implement the planning of a Regional Child Psychiatric Unit, incorporating, by 1967, three in-patient units, outpatient facilities and a special school.

In the mid-1950s, Dr Haffner worked on a study of enuretic children, but during the 1960s and 1970s, he presented a number of dissertations at the RMPA and university venues on more wide-ranging subjects in family psychiatry and, in particular, on adoption, into which he had researched in great detail. He also worked meticulously on the development of clinical data and on a Family Life Health Inventory, at the same time initiating a Diploma Course for nurses in the Psychiatric Care of Children (later to be known as Course 600 and Course 603). In 1960 he was appointed to the Mental Health Review Tribunal for the Wessex Area and remained an active member until the time of his illness.

Intensely creative and imaginative, his considerable abilities as a painter, and as a writer, were unfortunately seldom allowed public expression because of his natural reticence. Those of us who knew Christopher in his later years, as a professional colleague and as a man remember him as a person of great courtesy and charm and of a great breadth of culture. He had, after all, lived or worked in Germany, Switzerland, Scotland, Canada and England. Thus, quite apart from his directly professional concerns and abilities, he was familiar with the literature and the musical and visual arts of many parts of Europe and the New World. His attitude to life in general may indeed have been coloured by his love of the mountains of Switzerland to which he frequently returned. Perhaps it was this influence which often called forth in those who met him, what one might only describe as a sense of personal enlargement.

Always a private person, Christopher was very much a family man. He is survived by his loyal and supportive wife, Luce, by his son, Paul, a Roman Catholic priest, and his daughter, Christine, who graduated in medicine in 1981 at Bristol University.

JCC

JLH

## WALTER SCHINDLER, retired, 56 Portman Mansions, Chiltern Street, London W1.

Dr Walter Schindler, formerly a Consultant Psychiatrist at Marylebone Hospital and the Paddington Day Clinic, died in London on 17 January 1986. He was 89 years of age.

Born in Breslau, Germany, he graduated in medicine from the University in 1921, having been released from army medical service in 1915/16. He also studied at the Universities of Freiburg and Munich, and did postgraduate work in Berlin and Vienna, where from 1922 to 1925 he had what was then called a didactic analysis by Dr W. Stekel, who was one of the first of Freud's disciples to leave the fold. Dr Schindler remained loyal to Stekel's principles, and continued to practice 'active analysis'. Returning to Berlin, he specialised in psychiatry and neurology in the Oppenheim/Cassier Clinic, and later took charge of the 'psychotherapy ward'. In 1926, he published *The* 

Dynamics of Sado-Masochism, the first of many papers concerning the treatment and aetiology of sexual perversion. In 1930, he opened what quickly became a flourishing private practice, and, along with such colleagues as Edith Jacobson, Karen Horney and Franz Alexander, was a leading member of a study group on depth psychology.

In 1938, as a Jew, he was forced by Nazi oppression to emigrate to England where he worked at the Tavistock Clinic and taught medical psychology at the University of London. He found English difficult, and always felt handicapped by not being able to work in his mother tongue. Nonetheless, he began to publish and present papers, especially concerning the nature of mass phenomena. After the war, he was appointed consultant at Marylebone Hospital and Paddington Day Clinic where he worked mainly as an analytical group therapist. At the age of 70 he retired to his large private practice, and continued to treat individuals, families and groups, as well as to teach and supervise, virtually until his death. In 1971 he was pleased to have been elected a Foundation Fellow of the College as he was when elected an Honorary Member of the Group-Analytic Society in 1982, although he had been one of its earliest members. Many of his publications, such as Analytic Group Therapy on the Family Pattern (1980), are read both here and abroad, especially in Germany, where having introduced group therapy to several universities, he is generally acknowledged as one of the founding fathers, and was made the Honorary President of the Deutsche Psychotherapeutische und Sozialmedizinische Gesellschaft.

Walter supervised one of my first cases, and I remain indebted to him for teaching me that the essence of psychotherapy is to help and to heal. He is survived by his wife Lois, whose love and friendship were a source of great pleasure and stimulation to him. Their home was a meeting place for continental and British people from all walks of life, and one always came away from an evening at the Schindlers feeling well-fed and better educated.

EH

## KENNETH SODDY, formerly Physician-in-Charge, Children's and Adolescent's Psychiatric Department, University College Hospital, London.

