

Obituary

Editor: Henry R. Rollin

ANGUS JAMES GALBRAITH, formerly Physician Superintendent, Knowle Hospital, Fareham, Hants

Angus Galbraith died at his home in Salisbury on 4 April 1992. He was born on 17 March 1910 in the Scottish Highlands and received his early education at Dingwall and at Edinburgh Academy. He graduated MB, ChB at Edinburgh University in 1932 and subsequently held posts as House Physician and as Clinical Assistant at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. He was then appointed Registrar at St Lukes Hospital, Bradford, where he met Margaret who was to become his devoted wife.

Initially his interests lay in general medicine, but while reading for his MD he took a post at St Ebbas Hospital, Epsom, which was then one of the hospitals in the London County Council Mental Hospitals Department. While working there he became interested in the psychiatric aspects of illness and embarked on a study of the constitutional and environmental factors encountered in some patients suffering from schizophrenia. This work formed the basis of his MD thesis. He obtained his DPM in 1935.

While at St Ebbas he also worked with the late Professor Alfred Meyer at the Neuropathological Department of the Maudsley Hospital on research into the clinical and pathological aspects of Alzheimer's disease. Later, after obtaining promotion to a staff post at Horton Hospital, Epsom he continued his pathological studies into general paralysis of the insane.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 it was decided to evacuate most of the 2000 Horton patients to other hospitals in the area. The organisation of the operation was delegated to Galbraith. He managed to complete it within 48 hours, making appropriate selection and documentation without any patient being lost! After the evacuation he served for a time as Honorary Physician with Kings Hospital, which had been partly evacuated to Horton, before being moved to St Lawrence's (then Caterham) Hospital, Caterham, part of which had been converted to an Emergency Medical Services Unit.

In the spring of 1943 he enlisted in the RAMC and was posted to India where the psychiatric services were being organised by Brigadier Bennet. His first posting was to IMH Delhi to deal with the problem of mental breakdown of large numbers of raw Indian recruits. Conversion hysteria was the common form of breakdown often precipitated by the removal from

home into a new environment. The only practical solution adopted by Galbraith was discharge from the service.

In order to develop and maintain a satisfactory psychiatric service throughout India the appointment of three advisers with the rank of Lieut-Colonel was proposed, of whom Galbraith became one.

Galbraith's service in India ended as the war extended into Burma and Thailand, culminating in the Japanese surrender. He returned to civilian life and was appointed to St Francis Hospital, Haywards Heath, as Deputy Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, Medical Director of the Brighton Child Guidance Service and Consultant Psychiatrist to Hove General Hospital.

It was at St Francis Hospital that I first met Angus and we formed a firm friendship which lasted over the years despite the divergence of our pathways. We shared the common aim of establishing a therapeutic community within the mental hospital.

In 1954 Galbraith was appointed to the newly created post of Physician Superintendent of the Knowle Group of hospitals which included Knowle, Fairfield House and the Old Manor, Salisbury. At that time Knowle was an antiquated Victorian edifice with a grim interior and mostly enclosed within high, security walls. Vast changes in the appearance and layout of the hospital were wrought by him with the support of a progressive Hospital Management Committee but the most important changes that he introduced were in the patients' lives and outlook. An open-door policy, the establishment of a large occupational therapy department, an industrial unit, working groups of patients, a social club and considerable recreational facilities, all contributed to the development of a real therapeutic community.

Out-patient diagnostic and treatment facilities for acute illnesses were greatly enhanced when Galbraith was able to obtain the facilities of a new Mental Health Centre in Southampton.

One of his most striking and successful achievements, which he initiated with the aid of Dr Ian Scottowe and Dr Stephen McKeith, was the provision of a postgraduate centre. Known as the Wessex School of Psychiatry, it provides training for junior doctors in psychiatric hospitals throughout the area. He served also on the Hospital Management Committee and the Wessex Regional Hospital Board. Galbraith was a Foundation Fellow of the

College. He served as Secretary of the South Western Division from 1958–61 and as Chairman from 1964–67.

Galbraith retired from his post as Physician Superintendent in 1969. Like many of us he felt sad that the concept of care in the community was leading to the neglect of the needs of the chronic mentally sick for a sheltered therapeutic environment which the mental hospital had provided; that with the closure of wards and hospitals too many were being abandoned to social rejection, homelessness and vagrancy.

After retirement he continued part-time clinical work for the next six years. He also served as Vice-Chairman of the West Hants Community Health Council. In a different field he took the Chairmanship of Bramshaw Parish Council and was a member of the New Forest Consultations Panel.

Angus Galbraith was always a keen sportsman. In school he played rugby and cricket and remained a competent all round cricketer during his hospital career. He played golf until the last year of his life. His somewhat direct and gruff manner concealed a personality of great kindness and sensitivity. A man of strong principles and courage he was nonetheless tolerant and understanding. He was devoted to his family and to his home. His wife Margaret has been his loving, loyal and supportive companion for 57 years. He leaves three daughters, Elizabeth, Fiona and Catriona, and one grandson, James.

J. F. DONOVAN

JUAN JOSÉ LÓPEZ IBOR, formerly Professor of Psychiatry, University of Madrid

Professor López Ibor, who died on 1 October 1991, was born near Valencia on 22 April 1906. He received his education at the famous *Colegio de Burjasot*, where other great Spanish medical polymaths, such as Marco Merenciano and Pedro Lain Entralgo, were also schooled. After reading medicine at the local Medical School, and spending a period under Vicente Peset, the professor of Legal Medicine and great medical historian (at the time there was no

Chair of Psychiatry at Valencia University), López Ibor went to Germany to work under Lange, Rüdín, Bumke, and Goldstein, and later in France under Guillaín and Alajuanine.

In 1932, he was elected to the Chair of Legal Medicine at the University of Santiago de Compostela. After failing to obtain the chair of Psychiatry in Madrid, López Ibor returned to Valencia as a psychiatrist. During the Spanish Civil War, he changed his allegiance from the Republican to the National side, and after a period in Pamplona, was elected to the Chair of Psychiatry at Salamanca. From there he transferred to Madrid, where he soon became a powerful figure and the leading light of official Spanish psychiatry. A generation of academics trained under him including two major figures, Carlos Castilla del Pino and Luis Martín Santos.

His 25 books and more than 500 articles cover a wide clinical compass, ranging from an early study on war neurosis, to sexual behaviour, psychoanalysis, corporal schema, and a theory of the neuroses. It is likely that the latter may prove to be his most original contribution as expressed in books such as *La Angustia Vital* and *Las Timopatías Ansiosas*, and his development of the concept of 'masked depression' which constituted the core of the 45th Maudsley Lecture which he delivered in 1970.

A somewhat controversial figure, López Ibor elicited from his psychiatric fellow countrymen both great adulation and criticism. His relationship with great men returning from the external exile, such as Gonzalo Lafora, and with those trapped in the internal one, such as Bartolomé Llopiés, was not always a happy one. Towards the end of his life Professor López Ibor was affected by Alzheimer's disease, knowledge of which condition he had helped to introduce in Spain.

Perhaps the best known Spanish psychiatrist of his generation, he received many honours including doctorates from seven foreign Universities, the Fellowship of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and the Presidency of the World Psychiatric Association, of which his eldest son, Professor Juan José López Ibor Aliño is currently the Secretary.

G. E. BERRIOS