

was inspired on hearing a radio broadcast of the late Kurt Hahn, following his departure from Nazi Germany, stating baldly "compassion in Europe is dead."

How it could live again was the challenge that stimulated Mrs Torrie "to do something for widows." "I was challenged," she says, "by my ignorance of the whole concept of widowhood" but by advertising locally in Richmond ("would any widow in need of help and encouragement get in touch"), she opened the floodgates. A group meeting was called and the "stories tumbled out and the problems with them: children, pensions, jobs, exploitation, lack of money, housing, landlords, repairs, and, over it all, the setting of loneliness and lack of support." Later they entered "the more private areas of grief and loss." One thing was clear. They needed to talk and we needed to listen.

From such modest beginnings came the organisation we now know as CRUSE, undeniably a model of professionally organised and supported help, and counselling with far-

reaching effects on teaching and research in bereavement. But not, however, without years of struggle, financial, philosophical and political before its transition from the home of the Torries into its present one at CRUSE House as a fully-fledged organisation with paid staff, a distinguished list of patrons and the development of work for and with the bereaved in many parts of the United Kingdom.

This book is in its form really an extended personal diary of Mrs Torrie's 'Years with Cruse', including many of her own and her husband's struggles with ill-health and personal loss.

Apart from its historical importance to the development of bereavement care for the individual psychiatrist, it is very reasonably priced and would be a useful addition to hospital libraries.

KERRY BLUGLASS

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Forthcoming Events

MRCPsych Examination Course: Seminars will be held in Part I and Part II subjects between 8 and 9 a.m. on Wednesdays in Chelsham House, Warlingham Park Hospital. There is no fee. Details: Dr C. McDonald, Warlingham Park Hospital, Warlingham, Surrey CR3 9YR (telephone 08832 2101, extension 139 – mornings).

Hayes Grove Priory Seminars: An evening seminar will be held at the Hayes Grove Priory Hospital starting at 7.00 p.m. on 10 November 1987. The seminar will be on the Control of Stress when Dr David Wheatley, Head of the General Practice Research Group and Psychopharmacology Research Group, will speak on the Investigation of Stress and the Pharmacological Treatment; there will also be another talk on Stress Control in Public Speaking. Early application is advised to Dr Adrian Winbow, Medical Director, Hayes Grove Priory Hospital, Prestons Road, Hayes, Kent BR2 7AS (telephone 01 462 7722).

The **Radical Jewish Health Group** is a sociable forum for Jews in the caring professions looking at mental health issues from a Jewish perspective. Autumn meetings include 'Working with Colleagues and Anti-semitism' on 24 November 1987, 7.45 p.m., at Swiss Cottage Community Centre, Winchester Road, London NW3 and 'Working with Colleagues on Anti-semitism' on 17 December 1987, 7.45 p.m. (venue to be confirmed). More details about the Group's activities: 01 878 6469 or 01 346 4010.

The Group-Analytic Society and the Institute of Group Analysis will be holding **Group Responses to the AIDS Crisis: An Experiential Workshop** on 5 December 1987 from 9.00 a.m.–4.45 p.m. at the Institute. Fee: £40 (to include refreshments). Closing date for applications: 23 November 1987. The workshop should be of interest to doctors, nurses, social workers, counsellors, health advisers, community workers, volunteers, their trainers, managers and administrators who are working in HIV/AIDS related programmes. Further details: Brenda Ling, Administrative Director, The Institute of Group Analysis, Group-Analytic Society (London), 1 Daleham Gardens, London NW3 5BY (Telephone 01 431 2693).

The Grovelands Priory Seminars: the fourth of this ongoing series will take place on the evening of 26 November 1987 when Dr Jeremy Pfeffer, Consultant Psychiatrist, The London Hospital, will speak on 'Management of Patients with Anxiety States'. Early application is advised: Dr Bron Lipkin, Deputy Medical Director, Grovelands Priory Hospital, The Bourne, Southgate, London N14 6RA.

The Association of University Teachers of Psychiatry will hold its fourth conference on 'Teaching Dynamic Psychotherapy' on 14–16 April 1988 at University College, Oxford. The theme is 'Formal Courses in Psychotherapy'. Further information: Dr Stuart Lieberman, Department of Psychiatry, St George's Hospital Medical School, Cranmer Terrace, London SW17 0QT.

The *Bulletin of the Royal College of Psychiatrists* is published monthly by the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. All contents ©Royal College of Psychiatrists, 1987, unless otherwise stated. ISSN 0 140-0789. Printed in Great Britain by Henry Ling Ltd, at the Dorset Press, Dorchester, Dorset.