Kenneth Soddy, who died in April 1986 after a short illness, was a scholarly and innovative child psychiatrist. Born in 1911, he was educated at Taunton School, University College, London and University College Hospital Medical School and to his native Devon, his college and his hospital he remained devoted throughout his life.

He qualified in 1934 and by 1939 was Psychiatrist at the London Child Guidance Clinic. He joined the RAMC in 1940 as a Specialist in Psychiatry and in 1944 was appointed Deputy Director of personnel selection in India Command.

From 1948 until his retirement in 1976 he was Consultant and Physician in Charge of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at University College Hospital. He brought to child psychiatry a rare combination of skills and

scholarship and for those who worked with him and were taught by him, the memory remains of a man of sympathy, tolerance and wit, who never lost his capacity to put himself into the position of each child. Many children and parents at UCH and at the de la Rue School have reason to be grateful to him.

Outside his clinical practice, Kenneth Soddy was Scientific Director of the World Federation for Mental Health, Consultant to the WHO and a member of its expert panel on mental health, Consultant to the National Spastics Society and President of the Institute of Religion and Medicine. His published work covers a wide range of clinical, sociological and philosophical thought.

Among his many honours and distinctions he particularly valued his Fellowship of University College, London, to which he was elected in 1979.

When he retired it was to his beloved Dartmoor, an area he had known from childhood so that an afternoon drive with him became a fascinating seminar on the geography—he knew every Tor—history and sociology of the region. An accomplished musician, he was organist at his Parish Church in Chagford. Though a deeply religious man, he confessed to finding his way to the churchyard during the sermon, there to enjoy outward rather than inward reflection.

He leaves his wife Mary, née Kidson, and three children from his first marriage to Emmeline, née Johnson, who died in 1972.

**ECWJ** 

## GEORGE SOMERVILLE, formerly Lord Chancellor's Medical Visitor and Physician Superintendent, Goodmayes Hospital, Essex.

George Somerville, whose pioneering work from the 1930s to the 1960s contributed much to the development of psychiatry, died on 12 December 1985.

Born in Edinburgh in 1902, he was educated at Boroughmuir School and qualified MB, ChB with distinction at Edinburgh University at the age of 21. He soon decided to take up psychiatry and when he first went to Goodmayes Hospital he also studied at Maudsley Institute of Psychiatry and at University College. He acquired his DPM in 1925 and proceeded to MD Edinburgh in 1926. Then for some years he devoted much of his time to the contemporary growth points in the mental health field. He became a clinical assistant at the London Child Guidance Clinic. He took an active interest in the Mental Hygiene movement and became Honorary Secretary to the National

Council. He established an out-patient clinic in West Ham and later worked as a clinical assistant at the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases.

In 1937 he was appointed Physician Superintendent of Goodmayes and consultant to Whipps Cross Hospital. During the war when an Emergency Hospital was incorporated in Goodmayes, he and his staff managed to maintain the full range of therapeutic activities at the hospital.

After the war he initiated a resurgence of extra mural work including a West Ham Child Guidance Clinic and a West Ham Psychiatric Social Club. He took an active interest in the RMPA, becoming in turn Honorary Secretary and Chairman of the South Eastern Division. He also acted as Consultant to the Home Office.

He served as a member of the NE Metropolitan Board and was also a member of the Grants Committee of the King Edward Hospital Fund.

On his retirement from Goodmayes in 1960, he was appointed Lord Chancellor's Medical Visitor, an appointment he retained for 13 years. He was elected a Foundation Fellow of the College in 1971 and in 1973 finally retired.

George was a perceptive eclectic psychiatrist, a good administrator and a very agreeable and helpful colleague. On matters of major import he always had a well prepared 'policy'. He travelled widely and although he had a Scotsman's natural love of golf, his main interests were in literature and the arts. He had a journalistic flair which found readier expression in such publications as Family Health Encyclopaedia and books entitled Live Successfully than in formal scientific articles.

Those who enjoyed his hospitality at Tantallon House, Goodmayes will remember him as a generous and entertaining host and a stimulating and well informed conversationalist. He is survived by his wife Gretel, one son and four daughters.

TPR

## The deaths of the following have also been reported:

ANTHONY CYRIL HAMER, formerly Consultant Psychiatrist, Oakley Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand.

David Irwin, Honorary Consultant, St George's Hospital, Morpeth, Northumberland.

VICTOR SALIM NEHAMA, Consultant Psychiatrist, Prestwich Hospital, Manchester.

Fernando Valarino, 2 Do Piso Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Central University, Venezuela, South America.