NEUROBIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

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JOSEPH ZUBIN
Paul H. Hoch Award Lecturer, 1968

The name of Joseph Zubin has been linked with the American Psychopathological Association for so long—and with its recent history, its style and published achievements—that it carries its own introduction to the Hoch Award Lecture for this year, or for any other year. The names and the work of these two important but quite different men have been so often joined, in fact, as to lend to them a sort of "corporate identity," not only in the mind of the beginning student of psychopathology but in the memory of colleagues and contemporaries as well. Paul Hoch is twice honored by the lecture given this year in his name by his old friend and longtime working partner.

Joseph Zubin was born with our century in October of 1900, in Raseiniai, Lithuania. The family, in which Joseph was the second of six children and the oldest son, reached America during his early boyhood and settled in Baltimore, Maryland. The events of his early life that brought the young Zubin first to the study of psychology and later to biometrics and psychopathology need not be traced out in detail here, for we are concerned more with his lasting contribution to our field of study and with his mature character as a teacher and investigator. It may be useful to recall, however, that his discovery of our particular knot of problems came about only gradually and through his early work in community youth organizations with their typically human-centered value systems and goals. I have always thought this beginning was of lasting importance to him and a key to understanding a central theme found in much of his later scientific work. A naturally analytic young mind—easily drawn to the study of chemistry, German or mathematics—became early joined to the need to study certain very human problems in a quantitative way. It has been said that in the field of psychopathology both clinician and scientist must deal with subjective phenomena. Those few men who can turn a judgment about inner, personal experience into outer, objective notation—even if they succeed only in part—thus stand to make a fundamental contribution to psychopathology as a science. Far from a disregard for the importance of the data of individual experience in a rush to quantification, it is clear that any lasting value to come from this approach will depend entirely on a skillful interpretation of the
nature of subjective evidence. Professor Zubin's legacy to us may be exactly so described.

He came to the task well prepared. Following undergraduate training at Johns Hopkins he entered graduate study at Columbia University, and was awarded the doctorate in psychology by a distinguished faculty—though at a rather unfortunate moment, the low point of the national economic depression, 1932. He found a teaching position as Instructor in Psychometry at the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons and, with borrowed money and characteristic optimism, married Winifred M. P. Anderson in 1934. Two sons, Jonathan and David, and a daughter, Winifred Anne, were born to the Zubins—children who have today reached astonishing heights (the boys, at least) that reflect the dashing Scots Guard who was their maternal grandfather. Dr. Zubin has since held teaching positions at the City College of New York, briefly, and at Columbia University, where he has been both Professor of Psychology (currently) and of Psychiatry. Concurrent with these academic appointments he has also served the State of New York in a research capacity for many years and is, at present, Chief of Psychiatric Research (Biometrics) within the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, directing the work of an interdisciplinary staff of some 80 people from headquarters at the Psychiatric Institute in New York City.

In his earliest published work, one can discern three main themes or "factors," which might be the more appropriate term to use in analyzing the life of a biometrician. These emergents recur in a more evolved form throughout the remainder of his scholarly and scientific writing. Factor I falls in a cluster defined by experimental work on motivation, rivalry, "like-mindedness," and personality adjustment. Factor II is best described by published mathematical-statistical notes on transformation functions, probability, error terms, measures of the internal consistency of test-items, and pioneering use of factor analysis and covariance analysis in psychology.

Factor III, which is more widely dispersed (as is typical of factors numbered III), ranges from writings on choosing a life work through a psychometric evaluation of the Rorschach test to analyses of regional patterns in the hospitalization and care of patients with mental disease.

Robert S. Woodworth said, in his well-known autobiography, that there were actually only a few recurrent ideas in his own (seemingly remarkably varied) scientific activity over a lifetime, and suggested that this may be true of us all. What is remarkable in Dr. Zubin's work is not only the early appearance and persistence of certain consistent then these particular importances is through time experience cuation. This last going about of abnormal in the psychological forward and di as do most bas legacy, which fortunes called drawn from s pointed a way he later writings abnormal ex scrutinizing. Any with sensitivity is no system at The ability thought, is an ability is enric of the complex character. The any particular ; to come to grip selves, Dr. Zui specially gifted willingness to g key quality may By this term I has always giv ideas; by listen applying though end the origin action by this s the student. A by the immedi between young they really oug
systematic about how to encourage creativeness, but reassuring the young and challenging the old is surely a part of it—an attitude that is intuitively practiced by this grand teacher. Among his peers, these same qualities, combined with the intensity of his concentration on a task, in an abstract sense, have made it simple and natural for him to cross traditional disciplinary boundaries and even long cherished trade-union picket lines—only to be welcomed on the other side.

Cheerfully absent-minded at times, in the best professorial tradition, good friend and proud husband and father—along the way he has somehow found time to serve actively on the editorial board of half a dozen scientific journals (including our own, Comprehensive Psychiatry), to wear the uniform of a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Public Health Service while serving as Chief Medical Statistician in the Psychobiology Program of the War Shipping Administration during World War II, to co-edit the two dozen volumes that record the annual meetings of this society, and to write well over a hundred published articles, as well as several volumes in his own name and in collaboration with others. He has taught as visiting professor in California, Hawaii and Wisconsin, and has instructed perennially in the postdoctoral institutes held for clinical psychologists by the American Psychological Association. I think that we need not be greatly concerned about whether he gave too much of himself to his work, or to ours, or to the affairs of this society. His visible joy at being among us and joining the fray against our common problems is answer enough.

Wearing lightly the sixty-eight years of our century that he has brought along with him, Dr. Zubin speaks to us this year in honor of his lifelong friend Paul Hoch, late Commissioner of the Department of Mental Hygiene of the State of New York and, like Zubin himself, one of Columbia’s great teachers and a mainstay of our American Psychopathological Association. Like Moses of old, I think that Joseph Zubin has always known that he might glimpse the Promised Land, but not himself set foot on that yearned-for soil. He has been fulfilled by his effort to try to find a way to a more scientific understanding of the psychopathological experience. Uncertain himself about the hidden turnings in that tortured road, as are we all, he has maintained a durable conviction that a way can and must be found. We celebrate his untiring and resourceful effort toward discovery.

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EEG CORRELATES OF

by LEONIDE GOL
A. ARTHUR SUGERMAN

Vingt fois sur le métier ven

If this paper had been written negative or, at best, defensive, clearcut, unequivocal EEG correlates however, and especially during the I have emerged that tend to indicative characteristics of certain mental of non-psycho-tics, but that they also of brain malfunction in such patients.

This new appreciation of the in stems from three different sources: mathematical and statistical process features not previously detected brain wave records. Second neuropharmacology and psychopathological differences in EEG reaction and psychotic patients. Finally, the definite EEG characteristics, has derived from behavioral observations alone.

Since Dr. Feinberg deals with another paper in this volume, the to quantitative techniques applied to drugs. Earlier clinical findings quantitative techniques differ from allow judgment of their relative merits.

This paper will be restricted to schizophrenia, both because of time