

**JOHN STEPHEN HORSLEY, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Child Guidance Clinic, Bradford, Yorkshire**

John Stephen Horsley, a foundation Fellow of the College, died at the age of 81 in Sheffield on 3 April 1986. He qualified from the London Hospital in 1932. As a student he distinguished himself as an athlete and, *inter alia*, captained the Blackheath Harriers.

He trained as a postgraduate at the Maudsley, following which he was appointed to the Kent County Mental Hospital where he was put in charge of the malaria unit for the treatment of general paralysis. Later, in 1935, he was appointed senior medical officer at the Dorset Mental Hospital and, which was most unusual in those days, appointed an honorary psychiatrist on the staff of Poole General Hospital. He was the first to introduce, and indeed, to coin the term 'narcoanalysis', a new form of prolonged narcosis.

Horsley was always in search of new horizons. Thus, in 1943, he became medical director of the Dorset child guidance service where he introduced what would be known today as 'family therapy'. In 1960 he turned his attention to social psychiatry in Sheffield's newly established section of social psychiatry, a position he held for the next 10 years. During this time he developed a multi-disciplinary unit for preventive psychiatry which included social workers, district nurses and midwives.

Even after his 'official' retirement, in 1970, Horsley in his indefatigable way translated himself to Bradford where for the next decade he served as consultant children's psychiatrist to the Bradford Area Health Authority.

**JAMES MCLAUGHLAN JOHNSTON, formerly Physician Superintendent, State Hospital, Carstairs, Scotland**

Dr James McLaughlan Johnston died on 7 May 1986, aged 87.

He was born and educated in Leith and studied medicine at Edinburgh University after service as a gunner in the 1914–1918 war. He trained in psychiatry at West Green Hospital in Dundee where he developed an interest in forensic psychiatry which led to his appointment as a medical officer in the Prison Medical Service at Wormwood Scrubs. From 1933 until 1936 he was on the staff of the State Institution at Rampton and then returned to Scotland as a Deputy Medical Commissioner of the General Board of Control for Scotland, a post which he held for 20 years except for a period of secondment during the war as the Hospital Medical Officer for the South East of Scotland responsible for hospital services for the civilian population and the allied forces in the area.

During his time as a Deputy Medical Commissioner he was responsible for the supervision of mentally ill and mentally handicapped people boarded out in the community and he became an authority on this traditional Scottish system of care, guiding and advising the local authorities in its administration. One can still find in Scotland some of the former guardians of individual patients who speak in most kindly terms of the visits Dr Johnston used to pay and of the

professional help and guidance they received from him.

In 1956 he returned to forensic psychiatry as the first Physician Superintendent of the combined State Mental Hospital and State Institution at Carstairs. This was a difficult task transforming what had been seen as prison establishments into an active psychiatric hospital despite the constraints of maximum security. He did this most successfully and was also able to work once again with the group of patients that he enjoyed working with most, the mentally handicapped offenders.

He was always ready and willing to share his considerable knowledge of forensic psychiatry and medical administration with his junior colleagues. He was a quiet and kindly man who retained the excellent manners and courtesy of his Edwardian upbringing and was liked and respected by his staff and patients. He retired in 1964 to Shetland, the land of his forebears, where he enjoyed fishing on his much favoured Spiggie Loch and both playing and studying Shetland folk music. He leaves a wife and four children, one of whom is a general practitioner near Edinburgh.

HSR

**GEORGE MCCOULL, OBE, VRD, formerly Physician Superintendent, Prudhoe Hospital, Northumberland**

Dr George McCoull died on 6 September 1985 aged 86 years. From a medical family (both his father and grandfather were general practitioners in Prudhoe Village), he received his medical education at Edinburgh University, graduating in 1922 and proceeding MD in 1931.

George McCoull, as those who knew him will attest, was a man of vision, energy, tenacity and purpose—qualities which resulted in distinguished military and medical careers. His military career spanned two world wars and the three services. As a young man he volunteered for the Northumberland Fusiliers at the outbreak of the First World War, but was soon discharged after it was found that he was under age. Subsequently, he interrupted his medical studies to join the Royal Navy as a Surgeon Sublieutenant, eventually attaining the rank of Surgeon Captain. During the Second World War he served with the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve where he was concerned with the health of airmen in the Indian Ocean. He participated in the famous Zeebrugge landing, survived the sinkings of HMS Swift and the Ark Royal, was mentioned in despatches in 1918 and awarded the military OBE in 1946. After the war he remained in the Volunteer Reserve, becoming its Senior Medical Officer, and was appointed Honorary Physician to King George VI and to our present Queen.

But it is in the field of mental handicap—his life's work—where his greatest achievements lie. After a period in general practice he followed his father as Medical Officer at Prudhoe Hospital, becoming Physician Superintendent in 1933, a post which he held for over 30 years until his retirement in 1965. Under his Superintendship Prudhoe Hospital achieved an international reputation for the model service it provided, attracting a stream of visitors. George McCoull continually strove to make Prudhoe the best possible home