

The Congress Sub-Committee on Admission and Training of Candidates:-

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REPORT OF THE CONGRESS SUB-COMMITTEE ON ADMISSION AND TRAINING OF CANDIDATES

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I. Organisation

The sole authorities for dealing with all problems of admission of candidates and of their training, together with any other instruction imparted, are the Training Committees of the various Branch Societies which meet together for consultation at each Congress. No individual analyst has the right to undertake training or the giving of instruction in psycho-analysis without being empowered to do so by his Training Committee. This does not of course apply to the reading of scientific papers or the lecturing at an institution that may form part of a given member's routine duties.

II. General Considerations on the Selection of Candidates

The Training Commissions will use all sources of information available to them, including the data obtained from every interview, to determine the suitability of an applicant. In addition to professional qualifications, special attention should be paid to any data bearing on the questions of integrity of character, maturity of personality and stability of ego, and capacity for psychological insight.

III. Special Considerations on the Selection of Lay Candidates

The Sub-committee is of opinion that it would be wiser, for some time at least, to lay down no general recommendations but to leave the rules to be established by each Training Committee. We would only suggest that any set of rules drawn up by a Training Committee should not be regarded as invariably binding, so that room be left to permit exceptions of specially suitable applicants who may fail to conform to particular rules. At present some Training Committees attach more importance than others to the possession of a University degree, some attach more importance than others to the previous experience of scientific discipline, some attach more importance than others to some form of clinical experience in the broadest sense of the term, i.e. profession contact with people in need of help.

IV. Conditions accepted by a Candidate on Admission

All candidates should on admission be invited to sign an agreement binding them never to claim that they have been trained by a psycho-analytical Institution, or to claim to be qualified psycho-analysts, until they have completed their course of training to the satisfaction of the Training Committee. Lay candidates should in addition subscribe to the promise that they will never engage in independent consultative practice, i.e. that they will receive for treatment only patients who

have first consulted a physician and not attempt to share his sole responsibility for the diagnosis and therapeutic indications. It should be explained to them further that this physician remains legally responsible for the whole treatment of the case, so that it is desirable for the therapist to consult him in the event of any untoward complication, e.g. of organic or psychotic nature. This Sub-committee unanimously wishes to call special attention to the importance of these rules being strictly adhered to, as much in the interests of lay analysts themselves as in those of the general social and legal obligations prevailing in various countries for the professional care of those in need of therapeutic help.

#### V. Training

(a) Analytical: The curriculum for analytical training, which extends over at least three years, is identical for medical and lay analysts. It consists of:

1. The training analysis, conducted by an analyst approved of by the Training Committee.
2. Theoretical Studies. These comprise attendance at a defined series of courses of lectures extending over a period of two years, seminars, and direction of reading and research.
3. Practical Analytic Work. Two control analyses extending over at least a period of a year are necessary.

It is highly desirable that opportunity and encouragement be provided for post-graduate study subsequent to qualification as an analyst.

(b) Non-analytical: The extent to which non-analytical instruction be provided by the Psycho-Analytical Institutes as distinct from other sources is still a matter of divided opinion and further experience is necessary before pronouncing any recommendation on the matter. It should, however, be the task of the Training Committee to concern themselves with the opportunities for such studies and to encourage all candidates to avail themselves of them. The subjects of greatest import here are the Development of Civilisation, Anthropology, Mythology, Folk-lore and the Evolution of Scientific Theory. In addition, lay analysts need the opportunity for study and practical experience in Clinical Psychiatry, Physiology and, so far as is possible, Clinical Medicine; medical analysts need post-graduate work in Medicine, in Neurology and especially in Psychiatry.

#### VI. Candidates from Foreign Countries

The members of the Committee are unanimously of opinion that before any foreign candidate is accepted for training the approval of his home Training Committee be obtained. It will be evident that harmony among foreign branches of the International Association can be obtained only through direct adherence to this positive rule. There is further a strong feeling that such candidates be asked first to apply, either personally or by correspondence, to their Home Training Committee, submitting the necessary data, before their application be accepted abroad. This raises, however, certain practical difficulties, and we feel that the time is not yet ripe to pronounce on it.

#### VII. Child Analysis, etc.

The Sub-committee has not discussed the questions of the training of Child Analysts, instructions of pedagogues, and lectures to the general public or any special group of it. They would seem to be outside its scope, and they are also in part still too much subject to divided opinion for it to be hopeful at present to attempt to codify any international rules on them.