

October 26, 1970

Dr. Michael Shepherd
Maudsley Hospital Institute
of Psychiatry
Denmark Hill, London

Dear Michael,

It was a pleasure having you visit our school, and after hearing your impromptu responses to our questions, I am more confident that the large attendance the day before was in anticipation of your participation. Also, my best wishes for the success of your new venture, Psychological Medicine - yes, I have subscribed, I trust in time for the "special offer".

I am enclosing a number of additional (older) reprints on the subject of EEG classification of psychoactive drugs, as well as a pre-print of a report of an analysis of a new compound. It has been my custom to review the various drug classification schemes in my second lecture in a graduate biological psychiatry seminar. Most published classifications schemes do not fare well, for their limitations exceed their utility. The neurophysiology scheme is explicit and testable; modern techniques provide excellent quantification; and replication is feasible, limited only by time and expense. I commend these techniques to your review.

Studies of the effects of drugs on sleep by T. Itil (St. Louis), Ian Oswald (Edinburgh) and A. Kales (Los Angeles); on evoked potentials by C. Shagass (Philadelphia); on contingent negative variation by Dongier (Liege) provide parallel and supporting evidence for consistent neurophysiological effects, but the data of these studies is more recent, less complete and, as yet, not well codified.

Again my thanks for your most interesting presentations.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.
Professor of Psychiatry

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P.S. Could you tell me who the psychiatrist is in Kenya - and his address if you have it. Do you know him personally?