Andrew Croyden Smith, Consultant Psychiatrist to Greenwich District Hospital and Bexley Hospital, Honorary Consultant and Senior Lecturer, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London

Andrew Smith died at his home in Beckenham on 26 December 1986.

He was born on 1 January 1935 in south London, where his father was a general practitioner. He was educated at Dulwich College and gave early notice of his intellectual calibre by gaining an Open Scholarship to Clare College, Cambridge at the age of 15 years. He studied at Cambridge from 1952-1955 and completed his medical studies at University College Hospital, graduating MA MB BChir (Cantab) in 1958.

Following house jobs at UCH and the Metropolitan Hospital he served with BAOR for two years, where he met his wife, Inge. After demobilisation he worked for a year in neurosurgery at the Brook Hospital where his interest in psychiatry developed. He moved in 1962 to Bexley Hospital, for which he had a great affection and, with the exception of a year which he spent at the Maudsley Hospital, continued his association with Bexley for the remainder of his life. In 1964 he obtained both the Diploma in Psychological Medicine and Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (Edin). He became a senior registrar on the Guy's/Bexley rotation in 1968 and was appointed Consultant Psychiatrist to Bexley Hospital and the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital in 1969. In 1976 he was appointed Consultant at Greenwich District Hospital and Honorary Consultant and Senior Lecturer to Guy's Hospital Medical School. He became a Founder Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1971, and in 1982 was elected to the Fellowship and also to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh).

Andrew had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the psychiatric literature and gained the Gaskell Gold Medal in 1966. He was a fine clinician whose opinions were much respected by his colleagues. He enjoyed his work and although no lover of committees, he played his full part in administration and was at various times, Chairman of the Greenwich Division of Psychiatry, Chairman of the Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital Medical Committee and for a time member of Greenwich Health Authority.

His principal interests, however, were in teaching, writing and the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He was for a number of years Clinical Tutor at Bexley Hospital. Well-liked by junior medical staff, his lectures and seminars were extremely popular. Many of his ex-juniors maintained contact with him over the years and he often received invitations to lecture overseas. He was a Member of the Council of the Royal College of Psychiatrists for many years, a long-serving secretary of the Reading List Committee, Assistant Editor of the British Journal of Psychiatry, and examined for the Membership in Psychiatry.

His writing style was succinct and lucid. In his early years he wrote pieces on medical and paramedical topics for the popular medical press. From the late 1970s his writing became much more serious and he contributed a number of major works to the literature. He revised David Stafford-Clark's popular textbook Psychiatry for Students, contributed papers on hysteria, on violence and was a joint author of a compilation of papers for postgraduate students of psychiatry. His major work was a book Schizophrenia and Madness published in 1982. It was a work of considerable scholarship, reviewing many aspects of a complex subject.

Andrew was a modest, private, self-effacing man, who set by example the very highest standards. He was a loyal colleague and those who knew him well appreciated his capacity for warm friendship. He read avidly, his tastes were catholic and he loved the theatre, music and the arts. He showed great courage in facing his final illness, which was both protracted and painful, without complaint or despair and continued to live as full a life as possible. His family life was conspicuously happy and Inge nursed him lovingly at home throughout the last months of his illness. They were a devoted family and it was a source of considerable comfort to him to see their children successfully pursuing chosen careers.

He is survived by his wife, sons David and Andrew, and daughter Anna.

HKR
GKS

May Memorial Lectureship

An annual memorial lectureship in Professor Philip R. A. May's honour is being established at the University of California, Los Angeles, the lecture to be given on schizophrenia or related subjects. Those wishing to contribute to its endowment may do so with donations payable to the UCLA Foundation's Mental Health Fund, May Memorial Lectureship. These should be sent to the Professor of Psychiatry, Dr L. V. West, Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, UCLA, 760 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, California 90024, USA. (See Bulletin, April 1987, II, 146).