

1939, he was forced by the Nazis to abandon his original intention to specialise in internal medicine in his native Czechoslovakia. After a few weeks in a concentration camp he came to England as a refugee. At first not permitted to practise medicine, he worked for two years in the pathological laboratory at The Retreat; here he first came to meet psychiatric patients and, in his spare time, developed an interest in mathematics, statistics, philosophy and psychology. From 1941 onwards he trained as a psychiatrist at the Crichton Royal and Netherne and had a brief encounter with psychoanalysis before an invitation from Sir Aubrey Lewis brought him to the Maudsley Hospital, where he was a consultant from 1948 until his formal retirement in 1971. Subsequently he continued to work productively for the remainder of his life.

But in themselves, the bare facts do not account for Kräupl Taylor's special position in post-war British psychiatry. He belonged to no school and remained a somewhat isolated figure, whose warm personality and quizzical humour were seen to best advantage in a close working relationship. Many members of a whole generation of Maudsley trainees, several now occupying senior positions, have testified to the direct influence of 'K-T' on their development and outlook. What impressed them was the unusual combination of professional dedication, sound clinical judgement, erudition, and an abiding interest in the application of scientific thinking to clinical issues which never overshadowed therapeutic concern. At the Rodney Club, the social club for out-patients that he founded and supervised, he demonstrated how long-term support could help chronically sick and disabled patients.

Over and above his personal qualities, however, Kräupl Taylor provided a rare example of the psychotherapist who was constantly prepared to examine rigorously the implications of his own activities and was intellectually equipped to do so. His relatively late discovery of Karl Jaspers' *General Psychopathology* influenced his thinking greatly and he became progressively more sceptical about the psychoanalytical enterprise. The two chapters, entitled 'The Development of Freud's Psychopathological Theories' which terminate the first edition of his *Psychopathology* were, significantly, omitted from the second edition, and his searching, scholarly chapter on 'Dynamic Aspects of Psychiatry' in Volume 5 of the *Handbook of Psychiatry* identifies the positive placebo effect in what he called 'remedial bonding' as the core feature of all psychotherapeutics.

His original mind and compassionate integrity will be greatly missed by his colleagues and his many friends.

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The death of Dr Wilkie was listed in the *Bulletin* (December 1988). He was tragically killed on 30 September 1988.

As a tribute to his work in Bermuda his friends and colleagues are endeavouring to raise money to establish a Richard Wilkie Memorial Fund for the purpose of bringing a speaker on some aspect of forensic psychiatry to Bermuda each year. It is also proposed that the new Forensic Unit will be named after him.