

Obituary

D. B. Fry

Dennis Butler Fry died on 21 March 1983 at the age of 75. He had been a member of the Department of Phonetics at University College London for over fifty years, and for the twelve years up to his death was the President of the Permanent Council for the Organisation of International Congresses of Phonetic Sciences.

He was born in Stockbridge, Hants., on 3 November 1907. From 1931 to 1934 he studied under Daniel Jones at UCL, and in 1934 became an Assistant Lecturer in Phonetics. He joined the Association in 1935. His *Serbo-Croat Phonetic Reader* (with D. Kostić) was published in 1939. During the war years he led the Acoustics Laboratory of the RAF Central Medical Establishment, where he was concerned with the hearing problems of aircrews; from then on much of his work concerned the education of the deaf. In 1949 he succeeded DJ as Head of the UCL Phonetics Department, and in 1958 was made a Professor. In that year he launched the journal *Language and Speech*, which he edited for twenty years.

His book *The Deaf Child* (with Edith Whetnall) came out in 1964. But it was only after his retirement in 1975 that he was able to concentrate on writing and produce his widely admired *Homo Loquens* (1977) and *The Physics of Speech* (1979).

Beside his scientific and academic work he was also known for his love of the arts and his ability as a singer, particularly in Mozart and Donizetti operas. But it is as a stimulating and open-minded phonetician and colleague that we shall miss him most.

J. C. W.