

psychiatry dept. hosts 25th anniversary

(or "all work and no play makes...")

Over 500 people from the professions of psychiatry, social work, nursing, occupational therapy and psychology, who had worked, trained and studied at the Jewish General Hospital over the past 25 years were invited to a 25th Anniversary Homecoming Symposium, which took place from October 21st to October 24th, 1976.

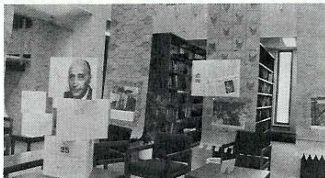
Two hundred of the five hundred registered and attended from the four corners of the North American continent. People came from the Maritimes, the Western Provinces, California, Florida, Mexico and many places in between. In addition, letters were received from alumni scattered over the world in England, Israel, Argentina.

The purpose of the Symposium was to afford old friends an opportunity to meet again, to share professional and personal experiences, to talk, to drink, to dance, to play. These goals were well achieved with a good balance of technical and professional programs.

Thursday evening, Dr. Nathan B. Epstein, past Chief of the Department of Psychiatry, delivered the Saul Albert Memorial Lecture at the McIntyre Medical Sciences Building on "Treatment of Families - past, present and future". An audience of 350 to 400 people listened eagerly to Dr. Epstein's presentation of the evolution of the theory, practice and teaching of family therapy over a 25 year period. His address was well received and formed the basis for much animated discussion that evening and in the Workshops of the following day.



Dr. Nathan B. Epstein, Professor Department of Psychiatry at McMaster University, delivering the Saul Albert Memorial Lecture.



A presentation of the past 25 years in psychiatry was prepared by Mrs. Ruth Stilman, librarian at the Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, for use during the weekend symposium.

Friday was devoted to Workshops on a variety of topics, which took place after introductory remarks by Mr. Peter Bronfman, the President of the Hospital Centre board, Dr. Maurice Dongier, Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry of McGill University and Dr. H. Kravitz, Head of the Department of Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital.

The Workshop Chairman presented a brief statement on the "State of the Art" at the Jewish General Hospital on the particular topic of their workshop. The balance of the workshop was devoted to formal and informal discussion, exchange of experiences, and the evaluation of training and practice at the Jewish General Hospital.

Vigorous discussions took place at the workshops. Most participants were delighted with the opportunity to experience, once again, the thrust and parry of intellectual discussions with peers and mentors.

A 2½ hour break for lunch returned the participants to the afternoon sessions well rested and fed.

A cocktail party was held at the Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry in the evening, which was attended by over 300 people. The highlights of the evening were the edited and annotated audio and videotapes of the satirical and parodying skits that resident groups had done in past years.

Saturday morning, Dr. Kravitz delivered a paper on "The Department of Psychiatry, 25 years - Prospect and Retrospect". Elegant and precise, he showed his remarkable ability to synthesize and conceptualize material from diverse sources and to inte-

grate them in a manner that clarified their significance and diversity for a heterogeneous audience. He kept his audience spellbound for an hour and a half.

In the afternoon the quadri-centennial psychobowl football game was played at Mackenzie King Park. The "Ackermaniacs" confronted the "Kravitz Family". It is unclear who won. Drs. Kravitz and Epstein refereed by committee, two bottles of scotch were used to repel the chill harbingers of winter and the supplier of the T-shirts which were suitably labelled, the Kravitz Family and the Ackermaniacs were unevenly distributed between yellow and white colors, so that the teams ended up playing yellow versus white, with a mixture of both sides on each team. In addition, team membership seemed related to the needs of the moment and not the roster of the team. Two small boys played on one team and it is still unclear whether they were just walking across the park and were handed T-shirts or whether they were someone's children!

That evening, cocktails and a dinner dance took place at the Ritz Carlton. The department, once again, proved the adage that psychiatrists are inclined to talk and dance a lot at parties in contrast to their seeming reticence in their offices.

A brunch for out of town guests and department members who worked to make the Symposium such a success took place on Sunday, which ended the department's family get-together in appropriate style with lox, bagel, herring and an infinite variety of sweets.



Drs. Kravitz and Epstein enjoy a half time break during football game. The liquid refreshment was for medicinal purposes only.