

of the injured frontal lobes together with their sub-cortical connections.

The results of ten years work were published in their classic monograph *Prefrontal Leucotomy and Related Operations: Anatomical Aspects of Success and Failure* (1954). The outstanding success of the anatomical studies is beyond dispute: on the clinical side, only the briefest comment is possible, but one fact does stand out: in the late '40s and the '50s leucotomised brains came to the laboratories all too often; a few years later to see one was a rarity.

Halfway through the monograph Meyer wrote in his reminiscences "that the year 1949 was a milestone in my life". In January he had been appointed Professor of Neuropathology to the Institute of Psychiatry and the Bethlem Royal and the Maudsley Hospitals. An unassuming man, he was clearly delighted by this belated recognition. The second unalloyed joy was his marriage on 18 October to Nina Cohen, who was about to qualify in medicine with already a bent towards psychiatry. The event itself must have seemed to herald a flawless future, but unknown to either of them, lying latent in Alfred Meyer was the imminent onset of Meniere's Disease – an illness that was to last for 40 years – and Nina was to see him through it to the end.

In the meantime the neuropathological laboratories were changing course in order to process the work from the new Neurosurgical Unit, which had recently been built in the grounds of the Maudsley. The Director was to be Murray Falconer and, apart from the routine needs of an active unit, the main theme of research was to be Temporal Lobe Epilepsy (TLE).

A formidable team of experts was assembled led by Sir Charles Symonds, the most senior of neurologists, together with Sir Denis Hill, Professor of Psychiatry who would bring with him his expertise in electroencephalography. Falconer would carry out the neurosurgery while Meyer, who was already familiar with the vast German and English literature on the pathological anatomy of epilepsy, would take overall charge of neuropathology in which he was assisted by Dr (later Professor) John Cavanagh.

The first move of the team was to work out the precise way in which the lobectomy should be done and Meyer and Falconer discussed the details whereby it would be possible for the diagnostic neuropathologist to examine the coronally cut sections – the ideal approach leading to the finding of the lesion – Ammon's horn sclerosis.

Meyer and his colleagues found this abnormality in nearly 50% of specimens (which now amounted to several hundred). Its particular importance is that in many patients the fits stop or occur appreciably less. In other patients mini-malformations, or bizarre small tumours, may be found but the most encouraging results come from the removal of the sclerotic

Ammon's horn. This patterned loss of nerve cells and glial fibrosis had been explained as the result, in a sensitive area, of severe hypoxic episodes or even status epilepticus occurring at birth or in early life. Today, however, this seems too simple an explanation but the phenomenon has served to shift the origin of epileptic activity into the more sophisticated field of experimental workers like Professor John Cavanagh, or Professor Brian Meldrum, or Dr James Brierley with their neurophysiological and neuro-chemical expertise.

The conjoined work on temporal lobe epilepsy had been a remarkable achievement. By now Professor Meyer had consolidated an international, as well as national, reputation and he began to be lionised at the very time that his deafness was an increasing embarrassment. He had managed to keep going as his hearing died away but it was while at dinner following his Henderson Lecture, that, with a guest on each side, he had found himself completely out of touch which ever way he turned. With his usual determination he drove himself on until, in 1956, he felt it was his duty to resign his chair.

In spite of his total deafness, but with the unswerving help of his wife, he wrote some 40 papers on a remarkable range of subjects. Together with Raymond Hierons he wrote several papers on the work and views of Thomas Willis. Equally notable were his journal studies with Eliot Slater on the pathology of musicians, the first of which was devoted to Robert Schumann. But his most remarkable work of individual scholarship, *Historical Aspects of Cerebral Anathomy*, was published in 1971 and received universal critical acclaim.

Alfred Meyer will forever be remembered as an outstanding scholar, a fine musician and the kindest and most thoughtful of friends.

He was elected a Fellow of the College in 1974 and appointed an Honorary Fellow in 1987.

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JOHN DECLAN MORRISSEY, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Graylingwell Hospital, Sussex

Dr John Morrissey, who had retired as consultant psychiatrist at Graylingwell Hospital, died suddenly at the age of 73. He studied medicine at the NUI, Dublin; then took his DPM, in 1949 and MD in 1952. He was a Foundation Fellow of the College. After serving as a Flight Lieutenant in the RAF during the war, he was appointed to the psychiatric staff at Graylingwell and as consultant psychiatrist in 1952.

