EDITOR'S COLUMN

Recently, an editor of *The Jefferson Journal of Psychiatry* remarked to me his regret that we don't publish more original material. By this, I think he meant that the articles we publish do not break new ground, but tend to be compilations of existing ideas and beliefs. I think that he is right about this, and for a while I was disillusioned. On reflection, however, I think there may be some value in our project.

In his novel, *A Quiet American,* Graham Greene's protagonist professes that he is a reporter, not a correspondent. *Monsieur* Fowler explains:

> The job of a reporter is to expose and record. I have never in my career discovered the inexplicable. . . . In any vision somewhere you could find the planchette. I had no visions or miracles in my repertoire of memory.

The job of being a resident may be somewhat similar. At our level of training, it is probably more important to synthesize than create. In the larger grasp, too, humility is often the victim of one's own vision.

Finally, I think that each of the articles in our journal is something *new*. Each offers the author's perspective on a known subject. These perspectives may not be revolutionary, but they add a unique understanding to our body of knowledge that otherwise would not exist. As an old professor of mine said, "There are no uninteresting patients, just disinterested doctors."

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