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# In Memoriam

**Daniel D. Hurst, M.D.**

**1891-1971**

Daniel D. Hurst, M.D., associated with Henry Ford Hospital for 31 years, died suddenly March 25, 1971, in his Pleasant Ridge, Michigan, home at the age of 79. Born in 1891 in Middleboro, Yorkshire, England, he emigrated to Canada where he received the training necessary to qualify as a teacher. Since it was necessary for him to earn his own way through college, he taught high school in rural Alberta, Canada, until he had enough money for college.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario in 1919 and was graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine in 1925. That same year he began his association with Henry Ford Hospital as an intern. Following residency training, Dr. Hurst became an associate in Neuropsychiatry in 1932. This began a 25-year association with the Hospital in that capacity.

It is worthy of note that Henry Ford Hospital's Neuropsychiatry Division, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Heldt, had opened one of the first psychiatric wards in a general hospital in the United States in about 1922. From its inception, the principle of "no locked doors" was followed.

Dr. Hurst, therefore, had a very active role in the early development and expansion of the Hospital's psychiatric services.

During the war years, 1940 to 1945, the shortage of psychiatrists and of psychiatric facilities, combined with the development of new treatment methods, led to unusual pressures upon the psychiatric staff. Dr. Hurst played a prominent part in meeting those demands and needs, becoming one of the first in the City of Detroit to accept and use electroshock in the treatment of mental illness. He developed skill in the technique and used it actively on office patients as well as hospitalized patients.

Aside from the professional side of his practice, however, Dr. Hurst was also known for his unflinching personal interest in the persons he treated. He manifested toward them an attitude much like the best of the old general practitioners—interested in and informed about every detail of a patient's life and family circumstances, and therefore better able to understand the patient. Thus, as a psychiatrist, he could treat the emotional problems of not only the patient but also of the involved family members.

Dr. Hurst added to his psychiatric knowledge through special events at Johns Hopkins University and at the University of Michigan. He was a fellow of the American Medical Association and of the American Psychiatric Association. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of the World Health Organization, and a fellow of the Royal Society of Psychiatry and Neurology. Furthermore, throughout his life he was involved in services in the community, particularly as an active supporter of the First Baptist Church of Ferndale. He was often able to help the ministers, directly and indirectly, in dealing with the emotional problems they met in their ministry.

Dr. Hurst retired from Henry Ford Hospital's Psychiatry Division in 1956 at the age of 65. He is remembered with affection not only by his many patients, but also by those who worked with him. He was an active, energetic and cheerful person and so involved with his work and with his interest in people that he continued an active practice in Ferndale until the day of his death.

Dr. Hurst is survived by his wife, Eva Mae, a daughter, Mrs. Jean Belding and a son, Donald D. Hurst. The entire staff of Henry Ford Hospital extends its sympathy.

—E. J. Alexander, M.D.