

# ***In Memoriam:***

## **Dr. Philip Edgcumbe Hughes**

**Dr. Philip Hughes was editor of the *Churchman* from 1959 to 1967. He was also one of the foremost evangelical scholars of this generation. The following appreciation of him, by the Chairman of the Editorial Board, appeared in somewhat truncated form in the *Church of England Newspaper*, but is here given in full:**

The Evangelical Theologian Dr. Philip Hughes (Philip Edgcumbe Hughes, to distinguish him from his namesake the Roman Catholic Church Historian) died suddenly at his home near Philadelphia on May 1st, 1990, aged 75. His health and vigour of mind were with him to the last, and his latest book was in the press. Appropriately enough, May 1st was St. Philip and St. James' day.

His life spanned four continents. He was born in 1915 at Sydney, Australia, and grew up in South Africa, taking his first degree there just before the second world war. He there belonged to the much-maligned Church of England in South Africa, which he afterwards briefly served as a minister, and he was a commissary to its presiding bishop until his death.

In 1940, he came to England to attend Tyndale Hall, Bristol, and was ordained here in 1941. After some years of pastoral work he returned to Tyndale Hall in 1947, as tutor and then vice-principal. He had as contemporaries on the staff Geoffrey Bromiley and Stafford Wright, and between them they established an enviable reputation for Tyndale Hall as a conservative evangelical college with a serious interest in theology and a loyalty to historic Anglicanism. He also made time for evangelistic youth work. One of his favourite recreations, then and at all times, was the piano.

In 1953 he left Tyndale Hall, to become for three years secretary of the Church Society, and after further pastoral and literary work he left England in 1964 for the U.S.A., where the remainder of his ministry was to be spent. He taught in various American seminaries, notably in Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, and in Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, Pittsburg.

As a staunch Anglican, he threw himself into the life of the Episcopal Church, and sought to strengthen the cause of orthodoxy there in difficult times. In the inner councils of the Evangelical and Catholic Mission and of the Episcopal Synod of America, his wise advice was increasingly sought by conservative Anglo-Catholics and

not just by conservative Evangelicals. As a modest, friendly man, who nevertheless spoke his mind fearlessly, he will be greatly missed.

In theology, he was a firm Calvinist, but he had the breadth of sympathies of a true scholar. His writings are solid in substance and graceful in style. His Greek was excellent, and two of his chief books are commentaries on II Corinthians and Hebrews. In doctrine, his great work is *The True Image*, on the Christian doctrine of man. He wrote studies on precursors of the Reformers: *Lefevre: Pioneer of Ecclesiastical Renewal in France* and an unpublished thesis on Pico della Mirandola. He translated Marcel's *Biblical Doctrine of Infant Baptism*, which had great influence. For some years he ably edited *The Churchman*.

In all his labours, he was faithfully supported by his wife Margaret. They have one daughter, Marion.

**ROGER BECKWITH**