John Morrissey was a talented physician and an outstanding psychiatrist who contributed enormously to Graylingwell's post-war reputation as an innovative mental hospital. He, with Drs Carse

and Towers, was a pioneer in introducing informal admissions, and in the 1950s in developing community care for the mentally ill; notably the Worthing Experiment and its subsequent extension to the Chichester District. Furthermore, John actively promoted clinical research to a degree which would not have been possible without the enthusiasm he imparted to all the psychiatric and nursing staff. In particular, his vigorous collaboration was crucial in understanding research into evaluating the Chichester community care programme. His publications on this service in the *Proceedings of the RSM* and at the invitation of the Millbank Memorial Fund in their *Quarterly Journal* were signposts to a new era.

John's colleagues and, indeed, all the staff at Graylingwell, admired his professional skills; valued his friendship and his advice; knew his kindness and his capacity to find the best in everyone—even his criticisms were mingled with his gentle brand of humour and his Irish felicity. It was these attributes which enabled him to engender an exceptionally high morale in the hospital and promote the close links with the staffs of the social services departments and St Richard's Hospital; in fact he was invited to serve as Chairman of Medical Staff of Chichester District Hospital.

John was an all-rounder: an exemplary post-graduate teacher whose talks were so richly illustrated by his clinical experience: and he enjoyed all his commitments to the full, his golf (and he was Captain of the Goodwood Golf Club); or with his bridge group; or just talking with his friends, at which he excelled and consequently was constantly in demand as a speaker at every medico-social event.

He endured his wife's long illness and also his son's recent death with a fortitude which was so characteristic of him. He is survived by his sons Michael and Kevin with whom his many friends and colleagues share their loss.

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HENRY A. MURRAY, Emeritus Professor, Harvard University, USA (An Honorary Fellow of the College)

Henry Alexander Murray, one of the outstanding psychologists of the 20th century, died on 23 June 1988 at the ripe old age of 95.

He had a curiously varied academic career. At Harvard he read history and graduated in 1915 before qualifying in medicine at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. About this time he underwent an intellectual awakening and spent several

years in biochemical research leading to a doctoral degree. Meanwhile he became increasingly aware in himself of what he called "a bent of empathy and curiosity toward all profound experience of individual men and women". He was profoundly influenced by Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*, particularly by its towering imagination and psychological symbolism. This led to an interest in psychoanalysis and meetings with C. J. Jung, whose striking insights clinched his choice of psychology as a final career. He began teaching psychology at Harvard University in 1927 and spent virtually the rest of his academic career there, becoming professor emeritus in 1962.

Murray's major contributions were in the field of personality theory, testing and diagnosis. He was responsible for the theory of "personology" in which he drew heavily on psychoanalytic concepts, but recognised a large number of needs (28 in all) to explain the complex dynamics of behaviour. He devised the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT), a projective technique, in which subjects reveal their attitudes, conflicts, and personality characteristics by making up stories about a series of ambiguous pictures.

As a final tribute to his exemplary work, Radcliffe College, near the end of his life, established and named after him The Henry A. Murray Research Center: A Center for the Study of Lives.

The deaths of the following have also been reported:

JANET WHITSON CALDER, formerly Consultant Child and Family Psychiatrist, Law Hospital, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

EDWARD FRANCIS BANI FORSTER, Emeritus Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana.

EUGENE HEIMLER, 100A Gloucester Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire.

HENRY EVELYN SELWYN MARSHALL, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Netherne Hospital, Surrey.

ROBERT McDONALD, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, High Royds Hospital, Yorkshire.

RICHARD ALBERT PERRY, Consultant Psychiatrist, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Royal Edinburgh Hospital, Scotland.

THARMAVALLY SATHIYAMOORTHY, Staff Grade Doctor, 16 Brucedale Gardens, Wallington, Surrey.

THIMMAPPA SRIRANGANATHA, Consultant Psychiatrist, Tone Vale Hospital, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset.

WILFRED WARREN, Emeritus Consultant, Bethlem Royal and Maudsley Hospital, London.