

nevertheless advocates the "use of a suitable 'ideal' gag" when partial dentures are left *in situ*. Surely partial dentures merely serve to restore the full dentition—so why use a gag?

Expert advice would be necessary before leaving dentures in place during electroplexy, but if a gag was placed in the mouth as well there would be a very great danger of causing them uneven stress and consequent fracture. The possible sequelae of such an accident are obvious.

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#### THE GANSER SYNDROME

DEAR SIR,

With reference to Professor F. A. Whitlock's article on The Ganser Syndrome in the January 1967, number of *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, it is now 26 years since I began to seek for cases of this disorder. So far, not one has come my way, in spite of the most varied experience both in the Royal Navy during the last war and in civil prisons since.

One sometimes sees strange syndromes amongst prisoners, but not Ganser. Only a year or two ago I came across a man who gave approximate answers;

but he was so clearly a schizophrenic that the full-blown syndrome again eluded me.

Both Professor Whitlock and Dr. Peter Scott are quite right—the Ganser Syndrome is rare in prison practice today: I would go even further, and say very rare.

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#### MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNALS RESEARCH PROJECT

DEAR SIR,

As part of a research project, psychiatrists, lawyers, patients in mental hospitals or their relatives, and others interested in this topic, are invited to contribute details of their experiences with Mental Health Tribunals.

Letters, which will be treated as confidential, should be addressed to me, c/o Department of Social Administration, The London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London, W.C.2.

CYRIL GREENLAND.

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