

its proposed contents. They seem very appropriate, sensible and enlightened. However, I have considerable reservations as to whether a leaflet would be the best way of dealing with this.

At a time of considerable grief and stress for the whole family providing them with a leaflet could appear to reinforce the currently prevalent attitude of denial of these feelings, at least in some quarters. I wonder how many parents, particularly mothers, would even be able to read through this leaflet, considering the extent and nature of their distress at this time.

Personally, I do not think that there is any alternative but for one of the professionals involved, whether doctor, nurse or social worker, to deal personally with the mother's and the family's distress.

Perhaps the contents of this leaflet could be expanded to provide more information for the professionals coming into direct contact with these mothers and parents, particularly nurses and health visitors. Giving a leaflet to a mother or parents at a time like this could further inhibit the facilitation of the mourning process.

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IN NEED OF SYMPATHETIC MODERNIZATION

DEAR SIR,

Following Ezra's column in your March issue (p 43), I couldn't resist sending you excerpts from this Australian advertisement for a desirable post from the March 1978 *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*. The italics are mine.

'Mental Health Authority, Victoria
Consultant *Psychiatrist* (sic)

Applications are invited . . . the *Unit* is a 36 bed unit, conducted jointly by the MHA of Victoria and the Department of Psychiatry . . . It is *centrally* located only a short distance from the *centre* of Melbourne and is situated in attractive parklands close to schools, universities and *amenities*. Housing may be available . . . There are five Consultant Psychiatrist positions within the Unit, each leading multi-disciplinary teams. Four of these teams practise *electric* (sic) psychiatry, while the fifth is concerned specifically with psychotherapy, both individual and group . . .'

Regrettably I couldn't stop laughing sufficiently to attempt Ezra's competition to be a HASbeen.

MICHAEL DUKE
(*alias* Araxerxes Brevimanus)

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine

The next course on Integrated Basic Sciences, intended for those preparing for the M.R.C.Psych. Preliminary Test and Part I DPM Examination will start on 10 October at the Royal Free Hospital, on Tuesdays from 2-5 p.m. The course covers three academic terms and the subjects covered include physiology, pharmacology, neuro-physiology and genetics. The cost of £80 may be reclaimed from the appropriate Area Health Authority. Application forms and further details from Dr Fay Fransella, Academic Department of Psychiatry, Royal Free Hospital, Pond Street, London NW3 2QG.

Training in Psychodrama

Dr Dean Elefthery, current President of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama, will be taking a training group of the International Foundation for Human Relations at the Uffculme Clinic, beginning in October 1978. Course will consist of a total of 21 days, divided into three-day sessions over a 2½-year period. The first session will take place on 27, 28 and 29 October, and the fee will be £75, excluding hotel expenses. Applicants should have some previous training in psychotherapy. Further details from Dr Martin H. Davies, Uffculme Clinic, Queensbridge Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8QD.