# THE JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE

### (THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHIATRY)



BY AUTHORITY OF THE ROYAL MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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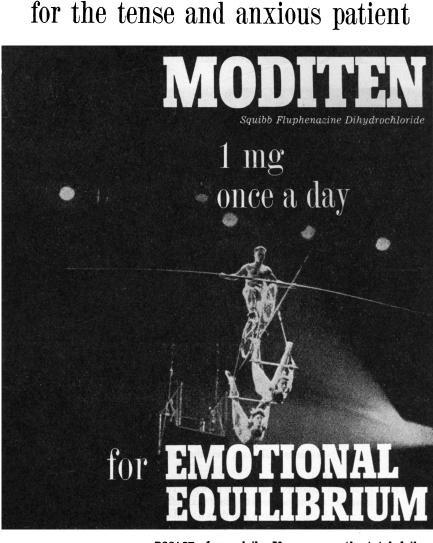
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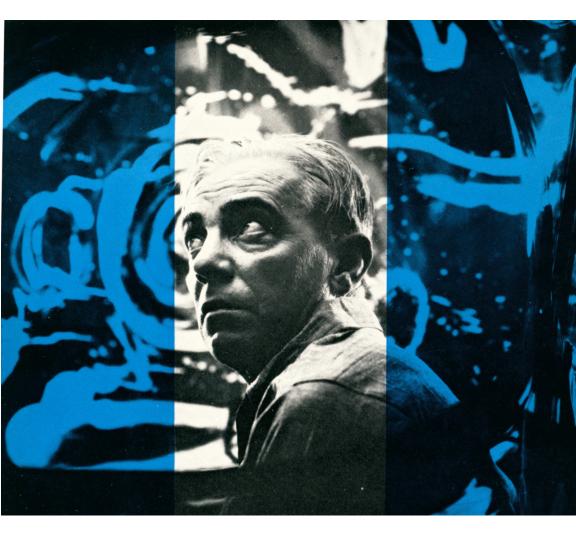
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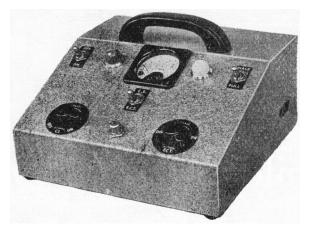
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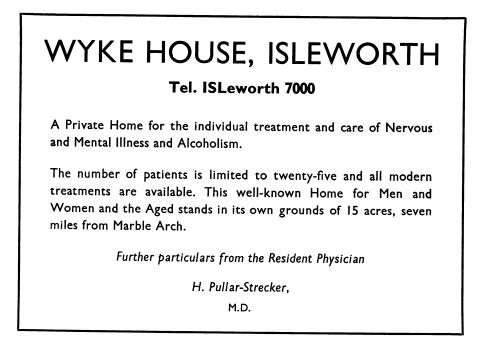
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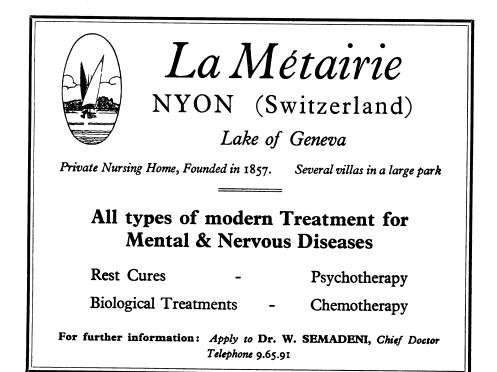
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"THE Journal of Mental Science" which is the official organ of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and was first published in 1853, has, since 1945, borne the alternative title of "The British Journal of Psychiatry". It was intended that at some future date this should become the principal title, and the Association has now decided that the change will be made as from the January issue, 1963.

From that date the Journal will therefore appear as

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When the original title was adopted "Mental Science" was a recognized division of philosophical studies; even then, however, there were criticisms of its use, and for many years each volume was prefaced by an apologia for the title, written by the first Editor, Sir John Bucknill. "It has been said that mental physiology or mental pathology or psychology or psychiatry (a term much affected by our German brethren) would have been more appropriate"—but he contended that "mental science" embraced all these; and the title remained and in course of time acquired the sanction of tradition.

However, "Mental Science" is now so entirely obsolete, and so liable to misunderstanding, that a change is overdue, while "Psychiatry" has long since become the recognized term in all countries for that branch of medicine specially concerned with the study and treatment of all kinds and degrees of mental ill-health. The new title, therefore, gives an exact and immediately intelligible name to the general field of work covered by the papers published, and indicates clearly the nature of the readership.

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