President's Message

It is good to have the opportunity to greet all of you through the *Bulletin*. The Executive hopes that many members have profited from the Miami meeting on Sunday, May 9, 1976, in the Eden Roc Hotel, Miami Beach, and that even more will attend the Annual Meeting in October at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

We will be continuing the policy of holding a third psychiatric meeting for teaching purposes in different areas of the continent. Those who have attended the earlier regional meetings know how successful they have been. We welcome suggestions from members who may be interested in having such a meeting in their area, so that the Executive can look at the scheduling and the problems of organization.

An on-going item of concern is the issue of establishing an appropriate mechanism for indicating expertise in our field. The Executive has a subcommittee working at this problem and hopes that in time solutions to it will be found. It obviously involves standards of training and qualifications as well.

The issues of a patient's right to treatment and right to refuse treatment continue to be important and are being studied both by AAPL and by the American Psychiatric Association's Committee on Psychiatry and Law, as well as a Task Force of the APA Committee of Psychiatry and the Law headed by Jonas Rappeport. The American Psychiatric Association's Committee on Psychiatry and Law has undertaken the responsibility of attempting to write an American Psychiatric Association model commitment code. The importance of this effort is obvious. Members of AAPL will have an opportunity later to look at some of this work as it progresses and to offer constructive criticism.

Our Editors have had some problems in meeting printing deadlines for the Bulletin but all look forward to getting right on schedule as soon as possible.

Please recruit qualified people into our ranks. Dick Rada will be happy to hear from qualified people who wish to join AAPL.

See you at our meetings.

Best regards to all.