

enlivened by the author's pithy and common-sense judgements. In the introduction he comments: "Having been a collector since boyhood I already possessed the nucleus of a library on the subject . . . the majority of the works referred to are in my (own) possession".

From 1966–78 he was Secretary General of the World Psychiatric Association. These were difficult years for an international psychiatric organisation. The scandal of Soviet attempts to use psychiatric treatments to control dissidents caused outrage. Denis Leigh fervently believed in the international nature of psychiatry and made robust, but unpopular, attempts to prevent the isolation of Russian psychiatry. During his period as Secretary General he travelled very widely and established personal contact with almost all the national psychiatric associations.

Meanwhile, at the Maudsley, he had rapidly established a busy and eclectic in-patient and out-patient unit. He had the happy knack of making complicated issues straightforward – in contrast to many psychiatrists who so often seem to make straightforward issues complicated. He brought energy, warmth and directness to the care of his patients. He was a gifted and popular teacher. Somehow he found the time to contribute to the running of the Hospital as a Governor and Chairman of the Medical Committee. He enjoyed the bucolic pastimes of gardening, fishing and shooting. At times he gave the impression that he would have been more at home as a country squire than an internationally renowned psychiatrist. However, his bluff and kindly manner concealed a sharp intellect and wide erudition.

He was much sought after as an expert in forensic and medico-legal cases. He gave evidence in a number of prominent trials. The most famous of these was that of Podola, who in 1959, was convicted of murdering a policeman. The jury accepted Denis Leigh's evidence that Podola's excuse of amnesia was feigned and not genuine. He also gave evidence in the *Lady Chatterley's Lover* obscenity trial and before the European Court of Human Rights on the alleged mistreatment of IRA prisoners. He was a formidable witness: always simple and lucid in his explanations, and aided by his well-deserved reputation for fairness and integrity. He continued to maintain an extensive medico-legal practice until shortly before he was disabled by his final illness.

His wife, Pamela, three daughters and two sons survive him – one of whom, Nigel, is Professor of Neurology at King's Hospital, London.

His achievements in a number of areas were formidable, and he became one of the most well known and internationally renowned psychiatrists of his generation. Nevertheless it is by

his warmth and kindness as a doctor and teacher that he will be most remembered. Like many I recall his helpfulness and generosity during the early years of my career. His comments on John Conolly serve as a fitting epitaph on his own professional life:

"Goodness and kindness were what Conolly had to give. He bequeathed to us the memory of a good and gentle man inspired by what are perhaps the most fundamental gifts the doctor can offer to his patients."

PETER NOBLE

### Personal recollection

Denis Leigh, one of the most brilliant and important members of world psychiatry, died on 20 April 1998.

Without him the Declaration of Hawaii would not have come about and we would have lost the opportunity of telling the world and ourselves that ethics must guide all we do in psychiatry, and furthermore that today this imperative is more urgently needed than ever before.

Denis Leigh served as Secretary General of the World Psychiatric Association since the world congress in Madrid 1966. It was then obvious that abuse of psychiatry was widely occurring in many places. Already, in 1969, this fact was discussed in a WPA meeting in London which was arranged by Denis at the Royal College of Physicians. The speakers at the first plenary session were: Dr R. A. Cleghorn, Canada; Professor Henry Miller, UK; Professor H. Akimoto, Japan; Arthur Koestler, UK and Professor A. V. Snezhnevsky, USSR, and it was chaired by me, not quite aware what fate held in store.

Most disturbing was that so-called dissidents in the Soviet Union were being investigated at the Serbskij Institute in Moscow and were often detained for psychiatric treatment but in the absence of mental illness. This resulted in an urgent need for the creation of ethical rules to be followed all over the world.

A proposal of an ethical committee in the WPA was put forward by me and others at the world congress in Mexico City 1971, but had to be withdrawn after the rejection by the Soviet representatives. As a compromise, and after pressure from the Americans, a small task-force was inaugurated to proceed with the work. It was Denis' idea that the group should consist of 'neutral' Scandinavians and this was approved of by Western as well as Eastern countries as the only possible solution.

I was given the responsibility of the chairman-ship, and the other two were Professor Leo

Eitinger from Norway, of Jewish origin and with personal experience of concentration camps, and Clarence Blomqvist, MD and PhD, Sweden. Clarence Blomqvist was a psychiatrist and at that time the only one in Scandinavia with both a doctorate in medical ethics as well, at the Karolinska Institute where he was an assistant professor. Denis Leigh was an ex-officio member of the groups, to which he gave his permanent, never failing support.

