

OBITUARY

Obituaries of any doctors will be considered for publication provided that the doctors have worked in the United Kingdom for a large part of their career. Obituaries must be submitted exclusively to the BMJ and should be up to about 400 words long. "Self written" obituaries are welcome.

J TODD

MB, BS, FRCPsych, DPM

Dr J Todd, formerly consultant psychiatrist at High Royds Hospital, Menston, West Yorkshire, died on 13 March after a short illness, three days before his 73rd birthday.

John Todd was born in London into a medical family and was educated at the City of London School and King's College Hospital, where he won the Tanner prize for obstetrics and London University colours for boxing; he also played chess for the university. He graduated in 1938 and served in the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1940 to 1945, taking part in the Normandy landings. In 1946, at Park Prewett Hospital, he started his psychiatric career, and he went from there to Littlemore Hospital. Then, from 1955 to 1979, he was consultant psychiatrist at High Royds Hospital. There he worked so unsparingly for his patients that he built up a reputation for giving them a personal service. Although for much of his time he lived in the hospital and was conservative and cautious in his management of patients, being aware not only of their welfare and safety but also of those of the public, he preserved his individuality and his medical students saw him as young and progressive.

John was fascinated by patients with conditions with multiple features, and when we, his colleagues, encountered such a patient we called him or her "a Todd." He had arresting, interesting, and at times legalistic communicative styles. His numerous papers were all the more scholarly and authentic for his being familiar with French and German. He often wrote with the late Professor Kenneth Dewhurst, most notably on the *doppelgänger* and psychiatric syndromes, particularly that of Capgras; they seem to have coined the term "Othello syndrome." Other subjects on which he wrote included Chekhov, the Brontës, medicolegal topics, and psychiatric nursing. At the time of his death he was collaborating in the compilation of a history of the medical superintendents of Stanley Royd Hospital, the erstwhile "Maudsley of the north."

After retiring from High Royds John worked with his customary tirelessness as a locum tenens at St James's Hospital in Leeds and other hospitals. He grew to love the Yorkshire moors. A devoted family man, he is survived by his wife, Carol, and his son and two daughters.—GW.

BARBARA G MORTON

OBE, MB, BS

Dr Barbara G Morton, founder of the Brook Lane Medical Mission in Bromley and for many years a geriatrician in the Southwark area, died on 2 February.

Barbara Grace Morton was born in Hartlepool in 1908 and educated at Rochester Grammar School. She started training in domestic science but was determined to make medicine her career. She graduated MB, BS at the London School of Medicine for Women in 1934. She was Dame Louise McIlroy's house surgeon at the Royal Free Hospital and then worked at the Bermondsey

Medical Mission, where Dame Louise was a consultant. In 1937, seeing the need for doctors to work in housing estates, she started the Brook Lane Medical Mission with two sessions a week. Then followed more sessions at Brook Lane; specialist clinics at Mottingham, an adjoining housing estate; and later a practice in the Coppice estate.

With the onset of war many old people were bombed out of their homes, there was little care for the dying, and the young chronic sick were nursed in geriatric wards. Dr Morton returned to the Bermondsey Medical Mission and visualised the future development of both missions. During the 1940s and 1950s she was instrumental in opening homes for the frail elderly, the dying, the young chronic sick, and the handicapped. She was among the first to tackle the need for residential accommodation for the underprivileged. The first home, Dunoran at Bickley, was taken over by the National Health Service in 1948 and became part of the Guy's Hospital group. Dr Morton was geriatrician at Dunoran and at New Cross Hospital. In 1968 she was appointed OBE.

Barbara was a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine and supported the BMA and the Medical Women's Federation. For several years she was chairman of the United Kingdom committee of the International Nepal Fellowship. She enjoyed travelling, was an avid reader, and appreciated music and art. But her greatest interest was people, and her Christian faith was the mainspring of her life. She is survived by her younger brother, a retired general practitioner.—JWE.

W J PATTERSON

MB, BCH, BAO, FFARCS

Dr W J Patterson, former consultant anaesthetist to the united Sheffield hospitals, died in Cambridge on 17 March aged 81.

William John Patterson—Pat to his many friends—was born in Ballynahinch, County Down, Northern Ireland, in 1905; he trained in medicine at Queen's University Medical School, Belfast, and the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, graduating in 1927. While a houseman at the Royal Hospital, Sheffield, he met and married Dr Dorothy Colver. In 1930 he went into general practice in the Handsworth area of Sheffield but continued his interest in anaesthesia. He remained in general practice until 1948, when with the inception of the National Health Service he became a full time consultant anaesthetist.

For the next 22 years until he retired in 1970 Pat was active in developing anaesthesia as a specialty both in Sheffield and throughout the Trent region; he was particularly interested in the staffing problems of district hospitals, both at consultant level and in the training grades. He helped form the Sheffield and East Midland Society of Anaesthetists, recognising the importance of regular scientific meetings. He also played a major part in organising the hospital departments of anaesthesia and in the academic development of the specialty, which culminated in a chair in anaesthetics at the university. It was his ambition that together the hospital departments and the university depart-

ment should be an integrated part of anaesthetics in Sheffield. On his retirement he was elected a senior member of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland.

Pat had many outside interests. An enthusiastic golfer, he played off a low handicap and was a past president of Hallamshire Golf Club. He was also a keen, successful bridge player and a founder member of Sheffield Bridge Club. With his wife he was an active member of two arts groups during his retirement. An Ulsterman throughout his life, he founded the Ulster Society in Sheffield and was its first president. He regularly returned to his native land on holiday. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, and four children, one of whom, his eldest son, is a general practitioner in Leicester.—WNCMcC.

W BROWN

MD

Dr W Brown, for many years a general practitioner in the west end of Glasgow, died on 1 March in his 87th year.

William Brown was educated at Bellahouston Academy, Glasgow, where he was dux medallist, and graduated in medicine from Glasgow University in 1923. One of his appointments was at the infectious diseases hospital in Motherwell, and his MD thesis was based on the knowledge and experience that he gained there. In his early years of general practice he also held the post of dispensary surgeon at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, having thoughts of a career in surgery. In 1936, however, he decided to give general practice his full attention. He was an excellent diagnostician, and this together with his calm and kindly manner inspired great confidence in his patients.

William had a long and happy retirement, which he spent in Bearsden and, latterly, Helensburgh. He is survived by his wife, Chrissie, two children, Jean and Charles, and four grandchildren.—CHB.

R H N LAKE

MB, BS, FFARCS, DA

Dr Roger Harold Nicholas Lake, who was a consultant anaesthetist in Plymouth until 1985, has died. He was 66. He qualified MRCS, LRCP at Charing Cross Hospital in 1943 and was appointed consultant anaesthetist in Cardiff in 1950 and in Plymouth in 1962. He is survived by his wife, Miff, and two children, Jonathan and Philippa.

Correction

Sir WILLIAM MAYCOCK

The first sentence in the obituary on Sir William Maycock (11 April, p 979) should have read: "Sir William Maycock, for many years the central figure in blood transfusion in this country, died on 19 February aged 76" and not "in this century." We apologise for this error.