'Years of Grace'

When a future recorder of the history of the R.M.P.A. and the College comes to deal with the changes and developments of recent years he will assuredly make mention of the indispensable contribution of our office staff; and, not least, of one who this month sets up a record (the term is used advisedly) of twenty years' faithful service.

Miss G. Tingle 'joined our staff' on 1 September 1953—more correctly she joined with our newly-appointed Secretary and thus became one half of our staff; and two women and no more continued to bear the burdens and responsibilities of what was already a complex organization for some eight or nine years.

Nowadays Miss Tingle finds herself one of a much larger group with vastly increased duties and activities—a group, moreover, which in the nature of things has never attained stability, so that the strain of coping with changes among colleagues is added to that of work that often has to be rushed and hurried.

She remains her essentially good-hearted self—her loyalty unquestioned, her courtesy and helpfulness unfailing, her sense of humour readily brought to the surface.

We who know her best are glad to be able to pay her this tribute and are confident that all who read this will want to share in our thanks and good wishes to her.

ALEXANDER WALK
NATALIE COBBING

Lionel Penrose Memorial Meeting

It has been arranged to hold a Meeting in memory of the late Professor Lionel Penrose at the Royal Society of Medicine on Wednesday, 13 October 1973. This will be an all-day meeting beginning at 10 a.m., and the following papers will be read by distinguished speakers of international repute, all of whom have at one time or another been co-workers with Professor Penrose:

Morning:

'The Development of Penrose's Ideas in Genetics and Psychiatry.' Professor H. Harris, F.R.S., University of London.

'Penrose's Work and Views in Relation to Anthropology.' Professor N. A. Barnicot, University of London.

'The Concept and Prevalence of Mental Defect.' Professor H. O. Akesson, University of Gotenburg.

'The Implications of Prevention and Treatment of Inherited Disease or the Genetic Future of Mankind.' Professor G. R. Fraser, University of Leyden.

Afternoon:

'Some Experiments of Nature with Sex.' Professor P. E. Polani, F.R.S. Guy's Hospital.

'Genetic and Cellular Heterogeneity in Cystic Fibrosis.' Professor A. G. Bearn, Cornell University, New York.

'Case and Kindred in Mental Deficiency.' Dr. B. W. Richards.

'The Biological Signification of Mongolism.' Professor J. M. Berg, University of Toronto, and Professor G. F. Smith, Loyola University, Chicago.

SPECIALIST SECTIONS AND GROUPS

Child Psychiatry Section

Residential Week-end Conference

The Annual Residential Week-end Conference will be held at Norwich House, University of Sussex, Falmer, from 21 to 23 September 1973. Papers will be read on 'Communication between Child Psychiatrist and Paediatrician', 'Aversion Therapy', 'Drugs in Behaviour Disorders', 'Disturbed Children in Care', 'Multidisciplinary or Interdisciplinary?' and 'Concepts in the Family Model of Adolescent Psychiatry'. There will be visits to Colwood Hospital (Adolescent Unit) and Larchwood Hospital (Children's Unit), as well as to the Regency Exhibition in the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. The Conference Dinner will also be in the Royal Pavilion.

Memorandum on 'The Role of Psychologists in the Health Services'

The Executive Committee of the Section has considered this Memorandum (see p. 1), and feels that it may be largely inappropriate as far as child psychiatry is concerned. A Working Group has therefore prepared a draft document for consideration by the Section with a view to transmission to the Sub-Committee.

The draft will be considered during the Study Week-end at a meeting to be held at 9.15 p.m. on Saturday, 22 September 1973, and copies have been sent to all members of the Section. Any member who has not received a copy by 1 September and who wishes to comment in advance of the meeting or

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wishes to see the draft beforehand should address a request to the College office.

Anne Bolton,
Secretary

Psychotherapy Section

The following meetings have been arranged:

Wednesday, 10 October: Dr. R. S. Kalucy, 'Family therapy with anorexia nervosa'.

Friday, 16 November: (In conjunction with College Quarterly Meeting.) Dr. I. S. Kreeger: Chairman's Address.

These meetings will be held at the West Hall, Royal Society of Medicine, and will begin at 8.15 p.m.

Forensic Psychiatry Section

As a result of a second ballot, Dr. R. Bluglass has been elected Secretary of the Section.

Social and Community Psychiatry Group

An open meeting was held at the Institute of Psychiatry on 18 June 1973 to discuss the formation of the Social and Community Psychiatry Group. Some 25 members of the College attended and about 120 wrote in support. There was a full discussion of the aims, functions and constitution of the group and of the concept of social psychiatry. Many people thought that the title of the group should be either 'Social Psychiatry' or 'Community Psychiatry', but not both. Other suggestions were 'Social and Preventive Psychiatry' and 'Epidemiology and Health Services Group'. There appeared to be three areas in which the group could function: (*a*) promotion of the best possible organization and disposition of community psychiatric services, both within the National Health Service and outside it; (*b*) development of a liaison with allied groups, such as general practitioners and social workers, and also with similarly relevant groups not directly involved with medical or social work functions, such as teachers; (*c*) fostering of educational and scientific interests, such as post-graduate training in social psychiatry, studies of social causation or precipitation of mental disorders and social aspects of their treatment, and epidemiological, evaluative and operational inquiries.

Collaboration with the Specialist Sections and with the Group for the Psychiatry of Old Age would be essential in order to deal most effectively with the areas in which there are overlapping interests.

All within the College who are interested in the Group and who have not yet done so are invited to write to the Convenor. The inaugural meeting at which a Chairman, Secretary and Committee will be elected, has been arranged to take place on Monday, 1 October 1973, at 5.30 p.m. in the Wolfson Theatre, Institute of Psychiatry, London. Anyone wishing to take part in the election should attend.

J. K. Wing
Convenor

Group for the Psychiatry of Old Age

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday, 10 October, at 2.30 p.m. at Chandos House. All within the College who are interested are welcome to attend. Those who are not already members of the Group may obtain the Agenda and the Minutes of the last meeting by application to the College office.

THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED IN SWEDEN AND DENMARK

By Kenneth Day*
Consultant Psychiatrist, Northgate Hospital, Morpeth, Northumberland

Both Sweden and Denmark have systems of community care based upon the principle that the mentally handicapped should be able to live as independently as possible within the community and enjoy the experiences and opportunities available to the population as a whole. To what extent can this ideal be said to have been achieved?

In fact, the vast majority of individuals with uncomplicated mental handicap live in the community supported by a comprehensive range of sheltered facilities. Small residential homes (20–30 places) form the main living units, but a sheltered flat system, utilizing ordinary council flats for 4 to 5 individuals, is becoming increasingly popular. Highly industrialized workshops paying a realistic wage are provided for the more able, while the less able attend day centres for social training, education and simpler

* A Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship enabled the author to spend six weeks visiting facilities for the mentally handicapped in Sweden and Denmark.

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