958 to become a District Branch of the APA. Final approval of this move came at the meeting of the APA Council in the spring of 1959. The date of the annual meeting was changed at that time to permit the new officers to take office at the close of the APA meeting in May. During this time, also, the Reno area was added to the Association.

In 1961 the Association was host to the Western Divisional Meeting of the APA in Salt Lake City. Dr. Myrick Pullen was general chairman and Dr. Edward

Beaghtler was local arrangements chairman. The program committee consisted of Dr. John Torrens, clinical section; Dr. Norman Anderson, psychoanalytic section; and Dr. C. H. Hardin Branch, research.

In 1962 the Association was certified to process membership in APA and was incorporated in Nevada. In that year also the Arizona Psychiatric Association petitioned to become a District Branch of the APA and withdrew from the Intermountain Association. The Utah Psychiatric Society became a chapter of our association at that time.

Since the organization of the Association, the number of psychiatrists in these states has increased manifold. Membership now is distributed as follows: Idaho, 8; Montana, 9; Nevada, 10; New Mexico, 16; Utah, 30; and Wyoming, 8. The original purpose of providing an opportunity for professional contact in an area where there is still much professional isolation remains of great importance. The sparseness of population and the large distances that must be traveled in the Intermountain states makes the practice of psychiatry in this area unique.

Presidents have included the following: Dr. Tedrow; Dr. Otto Bendheim, Phoenix; Dr. Leonard Taboroff, Salt Lake City; Dr. C. H. Hardin Branch, Salt Lake City; Dr. Samuel Wick, Phoenix; Dr. Dale Cornell, Boise; Dr. Pullen, Orofino, Idaho; Dr. Torrens, Albuquerque; Dr. S. Wayne Smith, Blackfoot, Idaho; Dr. Beaghtler, Provo, Utah; Dr. Richard Brown, Reno; Dr. William D. Pace, Salt Lake City; and Dr. Don W. Herrold.

Northern Pacific District Branch

J. Lester Henderson, M.D.

Members of the North Pacific Society of Neurology and Psychiatry participated in the initial planning of the APA for District Branches. They were Drs. D. C. Burks, Herman Dickell, and Wendell H. Hutchens of Portland; Dr. Doug Alcorn of Victoria, B.C.; Dr. Ryle Lewis of Spokane; and Drs. William Y. Baker and J. Lester Henderson of Seattle. Dr. Hutchens was the West Coast representative on an ad hoc committee appointed by the APA Council to discuss the matter of affiliate societies and district branches and their relationship to each other and to APA.

In 1953, at the first annual meeting of the Society following the establishment of the Assembly of District Branches, Dr. Hutchens suggested that the Society organize the North Pacific District Branch of the APA. The membership was in favor; a constitution was drawn up and Dr. Hutchens was elected first president, with Dr. Lewis, president-elect.

The District Branch continued to meet with the previously existing affiliate society but held separate business meetings and kept in touch with the development of the rapidly growing number of district branches and with the Assembly of District Branches as it grew, developed, and worked out its own procedures and philosophy and determined its relation to the Council of the APA.

In 1957 the Branch adopted a constitution based on the model designed by the Assembly the year before for all the district branches in the interest of uniformity. Likewise, the Branch followed the Assembly's suggestion that each district branch appoint at the local level committees similar to the committees at the national level and establish lines of communication so that the local problems and needs would reach the national committees.

The District Branch sponsored the third APA divisional meeting in 1959, which was held in Seattle.

Because of the already established affiliate society in the area, the members of the Branch were, for the most part, more active in the national organization and its growth than in the local organization. There were sporadic efforts at publishing a newsletter. In Oregon and Washington the local

members worked at improving the state hospital systems to assure their accreditation or reaccreditation, advancing local mental health lay organizations, ameliorating the lay attitude toward mental illness and mental health, and helping the general practitioner to become better acquainted with recognizing and treating emotional problems in his own practice. Much the same occurred in British Columbia.

Alaska was added to the North Pacific District Branch in 1954. In 1964, Oregon withdrew to form a separate District Branch. At that time the Committee of Psychiatrists for Community Action, an organization of Seattle psychiatrists, disbanded so that they could work more effectively and give more strength to the District Branch; chapters were formed in Spokane, Seattle, and Tacoma in the interest of more effective working together of the local psychiatrists. It was decided that those in the state of Washington would continue to meet with the North Pacific Society of Psychiatry and Neurology but would have their own program committee and that more time would be given to business meetings with more emphasis on planning. Those who are members of the Washington State Medical Association have formed a section on psychiatry in that organization to give them better representation and a better opportunity to present the psychiatric point of view. The Branch had 107 members in 1965.

There remains the problem of Canadian members, a problem which has existed for the past ten years. As the Canadian Psychiatric Association grows, the Canadian psychiatrists feel a growing allegiance and loyalty to their national organization and its local chapters. Accordingly, our representation from British Columbia is limited and we have not pressed this point. We have many friends among our Canadian brother psychiatrists and these friendships have been continued primarily through the North Pacific Society of Psychiatry and Neurology.

Officers for 1965-66 are Dr. Adolph Whiting, president; Dr. Marcus Stuen, president-elect; Dr. John Meadows, secretary; and Dr. Roger Hendricks, delegate.

Oregon District Branch

James G. Shanklin, M.D.

Until 1963, Oregon was a part of the North Pacific District Branch, which also included the state of Washington and the Canadian province of British Columbia. By that year a consensus had developed among various Oregon psychiatrists that they preferred a program that was more active and included more frequent meetings than seemed likely to come about within the North Pacific group. This desire for an opportunity to participate several times a year in debating controversial political and social welfare issues led to the idea of organizing a separate district branch for Oregon.

Dr. Herman Dickel queried all known members of APA who lived in Oregon and received encouraging replies in favor of the proposal from men in various kinds of psychiatric practice. The first meeting, held in November 1962, was met with enthusiasm from 38 psychiatrists. The Branch achieved independent status in record time, largely due to the efforts of Dr. John Waterman and his committee, who formulated the "paper structure" of the Oregon District Branch and presented it to the Assembly of District Branches in

1963, and then to the policy committee and the APA Council. The Branch now has 65 members.

The Branch is planning to publish a newsletter, either annually or semi-annually, as a complete, thorough publication to reflect not only items of a personal nature but opinions on mental health activities and APA policies as well.

Seeing the Assembly of District Branches as an increasingly powerful voice in directing the decisions of Council, the Branch hopes to become a forceful, opinion-rendering, and opinion-forming group that will make its voice heard not only within the legislative and administrative areas of the state, but in medical and legal matters, and through proper direction of its representatives, make its force felt within the Assembly of District Branches, and thus into Council as well.

Current officers are Dr. Joseph Treleaven, president; Dr. Norman Janzer, president-elect; Dr. Wayne M. Pidgeon, secretary; and Dr. E. I. Silk, delegate.