The task also involved the formulation of ethics for psychiatry so as to bring it in line with the democratic concepts of our time. The old Hippocratic paternalism must be exchanged for ideals of freedom, mutual respect, doctor-patient co-operation, informed consent and patient rights as far as possible; a job mainly entrusted to Clarence Blomqvist.

Another step was decided, in 1973, in a group meeting in Iceland. Denis and Clarence should go together to strategic places to give seminars on the subject. They went, among others, to Venezuela, where no less than three meetings were held. Out of this there grew a deep friendship between the two which can be seen in their correspondence, now partly published.

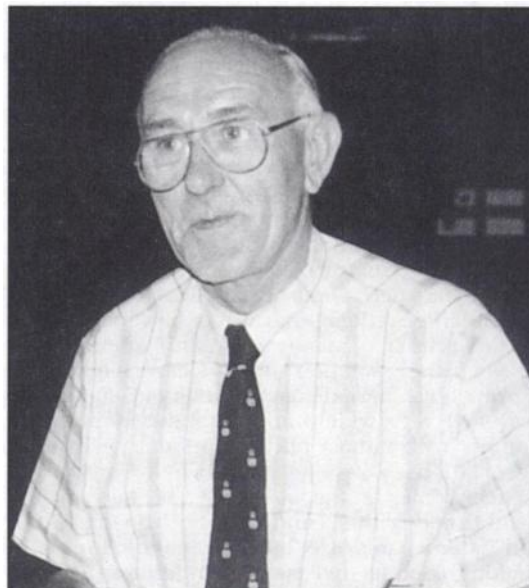
The new ethical formulations were made by Clarence, who was given the opportunity to work for a year at the Hastings Center, New York, so giving him a most refreshing and stimulating experience. Thanks to this, Clarence did a job that signalled the beginning of a new era in medical ethics.

Eventually, as a result of all this, 10 years later, the Declaration of Hawaii was signed in Honolulu on 29 August 1971 by the representatives of 76 nations. At that moment Denis and I looked at each other in disbelief, not quite convinced that this really could be true.

But it was and we could gratefully look back on all the meetings in the WHO, UNESCO, the Council of Europe in Strasbourg and a few more. Now, 20 years later, it can be confirmed that this was the most important moment in the history of the World Psychiatric Association: medical ethics had got a new and substantial foundation.

For Clarence it was to end in tragedy. On a farewell buffet he dropped his plate twice on the floor and he went to bed seemingly exhausted. The next day, on the flight back to Sweden, he developed a left hemiplegia, which he diagnosed himself. Back in Stockholm he was immediately admitted to the Karolinska where a malignant brain tumour was found. He died in January 1979, aged 53, leaving his family, Denis and the rest of our group to grieve. I am now the only survivor of the task-force. This story contains the testaments of both Clarence and Denis to the world of psychiatry.

GERDT WRETMARK



**Terence Kay**, Director, Newton Lodge Regional Secure Unit, Wakefield, Yorkshire

Terry Kay died suddenly at home on 8 May 1998 of a myocardial infarction. He was born on 3 July 1930 in Cheadle, Cheshire and spent his early life in Stockport. He left school at 14 and then worked at Stockport Infirmary as a laboratory technician, in which specialty he served for two years as part of his National Service in Hamburg and Berlin. After leaving the Army he spent 18 months in the uphill task of qualifying for university entrance to Leeds University where he qualified MB. ChB in December 1958 after a most successful career.

His initial ambition was to be a general practitioner. He practised in New Zealand four years, but it was here that he developed an interest in psychiatry. In order to obtain specialist qualifications he returned to the UK where he worked at Moorhaven Hospital, Plymouth and St James's Hospital, Leeds. As a visiting registrar to HMP, Leeds, he developed an interest in forensic psychiatry and worked for a period as a prison medical officer. He joined the National Health Service at High Royds Hospital, Wakefield, in 1978.

Terry Kay was instrumental in the formation of the forensic psychiatric service at Wakefield. Initially he single-handedly took on the role of training both doctors and nurses: teaching staff remained a primary interest. From a desolate locked ward, he developed an interim secure unit before establishing a purpose-built regional secure unit, now known as Newton Lodge. He