

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY NEWSLETTER

(DIVISION 28 - THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION)

FALL - 1976

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Travis Thompson served Division 28 as Newsletter editor during the past four years following the decision at the 1972 business meeting to revive the Newsletter. During his tenure, Travis succeeded in bringing the Newsletter up to its present level and in making it the voice of Division 28. All of us affiliated with Division 28 are indebted to Travis for his untiring effort in editing the Newsletter and for the contribution he made to the Division and to APA.

This issue of the Newsletter initiates the term of a new editor. The success and effectiveness of the Newsletter is, of course, a function of the editor and his efforts, but they are also dependent upon the interest and involvement of the fellows, members, associates and corporate affiliates who comprise Division 28. The Newsletter should be an instrument for the dissemination of information, it should reflect the views and positions of the Division, and it must be a dynamic medium and supporter of issues crucial to the existence of psychopharmacology. The Newsletter can retain these roles with the cooperation and assistance of all who share an interest in the behavioral effects of drugs, and with a willingness on the part of the membership of Division 28 to bring to the attention of the Newsletter matters of concern to us all. The new editor welcomes your contributions.

SQUIRREL MONKEYS OMITTED FROM ENDANGERED LIST

On April 19, 1976, the Department of the Interior published in the Federal Register a proposal to list 27 species of primates as endangered or threatened species. Numerous interested groups and individuals availed themselves of the opportunity to make their feelings concerning the proposal known to the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The squirrel monkey (Saimiri sciureus) was one of the species listed that evoked a substantial response because of its extensive use in behavioral and bio-medical studies. The Newsletter has now received confirmation that the squirrel monkey will not be included in the list of endangered species. A portion of the letter received from the Atlanta office of the Fish and Wildlife Service reads as follows: "A proposal to add the squirrel monkey to the list was published, but it was decided not to add it to the list at this time. If in the future it is decided to add the squirrel monkey to the Endangered List, ample notice will be given to inform those who may be interested." Action with respect to other species on the list has not yet been determined.

RECENT PUBLICATION

Hollister, L. E. Clinical Use of Psychotherapeutic Drugs. Springfield: Charles Thomas. 1975.

PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY AT...

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION

The laboratory is designed to study the effects of psychotherapeutic drugs upon psychophysiological and biochemical variables, and upon cognitive effects of drugs, i.e., direct actions upon learning and memory and mediated actions through subsidiary variables such as attention or motivation.

Heroin addiction and cigarette smoking are two examples of drug dependence that we are studying because of our interest in the reinforcing properties of drugs. The dependence producing properties of opioids have been widely studied but the reinforcement mechanisms are still not well understood. The role of nicotine in cigarette smoking is far less well understood; its reinforcing effects have been seriously explored in our laboratory through the use of agonists and antagonists, and by studying abstinence and nicotine craving.

We have also been involved in the study of narcotic antagonists, specifically naloxone and its congener, naltrexone, which can be given orally with a duration of action of several days. Having examined the agonistic actions of naltrexone, we are now intending to generate time-dose response curves of the antagonistic properties of both of these drugs in patients taking methadone. This work will provide a baseline for the clinical use of naltrexone in the treatment of heroin addiction. Furthermore, we feel that the functions generated will provide some of the constraints needed for a morphine receptor theory.

We are studying the effects of arousal level on the duration of

memory-related protein synthesis. In general, stimulants prolong and depressants shorten the period of time over which the CNS retains the capacity to synthesize memory-related protein(s).

Transient amnesia induced by catecholamine inhibiting drugs is being studied. Under some conditions of training the protein synthesis inhibitor anisomycin (ANI) caused permanent amnesia, and under other conditions transient amnesia. Additional work is being done to compare how effectively amnesia induced by protein synthesis and catecholamine inhibitors can be reversed by MAO inhibitors.

Hormonal effects on retention are being studied using the peptide fragment ACTH₄₋₁₀ and L and DPhe⁷. The L form shows facilitation and the D form interference with memory formation when administered 30 minutes after training. Tests of how specific the effect is to this particular amino acid sequence will be done. A relationship between the post-training ECS gradient and protein synthesis is being studied. The gradient has been found to be a function of the amount of protein synthesized prior to administering ECS. The effects of 5-hydroxytryptamine and catecholamine transmitters in memory are being studied with various training tasks to help elucidate their role in memory formation.

The primate psychopharmacology laboratory is engaged in a broad range of studies with rhesus monkeys and free-ranging groups of chimpanzees. Experiments include, among others, observational analysis of hallucinogen-induced behaviors; self-administration of cocaine and opium via smoking models; self-administration of cocaine via chewing models; effects of drugs on visual illusions.

(Murray E. Jarvik, M.D.)

