

Obituary

FRANCIS J. BRACELAND, Scholar in Residence, St Joseph's College, 1687 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut, USA.

Francis J. Braceland, MD, who died on 27 March 1985, was the 83rd President of the American Psychiatric Association and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists since 1969. There were other national and international societies, scientific, medical and psychiatric, whose honorary memberships attest his contributions as a capable clinician, an eminent administrator, a respected teacher, a compassionate advocate of the mentally ill, a gifted humorous speaker, and above all else, a gentle and gracious man.

Francis Braceland's life and professional career were a 20th century version of the lives and activities of his psychiatric forebears—the founders of the American Psychiatric Association in 1844. He, like they, received his initial psychiatric experience in one of the oldest private psychiatric hospitals in the United States—the Pennsylvania Hospital.

This experience was polished by the opportunity afforded him to participate in a European *wanderjahr* when he received one of the first travelling psychiatric fellowships awarded by the Rockefeller Foundation. Over the next 30 years after his return, he occupied nine professional chairs. On each of these occasions, his colleagues were provided with Braceland's unique contributions. His departure from Philadelphia's established academe was motivated by his response to the expressed need of other newly established psychiatric departments in the mid-West for someone with his expertise.

Frank Braceland's naval career spanned the years from World War I to active duty medical assignments throughout the years of World War II. In recognition of his meritorious service to the Navy, he was not only officially decorated but also rose from the rank of Lt. Commander to the flag status of Rear Admiral. Braceland's years of duty as Chief of the Neuropsychiatric Branch of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery elevated its status throughout the Department of the Navy. Among other of his achievements was the incorporation of psychological and psychiatric screening as an integral component of the recruit selection and assignment process. Nevertheless, he saw as the climax of his military career his assignment to the Nuremberg war trials as a psychiatric consultant to Supreme Court Justice Jackson's staff as an examiner of the Nazi war criminals.

There were two activities which he prized as stellar achievements. Both attested to his felicitous synthesis of teaching with administration. Almost single handedly during his thirteen years of service as Secretary and President of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, he transformed what had been an arbitrary and capricious ordeal into a respected, eminently fair

academic exercise for the certification of hundreds of psychiatrists and neurologists. A companion achievement is seen in the creative scholarly accomplishments of the *American Journal of Psychiatry* during his thirteen years of editorship.

HPR

GORDON STEWART PRINCE, Consultant Psychiatrist, Charter Clinic, London SW3.

Gordon Stewart Prince, Consultant in Child and Family Psychiatry at King's College Hospital for 19 years before he retired in 1981, died on 20 August 1985 at the age of 66.

Born in Scotland and educated there and in Ireland, he qualified at Trinity College, Dublin. He joined the RAMC in 1943 during which time he met Wendy, a QA whom he married in India. In 41BGH he was graded specialist in psychiatry and reached the rank of Major. After demobilisation in 1948 he studied at the Maudsley and Bethlem Royal Hospitals where in a climate of intellectual rigour he was prominent in a coterie of registrars who sought rapprochement between general psychiatry and analytical psychotherapy. He completed his training as a psychiatrist and Jungian psychotherapist and was appointed Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Woodberry Down ILEA Clinic, where he stayed for some ten years before his appointment to King's.

Gordon was a vivacious and effective teacher, influential on the Applied Social Studies course at LSE as well as with medical postgraduates and undergraduates. He served as Chairman of the Society for Analytical Psychology and as President of the Section of Psychiatry of the Royal Society of Medicine. He was widely known for his skill and sensitivity in understanding troubled teenagers, and it was for this group that he staffed a service at King's.

Gordon knew the darker side of life through a miserable and recurrent illness with which he struggled courageously and successfully. A generous-spirited man, his liveliness and wit cast their memorable spell over many occasions, ranging from wet Saturday afternoons on the Bethlem cricket field to clinical conferences and lecture rooms all over the place.

He is survived by his wife, Wendy, two children, and four grandchildren.

RHC, RFH & LW

JOHN MCGHIE, formerly Director of Army Psychiatry and Consultant Psychiatrist to the Army.

Members of the College will be very sad to learn that Major General John McGhie died suddenly and peacefully at his home in Lenham, Kent on 12 September 1985.

John McGhie was born in 1914 at Larkall, Lanark and educated at the Hamilton Academy. He graduated in Medicine at Glasgow University in 1936. He was commissioned in the RAMC in 1937. He was posted to India in 1938 and spent some time working as a MO in BMH Rawalpindi. Subsequently he served in the Burma Campaign from 1942 to 1945, commanding 47 Field