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Occasionally I like to see you receive something in these PABs which gives a broader viewpoint of auditing in general. Such was the material from Eileen Hibberson, HPA.

In this issue of the PAB you have an article by John Galusha, Jr., HGA, DScn, member of the Board of Directors of the HASI, and a long time staff auditor and instructor. Here we have Dr. Galusha’s viewpoint on Opening Procedure. Unlike articles on techniques appearing in the Whoosis Dianetic Weekly or the Squirrel Town Gazette this article is based on a great deal of auditing experience with SOP-8-C. John doesn’t sit around talking about auditing. He audits. One of the best in the United States, Dr. Galusha’s opinion on a procedure is very well worth having. Accordingly, I am glad to give it to you here.

PROFESSIONAL AUDITOR'S BULLETIN No. 26

OPENING PROCEDURE SOP-8-C

SOP-8-C can’t be overrated, particularly Opening Procedure. With it you can give the preclear more definite certainties, in less time, than with any other process at hand. And, if there is anything that will stall a case it is lack of certainty. The “professional preclear”, who has been given all kinds of processing, and always has done it with little or no certainty, will unsnarl with this. Two of these cases, both of which had been run into too much uncertainty, began to move after a few minutes of Opening Procedure. Both breathed sighs of relief at being asked to do something that they could do, without any uncertainty at all, and what is more, gave them new certainties.

Among other things it dissolves automaticity. Having a preclear reach, grasp, let go, and withdraw from a door knob, while making the specific decisions to do each action, will blow the circuit which says “Turn me” every time he grasps a door knob. The door knob then becomes one piece of MEST which is no longer giving the preclear directions. A few minutes’ drill with this on the most ordinary objects will produce a tone rise, and the preclear’s mock-ups will be found to be much less automatic than before. Simple—just a few minutes of grasping and letting go with a MEST hand.

By having the preclear, on his specific present time decision, reach, hold, let go, and withdraw with his MEST percepts, much of the automaticity of perception and no-perception can be eliminated. Have him decide to reach with MEST eyes (look at) an object, then to hold it (persist in looking), then let go, then withdraw. Have him make each decision and follow through on each one. It not only clips out much of the automaticity, it also permits him to make postulates which he can make come true. This drill can be done with each body percept, with certainty.

Opening Procedure can be used to help resolve a chronic somatic. The preclear walks around the room, relocating the condition in time and space. He gets the certainty that he can do that much with the condition. Then, as the drill is continued
he can find that each occurrence of the somatic is actually different, which helps dissolve the idea "This is the somatic I always have".

By using Opening Procedure the auditor can discover whether or not the preclear is willing to duplicate. If, when the preclear is going to places, on his own choice, and never goes to the same place twice, no matter how limited the space of the auditing room, he doesn’t care much about duplicating. You can do something about it right there. Have him go back to the same places several times, until he discovers that so doing is not harming him in the least. This not only improves his ability to duplicate, his memory suddenly gets better, and boredom is dealt a mortal blow.

A preclear can use his hands to discover a place where an object is not, if he fails to find it any other way. If every place he looks has a horse shoe in it, let him discover with his hands, that a wad of paper does not contain a horse shoe. "What a relief."

Using Opening Procedure to this extent calls a lot of attention to the body. It also permits the preclear to do what a lot of them do anyway if it isn’t resolved—spend a lot of time being too aware of the body instead of putting their full attention on what they are doing. The certainties a preclear gets will eliminate a lot of this tendency. That is the thing that is best accomplished by the full use of Opening Procedure—the preclear becomes able to keep his attention on what he is doing when he is doing it.

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