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Editor's Notes

World Congress of Psychiatry

Abstracts of all the papers delivered at the Fourth World Congress of Psychiatry at Madrid, September 5-11, have been published by the Excerpta Medical Foundation. The organizers of the Congress wisely had these printed in advance so that the collection could serve as a guide to the meetings.

A guide was indeed necessary. One thousand and forty five papers were delivered in all. The mass of data does not reflect the achievements in the field so much as it does the strange requirements of organizing a financially successful Congress.

Any meeting that charges \$50 for each person attending can guarantee financial success by accepting every paper submitted. This not only aids the organizations but also helps those who present papers. In some cases, persons whose papers are accepted have all or part of their bills paid for by their university or hospital. In any case, their expenses are tax deductible. As one might expect under the circumstances most of the papers delivered at the Congress were casually written and mediocre. The real value in this meeting was in the personal relationships established over coffee

and in hallway conversations.

Those who missed the meeting can purchase the 452 page book of abstracts for \$13.00 from Excerpta Medica, 2 East 103 St., N. Y., N. Y.; Chandos House, 2 Queen Anne St., London W1; or Herengracht 119-123, Amsterdam.

Psychiatrists and Books

It came as no surprise to learn that according to *Publisher's Weekly*, psychiatrists are heavy readers. We all know that. The demands of the profession (and curiosity), require familiarity with a broad assortment of books and periodicals.

What was indeed surprising was the extent to which books in psychiatry accounted for such a significant portion of all medical books published. In 1964, for example, out of a total of 1211 medical books, 171 (or 14.1%) dealt with psychiatry. Out of all the categories in the survey, only general medicine (210 books) accounted for more. Consider too that psychiatrists comprise less than 10% of the members in the medical profession.

These figures, even if we had not come by them with a special interest, would have

Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia, D. *8. Freedman, D. X. and aiat. 117:930, April 1961. *9. P. H. and Graves, G. D.: J. 960. 10. Stabenau, J. R. and Quart. 38:42, Jan. 1964. *11. Ass. J. 84:268, Feb. 4, 1961. N. D. and Stein, K. E.: J. 151, Sept. 1961. 13. Svendsen, istiansen, P.: Psychopharma- pagett, D. R., Clark, R. S., N. G.: Minnesota Med. 45:9,

on and agitation in pediatric, s. Psychomotor hyperactivity

depressed or comatose states; ive or hypotensive heart dis- ent use of MAO inhibitors. ts: From a clinical experience patients, it is apparent that safety. Jaundice has not been ess of the mouth, nasal stuffi- rnal confusion, galactorrhea, /potension, inability to ejacu- parkinsonism may occur. Pige- en reported in doses in excess r long periods of time. Leuko- tosensitization, and convulsive e, but are possible complica- administration.

(thioridazine)

are considered



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