

hospital and community attitudes to their care by his strong leadership and by his advocacy of the multidisciplinary approach. As Chairman of the Angus Division of Psychiatry for ten years he helped to liberalise the hospital regime. He was an active member of the Section for the Psychiatry of Old Age of the College and he enhanced his reputation as an administrator by his Chairmanship of the Tayside Health Board Specialist Sub-Committee in Psychiatry from 1984 to 1989.

In 1988 his special qualities were recognised by his being appointed as a Commissioner for the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland. The Commission greatly valued his sound clinical judgement, knowledge and expertise.

Arthur was a delightful, life-loving, person with deep commitment to his wife, Dorothy, and their three sons Euan, Graeme and Andrew.

KMGK

**RICHARD ALBERT PARRY, Consultant Psychiatrist, Royal Edinburgh Hospital and Honorary Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Edinburgh University**

Dick Parry, who died on 9 November 1990 at the age of 65, studied medicine in Edinburgh, graduating MB ChB in 1952. He took the DPM in 1961 and MRCP(Ed) in 1965. He was awarded the MRCPsych in 1971 and was elected FRCP(Ed) in 1977 and FRCPsych in 1978.

An early intention to train in psychiatry was abandoned after he witnessed a violent incident during his medical student attachment. Entering general practice instead, Dick joined a Balint group at the Tavistock Clinic. However, after six years as a general practitioner he transferred to psychiatry, training in Essex before moving to the London Hospital. In 1963 he moved into academic psychiatry becoming lecturer, then senior lecturer, in Edinburgh. In 1970 he became an NHS consultant and, at the same time, entered private practice.

Dick made full use of his experience in general practice and at the Tavistock Clinic. Soon after arriving in Edinburgh he set up a Balint group. In 1965 he took responsibility for the annual post-graduate psychiatry course for general practitioners which he continued to organise for 25 years. The hallmark of this five day course was the daily small group discussion of cases brought by the participants. He favoured a psychotherapeutic approach to patients' problems, teaching a Rogerian style of counselling. He gave a high priority to supporting members of the clinical team, recognising when a quiet word or an opportunity to 'sound off' after work was required.

His lectures on interview skills and counselling were lively and entertaining. His long-running extra-

mural course on counselling formed the basis of his book *A Guide to Counselling and Basic Psychotherapy* (1975) which was renamed *Basic Psychotherapy* for the second edition (1983). He was a painstaking author who would rewrite many times. Nevertheless this technique did not remove the humour from his book. The tragic death of his brother led to a moving article published anonymously in the *British Medical Journal* (December 1984) under the simple title 'Death of a brother'.

He was very proud of the private practice that he built up, first in Charlotte Square and then in Moray Place, particularly enjoying medico-legal work. He liked to shock, surprise and amuse others. At the age of 50 he secretly took up flying, only telling his family when he had obtained his pilot's licence. In an article on owning a Rolls Royce he wrote that it gave him great pleasure to see the envy written on his colleagues' faces. Above all he enjoyed practical jokes which led some junior doctors to retaliate in kind, which he took in good part.

He is survived by his wife, Doreen, daughters Elizabeth and Christine who are general practitioners, and son Michael who is a consultant psychiatrist in Hexham.

IP

**GEORG K. STÜRUP, formerly Director, Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Herstedvester, Denmark**

Georg Stürup, who died in September 1988, was born in Odense, Denmark, in March 1905. He studied medicine at the University of Copenhagen and graduated MD in 1929, subsequently specialising in neurology and psychiatry in that order.

From 1942–72 he served as superintendent of Herstedvester, an institution for the treatment of criminal psychopaths, and his work there gained for him and the institution a world-wide reputation.

Stürup's philosophy lay in his confidence that it was possible to change a person's life-style by means of medical, psychological and pedagogical influences, particularly directed towards the prevention of recidivism. To this end Stürup involved all categories of staff in the therapeutic effort. Originally, his methods were used in the treatment of highly dangerous psychopathic criminals as, for example, those convicted of physical assault, arson, and sexual offences. Later, however these psychopaths guilty of crimes committed for gain were included in the régime.

It was Stürup's firm conviction that detention for an indeterminate period was a prerequisite for successful treatment, a concept that was to run counter to the developing trend in Danish criminology which favoured determinate sentences. As a result of this changing attitude in sentencing combined with a fundamental scepticism towards the effectiveness of the

procedures carried out at Herstedvester, the Danish penal code, 1973 and 1975, was revised which meant, in effect, that Herstedvester as an institution for preventive detention ceased to be.

So it was that Georg Stürup's personal tragic experience served to exemplify the biblical adage that a prophet is not without honour save in his own country.

In addition to his demanding work at Herstedvester, Stürup found time to undertake a number of commissions of national and inter-

national importance concerned with forensic psychiatry. He was the author of many important papers and was appointed visiting Professor at universities in America and Japan. He was a frequent visitor to Britain and took part in 1967 in the Ciba Symposium in London on the Mentally Abnormal Offender at which he was awarded the Ciba Foundation Gold Medal. This was only one of several distinctions bestowed upon him, including the Corresponding Fellowship of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

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## Miscellany

### Centre for Research in Brain and Behaviour

The Oxford Research Centre in Brain and Behaviour, a new inter-disciplinary centre for research into the functions of the brain, has recently been established with a grant from the Medical Research Council of £2.1 million over seven years. The Centre will concentrate on research into the cerebral cortex. Its researchers will combine techniques from the biological, behavioural and clinical sciences as well as from computing, theoretical physics, mathematics and engineering. The Centre's Director is Professor Alan Cowey, FRS, Department of Experimental Psychology, a Fellow of Lincoln College. The Associate Directors will be Professor Colin Blakemore, Waynflete Professor of Physiology, and Dr Edmund Rolls, Lecturer in Experimental Psychology.

### New publications from Cruse

A new short book entitled *The Early Days of Grieving* is available from Cruse-Bereavement Care, 126 Sheen

Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1UR, price £2.50 plus 35p postage and packing. Published by Baconsfield Publishers, it is also available at selected bookshops. A leaflet entitled *Coping with a Major Personal Crisis* is available from the same address on receipt of a stamped, addressed, envelope (22 cm x 11 cm). Multiple orders 75p for 10 copies, plus postage and packing.

### McHarg Prize

The MchHarg Prize is awarded each year by the Scottish Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Candidates are invited to submit essays or scientific papers based on their own work. The winner of the prize in 1990 was Dr Robert Kehoe, Senior Registrar, Royal Edinburgh Hospital. His paper was on 'Lithium Monitoring in Clinical Practice' and described the service in Edinburgh. He will be presenting a paper on his findings at a quarterly meeting of the Scottish Division.

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## Forthcoming events

A symposium entitled **Benzodiazepines into the 1990s** will be held at the Royal Society of Medicine, London on 10 October 1991. Conference fee: £65 (to include lunch and refreshments). Further in-

formation and registration forms: Hamlin & Hammersley, Southbank, Grants Lane, Wedmore, Somerset BS28 4EA (telephone 0934 713040; fax 0934 713168).