

psychiatrists. It should be equally entertaining for the younger members of the profession. I would say to them: "Ignore the somewhat stilted and pompous start and watch with increasing interest the unfolding story of one of the leaders of the profession, told modestly but clearly and spanning the great teaching centres and the great names of psychiatry of this century."

The relationship between psychiatry and neurology has always been a vexed one and the debate still goes on about how much neurology, compared, say with medicine, paediatrics, philosophy and management should be expected, particularly in the context of the membership examination. In the '40s, when Sir Martin started his training, there were no such doubts and he started at Maida Vale Hospital, working with Sir Russell Brain, William McKenney and Sir Francis Walshe.

With a firm base of such neurological training, he moved across to the Maudsley Hospital where he worked with another collection of great names including Eliot Slater, Aubrey Lewis, Guttmann, Clifford Scott and Willi Mayer-Gross. With two of these he was to become the junior author of a most influential textbook on British psychiatry. He continued his research at Crichton Royal Hospital and Graylingwell Research Unit before taking the chair of psychiatry at Durham University, moving shortly to Newcastle with the separation of the two Universities.

He was not only a formidable figure in the field of psychiatric research, but he played a most important part in the development of the College. As he points out, he was not the choice of the then Establishment as candidate for the presidency but was hastily nominated by 12 colleagues as the champion of the members at large; and he was duly elected.

He notes the influence of the College in promoting improvement in psychiatric services and pays tribute to the support received from Sir Keith Joseph, then Secretary of State. This was a time of great decision making, including the move to 17 Belgrave Square which has since realised its potential with extensions to house the many educational and research developments of the burgeoning field of psychiatry.

But why a video? It is not enough to say that this is a modern means of communication. A visual component must be an essential part of the communication process. Much of what Sir Martin says could be developed more extensively by the written word, with opportunities to pursue arguments more closely. But here is the man, chatting to us in our living room, coming over more as a person than a magister. It is indeed something to warm to and to treasure.

Yet the atmosphere is sometimes stilted, the questioning intrusive and the profound 'noddies',

those breaks in continuity intended to relieve the monotony of a single face, are sometimes inserted at inappropriate moments. But these are minor blemishes on a canvas depicting the story of Sir Martin Roth, an individual who has made an enormous impact on British psychiatric research, teaching and clinical development as well as becoming the first moulder of the neophyte College as it fought to achieve status and recognition. As he says of his appointment as first professor of psychiatry at Cambridge University, he had to struggle to avoid being the last. Without his efforts as first president, the same might have applied.

PROFESSOR PHILIP SEAGER

Journeys

'Journeys' is a video concerning two real life people who have experienced life in institutions because of their learning disability and handicaps. The video is presented in two parts. Part 1 depicts the worst aspects of life in institutions—enforced routines to maximise organisational efficiency, the lack of privacy, the depersonalisation and the total dependence on others for basic opportunities to enjoy life to the full. This drab description suddenly changes to the bustling outside world and its numerous opportunities to integrate into ordinary community life. It is here that one meets Pauline who describes her life both in the institution and in the outside world. Pauline is now in her middle years but is able to describe her current life style, which contrasts so markedly with her former experiences.

Part 2 is about a young man called Martin, who has severe physical and intellectual disabilities. The video bravely attempts to show what it feels like having things done to oneself and how easy it is for carers to ignore the very person they are supposedly supporting and caring for. Martin's mother gives an articulate and impassioned plea for services to be more responsive. She gives an account of the various obstacles and problems she has had to encounter and overcome during Martin's childhood and adolescence. One of her major pleas is that society changes its attitude to those who are disabled.

Generally the video is well made though it is a little difficult to follow Pauline's narrative early on. The video is essentially about two people's journey from the institution towards a more integrated life in the community. Perhaps more signposting of the journeys might have given a little more structure to the personal stories. Its major strength though, is its ability to raise the many points which arise from society's attitude to the disabled, de-institutionalisation and the move towards community care. It is thus a rich source of material for use in training staff and questioning their attitudes towards community care generally.

JOHN MORGAN

Tape details

| Rating | Audience |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| ** Highly recommended | P Psychiatrists |
| ** Recommended | M Multi-disciplinary |
| * Worth looking at | UG Undergraduate |
| 0 No rating | PG Postgraduate |

***Won't They Just Grow Out Of It?
Putting Child Psychotherapy On the
Map***

Production: In CA/World's Edge Films/
Dept. of Health
Distributor: Child Psychotherapy Trust,
Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize
Lane, London NW3 5BA
Details: Video; 15 mins; 1991; sale £20
Rating/Audience: *M

***Professor Sir Martin Roth: an interview
with Dr N. D. Minton***

Production: University of London
Distributor: Dr N. D. Minton, Consultant
Psychiatrist, Abraham
Cowley Unit, Holloway Hill,

Lyne, Chertsey, Surrey
KT1 0AE

Details: Video; 60 mins; 1991; sale £15.
Rating/Audience: ** P PG

Journeys

Production: Needs Must Productions
Distributor: Albany Video Distribution,
Battersea Studios
Television Centre,
London SW8 3TW
Details: Video; 40 mins; 1990; sale £42;
hire £13.
Rating/Audience: ** audience M UG

Assistance Animals

Production/
Distribution: Unit for Veterinary Continuing
Education, The Royal
Veterinary College, Royal
College Street, London
NW1 OTU
Details: Video; 34 mins; 1992; sale £26,
(£12 to NHS staff).
Rating/Audience: * M

Psychiatric Bulletin (1992), 16, 462

Miscellany**New publications**

The Matthew Trust has recently published a report *The Media and the Mentally Disordered* on an investigation into how 17 national newspapers responded to their enquiries related to the mentally disordered. Intrusion by certain elements of the national press into confidential aspects of mentally disordered peoples' lives, in secure environments, forms a major part of the report; the investigations which form its basis were carried out from September to December 1991. The full Matthew Trust Media Report can be obtained from the Matthew Trust, P.O. Box 604, London SW6 3AG, price £25.00, plus £1.00 postage and packing. Confirmation of orders by fax or letter.

European Summary on Drug Abuse: Report on a WHO Consultation, is available from WHO, Scherfigzvej 8, DK-2100 Copenhagen O, Denmark (telephone 45 39 17 17 17; fax 45 31 18 11 20).

A to Z of Welfare Benefits for People with a Mental Health Problem: a practical guide for service users, is available, price £2.50, from MIND Mail Order Service, 4th Floor, 24-32 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD.

The International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA) has published an *International Psychogeriatrics monograph* entitled *Delirium: Advances in Research and Clinical Practice*. It costs US\$24.00 (plus postage and handling). Those interested in membership of the IPA, as well as non-members who wish to purchase the monograph separately, should contact the office of the Secretariat, 3127 Greenleaf Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091, USA (telephone 708 866 7227; fax 708 866 6984).

The King's Fund Institute have published a research report *Ethics and Health Care* which is based on a survey of 25 research ethics committees and three sub-committees. The report costs £7.95 and is available from Bournemouth English Book Centre, 9 Albion Close, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset BH12 3LL. Telephone or fax orders may be made on the following 24 hour numbers: telephone 0202 715555; fax 0202 715556.

A Concise Guide to the Children Act 1989, edited by Richard Williams, pp 26, price £5.00, Gaskell (Royal College of Psychiatrists) is available from the Publications Department at the College.