

administration of ECT and clozapine. Although not officially contraindicated, due to the epileptogenic effect of clozapine, this combination is rarely used. Herein, we present a case that demonstrates this problematic issue.

An 18-year-old patient was admitted to our hospital due to a refractory psychosis. Under treatment with chlorpromazine, haloperidol, and levopromazine (for adequate time and dosage), there was no improvement. A course of ECT was started with limited results. After the 11th treatment, clozapine was added. During the 12th treatment (being under 50 mg/day clozapine), he developed for the first time a prolonged seizure (6 minutes long which was terminated with diazepam). There were no residual neurological sequelae. The patient achieved a reasonable remission with clozapine.

This report demonstrates some of the problems accompanying the administration of ECT and clozapine (even in low doses). In view of the expanding use of clozapine in psychiatric practice, and the important role ECT has in treating affective disorders and psychosis, it seems appropriate to be aware of this complication.

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Y. BLOCH  
M. POLLACK  
I. MOR

*Shalvata Mental Health Center  
Hod Hasharon  
P.O. Box 94, Israel*

#### Train of thought continued

SIR: Robert Goodman's letter (BJP, April 1996) about trainspotting made me think, as organiser of our local Senior Registrar scheme, about trainers. Much has been written about training trainees and training the trainers but who trains the trainees' trainers' trainers or the trainees' trainers' trainers' trainers. If anyone spots them I would offer to train them.

A. BURNS

*Withington Hospital  
Manchester M20 8LR*

### A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

#### Hospital and Dispensary Management

##### BETHLEM HOSPITAL

NEW RECREATION HALL – His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge opened the new Recreation Hall at Bethlem Hospital on June 9th in the presence of a numerous company. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Sir James Clarke Lawrence, Bart., who explained the advantages the patients would derive from being at last provided with what had been so long felt to be necessary for their welfare and a valuable adjunct to treatment. His Royal Highness before proceeding to declare the hall open, dwelt upon the past history of the

institution and the great benefit it had been to the community, and appealed to the audience to help in clearing off the debt which remained. After declaring the hall opened the wards were visited and refreshments served. The hall is lofty, handsome, and admirably suited for the purpose, measuring something like 60 feet by 40, and having a large and commodious stage with the necessary dressing rooms, etc., fitted up at the end. It is stated to have cost about £10,000.

#### Reference

*British Medical Journal*, June 1896, 1484.

*Researched by Henry Rollin, Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist, Horton Hospital, Epsom, Surrey*