

Landlady's daughter: competition

Richard Asher, in *Talking Sense*, suggests that, if you want to get something really clear in your mind, you should try to explain it to your landlady's daughter. The idea is that if you can explain it in "very simple terms . . . the process of so reducing it is helpful." We can take it that Asher's landlady's daughter was not likely to be a research student in the social sciences, those being different times.

Asher goes on to give an example of this type of exercise: "I was given a book to review some years ago, which contained this sentence: 'A significant fact about our personality is that . . .'" and the quote goes on in a majesty of loquacity that would make you tremble.

This Asher reduces, with his eye firmly on his landlady's daughter, to "We know what is us, and

what isn't," which has all the appeal of a squashed meringue.

The object of this competition is to restore this vulgar summary to its former polysyllabic glory. Entries will be judged on a syllable count, although deductions will be made for *frank* repetition or deviation.

A Gaskell book and a College mug will be awarded to the entry with the most syllables. The original prose and the winner will be given in the April 1993 issue, and entries have to be sent to the *Psychiatric Bulletin* by 31 January 1993.

Reference

ASHER, R. (1972) *Talking Sense*. London: Pitman Medical.

Psychiatric Bulletin (1992), 16, 815–816

Miscellany

Appointment

Dr John H. Henderson, formerly Medical Director and Consultant Psychiatrist at St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, has been appointed as the director of the Mental Health Foundation's grants and projects division.

Awards

The Stanley Research Awards are part of a broad Stanley Foundation Research Program begun in 1989 to support research on the causes and treatment of serious mental illnesses and are intended to attract established scientists from other areas of biology and medicine (e.g. biochemistry and neurology) into research on mental illnesses as well as to provide support for innovative research by established scientists already in the field but whose funding sources are limited. Further information: Ms Kelly D. Peck, Stanley Foundation Research Awards Programs, c/o NAMI, 2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 302, Arlington, VA 22201, USA.

Dr Lars Farde of Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden is winner of the 1992 Max Hamilton Memorial Award for his contributions to the field of psychopharmacology including pioneering the use of Positron

Emission Tomography (PET) for the study of receptor binding.

New publications

Liverpool District Psychiatric Audit Committee have recently published their first Audit Newsletter which sets out the activity undertaken since formal monthly audit meetings began in February 1991. All medical staff working in the psychiatric within the Liverpool district participate. Summary findings from case-note reviews conducted at the meetings are included in the Newsletter. The current contents of an audit database of relevance to mental health is also included. Copies of the Newsletter are available from: Dr I.A. Davidson, Chairman, Liverpool District Psychiatry Audit Committee, Acute Directorate, Arundel House, Community Mental Health Resource Centre, Sefton General Hospital, Smithdown Road, Liverpool L15 2HE.

Education in Action is a new guide published by the education department of the charity Community Service Volunteers (CSV) and gives an introduction to some of the charity's publications aimed at those in the health care field. Copies can be obtained from: The Executive Officer, CSV Education, 237 Pentonville Road, London N1 9NJ.

A Dignified Ending: Recommendations for good practice in the disposal of the bodies and remains of babies born dead before the legal age of viability is commended to all hospitals by the House of Commons Health Committee on Maternity Services. The study, with recommendations for good practice, was undertaken by the Stillbirth & Neonatal Death Society after a postal survey revealed wide variations in hospital procedures. The information provided will be useful to psychiatric staff caring for parents after pregnancy or baby loss. The booklet is available from SANDS, 28 Portland Place, London W1N 4DE (telephone 071 436 7940; price £7.95 plus £1 p&p).

Presenting the Case for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Services: an annotated bibliography, edited by Jane Milton, has been produced by the Tavistock Library and will be updated regularly; the Tavistock Library holds copies of all items listed in the Bibliography. Copies may be obtained from: Ms Linda Kaufman, Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy in the NHS, Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA (telephone 071 435 7111); price £10.00 institutions, £5.00 individuals, free to members of the APP on request.

Through a Glass Darkly: community care and elderly people, by Melanie Henwood, has been published by the King's Fund Institute. It costs £8.95 and is available from Bournemouth English Book Centre, 9 Albion Close, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH12 3LL (telephone 0202 715555; fax 0202 715556).

The Mental Health Digest is an entirely independent publication which offers impartial summaries of recent articles selected from British and American journals and is written for readers with an informed interest in mental health matters. The annual subscription is £6 which covers three issues. Further information: Mental Health Digest Ltd, 77 Maldon Road, Brighton BN1 5BD.

Journals

Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders is published quarterly by Raven Press. Contributions

should be sent to Peter J. Whitehouse, MD, PhD, Alzheimer Center, University Hospitals of Cleveland, 2074 Abington Road, Cleveland, OH 44106, USA (telephone 216 844 7360; fax 216 844 7239). The address for subscriptions is: Alzheimer Disease, c/o Raven Press, Subscription Department, 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036, USA.

At the beginning of 1993 the *International Review of Psycho-Analysis* is to be merged into the *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis* so that in future only one journal will be published. Further information: David Tuckett, Joint Editor, *International Journal of Psycho-Analysis*, 63 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7RD.

The Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists has published the first two volumes of its Journal in July 1991 and June 1992. The respective special topics were 'Brain Mapping' and 'Alcoholism'. The special topic for the coming volume will be 'Child and Adolescent Psychiatry'. Requests for back issues and contributions for the coming volume are welcomed. Correspondence: The Editor, Journal of the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists, c/o Department of Psychiatry, Queen Mary Hospital, Pokfulam, Hong Kong.

Christian Council on Ageing

Following the successful conference held in York, earlier in the year, attended by 150 delegates from all parts of the British Isles and abroad, the Christian Council On Ageing (CCOA) has appointed a development worker on a short term contract to raise awareness in the Christian Churches of the needs of people with dementia. One of the tasks of the worker is to report examples of good practice by the Churches in care of people with dementia. Another is to establish a basic information pack on dementia for use in Church groups. Reports on the conference and information on the continuing activity of the CCOA can be obtained from: David Wainwright, 8 St Robert's Gardens, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8EH.

Christmas holidays

The College will be closed from 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23 December and will reopen at 8.00 a.m. on Monday, 4 January 1993.