HEW APPROPRIATIONS

During consideration of the appropriations bills for Labor-HEW this year, several Congressmen voted in opposition to passage. The bills were eventually approved by Congress and sent to the White House where President Ford vetoed them. Subsequently, the Presidential vetoes were overridden by Congress. However, some members persisted in their opposition to the 1976 and 1977 appropriations bills and voted to sustain the Presidential vetoes. The members of Division 28 should feel free to communicate to their Congressmen their views concerning the appropriateness of the Congressional vote. The following list, identifying those who voted to sustain the vetoes, appeared in the FASEB Newsletter.

House of Representatives

Anderson, Illinois
Archer, Texas
Armstrong, Colorado
Ashbrook, Ohio
Beard, Tennessee
Broomfield, Michigan
Brown, Ohio
Broyhill, North Carolina
Burlison, Texas
Butler, Virginia
Cederberg, Michigan
Clancy, Ohio
Clawson, Del, California
Collins, Texas
Crane, Illinois
Daniel, Dan, Virginia
Daniel, R. W., Virginia
Devine, Ohio
Dickinson, Alabama
Edwards, Alabama
English, Oklahoma
Erlenborn, Illinois
Eshleman, Pennsylvania
Frenzel, Minnesota
Frey, Florida
Gradison, Ohio
Hagedorn, Minnesota
Hansen, Idaho
Hightower, Texas
Holt, Maryland

Hutchison, Michigan
Ichord, Missouri
Jarman, Oklahoma
Johnson, Colorado
Jones, Oklahoma
Kasten, Wisconsin
Kelly, Florida
Kemp, New York
Ketchum, California
Landrum, Georgia
Latta, Ohio
McDonald, Georgia
Mann, South Carolina
Martin, North Carolina
Michel, Illinois
Milford, Texas
Miller, Ohio
Montgomery, Mississippi
Myers, Indiana
Poage, Texas
Quie, Minnesota
Regula, Ohio
Rhodes, Arizona
Robinson, Virginia
Rousselot, California
Satterfield, Virginia
Schneebeli, Pennsylvania
Sebelius, Kansas
Shuster, Pennsylvania
Skubitz, Kansas
Snyder, Kentucky
Spence, South Carolina
Stanton, J. William, Ohio
Steiger, Wisconsin
Symms, Idaho
Taylor, Missouri
Teague, Texas
Treen, Louisiana
Vander Jagt, Michigan
Waggoner, Louisiana
Whitehurst, Virginia
Wiggins, California

U. S. Senate

Allen, Alabama
Byrd, Virginia
Fannin, Arizona
Garn, Utah
Goldwater, Arizona
Griffin, Michigan
Hansen, Wyoming
Helms, North Carolina
Hruska, Nebraska
Laxalt, Nevada
Tower, Texas

DIVISION 28 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The membership of the Executive Committee of Division 28 has been reconstituted as a result of the recent elections. The President, Peter Carlton, has announced the membership of the Committee to be as follows:

Secretary - Herbert Barry III
Treasurer - Bernard Beer
Council Representative -
C. R. Schuster
Membership Chairperson -
Norman Krasnegor
Newsletter Editor - Larry Byrd
Program Chairperson (1976) -
Russell Leaf
Program Chairpersons (1977) -
Marian Fischman;
Chris Johanson
Past President - Travis Thompson
Members-at-Large - John Boren;
Leonard Cook; Allan Mirsky;
Donald Overton; Larry Stein

1977 APA MEETING

The formal "Call for Papers" for the 1977 meeting of the American Psychological Association in San Francisco is being mailed in December. Members are urged to respond to the announcement by preparing and submitting papers and other program materials appropriate to the APA meeting. The Program Chairpersons, Marian Fischman and Chris Johanson, want to develop a program for Division 28 that will be of high quality and exceptional interest, one that will encourage more members to attend the annual meeting. The success of the program committee depends on the active participation of all members of Division 28 and other members of APA who have an interest in the behavioral effects of drugs.

BOOK REVIEWS

Cole, Jonathan O. Mental Illness and Psychotropic Medications. Hicksville, New York: Research Media, Inc., 1975.

Mental Illness and Psychotropic Medications is a programmed instruction course (two books) designed to provide an account of research, diagnostic methods, and treatment choices in the mental health field. The course emphasizes case histories in an effort to expose the student to the diagnostic process and problems involved in choosing an appropriate form of treatment. The case histories may be of some help in understanding psychiatric concepts, terminology, and diagnostic categories, but, in general, the discussion of these topics is limited. Persons who want to learn some basic information concerning the indications, contradictions, and side effects of drugs used in the treatment of mental illness may find the second book, Psychotropic Medications, of value. Alternative forms of therapy are only briefly described.

(Pat Evans)

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Material of interest to the membership of Division 28 should be forwarded for inclusion in the Newsletter to the following:

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