IN MEMORIAM for K. F. C. ROSE

Heu, miserande puer, si qua fata aspera rumpas!

With the sudden and tragic death of Kenneth Frank Campbell Rose on Saturday, October 28, 1967, the Classical world lost a teacher and scholar of already great achievements and, in view of his age, of far greater promise. All those who knew him lost a true friend, and extend their heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Born in London, England, January 17, 1938, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy K.C. Rose, Ken began his education at Aberdour School, Surrey, in 1944. By 1950, when he moved to Haileybury College, Hertfordshire, the young Rose was already beginning to show his immense talents, talents which, fortunately for us, became more and more attracted to the area of the Classics. At Haileybury he won no less than eight Classics Prizes and was appointed Senior Scholar, a portent of the College prizes in Classical Literature, Ancient History and Philosophy that, together with a Senior Scholarship, he was to win as an undergraduate at Exeter College, Oxford (1955-59). He received his B.A. degree in 1959, and was immediately appointed by the College to a Senior Studentship, while working towards his B.Litt. degree. This he received in 1962; and his Thesis, which dealt with the date and author of the Satyricon of Petronius (under the supervision of J. P. Sullivan, whose colleague he was later to become at the University of Texas), forms the basis of a monograph which will be published during the current year.

Eager to continue his work in Classics and, at the same time, to expose himself to a different Classical environment, Ken came to the U.S. in the summer
of 1962, though not, as might have been expected of someone possessed of his outstanding scholarly ability, to a University. Although many such institutions of higher learning were wanting his services, and although, even then, he had already produced more publications than many others produce after years on university faculties, he felt that he was not yet ready for the task. Besides, he loved to teach Classics and to share his own enthusiasm for the subject with the young. So, for both these reasons, he chose to accept a position as Instructor in Latin and Greek at Kent School, Connecticut. In his three years there (1962-65), besides demonstrating his excellence as a teacher, he plunged himself wholeheartedly into all areas of school life, from committee work to sports, with the energy and loyalty that has always been admired by others wherever he was. He became, for example, a highly successful and popular coach for the School wrestling and soccer teams, a coach who got what he wanted done by personal demonstration rather than mere verbal instruction--clearly destroying any illusion of the Classical scholar as someone shut away with his books in his own little world.

However, much though he loved his work at Kent, his own research was beginning to be hampered by the lack of the greater library facilities that a scholar needs and (since he was never a person to do things by half measures) by the very time and energy he was devoting to the school. In 1965, therefore, he moved to the University of Rochester as Assistant Professor of Classics and, although he remained there for only one year before coming to Texas, he quickly won the unqualified respect and admiration of colleagues and students alike for his scholarship and his wit. In particular, his direct approach in his teaching, his ability to cut through the irrelevant and to avoid any trace of obscurity, together with the time that he was willing and eager to spend with his students, immediately
stamped him as one who would be an outstanding member of any educational
ingstitution. One of his colleagues at Rochester, after but a brief acquaintance
with him, had no hesitation in acclaiming him as the most accomplished Latinist
and Grecian, for his age, that he had ever met.

It was perhaps inevitable that he would soon come to the University of Texas,
to join his former mentor J. P. Sullivan and to collaborate closely with him on
the definitive text, translation and commentary on the Satyricon of Petronius.
It was a topic that they had both been working on separately, and it was but
natural that they should now combine their skills to produce the completed work.
Ken started his part of the task in earnest almost from the moment of his arrival
in Austin in September, 1966; and the summer of 1967 he spent traveling around
Europe, carrying a suitcase bulging with notes on Petronius, visiting libraries
and consulting with other Petronian scholars -- an exhausting schedule at any
time, and, doubtless, particularly painful for him on that occasion, for he had
broken his collar bone in a soccer match, typically, with his students three
weeks before setting out. But it was not simply with Petronius that he was in-
volved in Austin. Despite his heavy teaching load and his own individual tutorials
with his students, and his extensive extra-curricular activities, he still found
time to turn his scholarly promise into reality, to change what had been a steady
stream of scholarly publications from the time when he was an Oxford under-
graduate, into almost a torrent. In the academic year 1966-67 he published
nine articles, had seven accepted for publication, completed one monograph
for publication, and collaborated in another, which is due for publication in
1968 -- and all this in addition to his main work with J. P. Sullivan. It is hardly
surprising, therefore, that he was to be promoted to the rank of Associate
Professor in 1968.
But when all this has been said, there is still a large residue of qualities, unmentioned and hard to define, that helped to make him the engaging person that he was, and make his loss all the more greatly felt. He was never too busy to speak to anyone, student or colleague, who needed advice, or who simply wanted to pass the time in pleasant conversation (at which he was a past master). To him his work, his research, was only part of life and living, a part which would prosper all the more if accompanied by the other human interests; and for him the ideal of "Mens sana in corpore sano" had a true meaning and significance. He was regularly to be seen on the tennis courts, and was well able to give a good account of himself. And, more importantly, he thoroughly enjoyed it. Soccer he loved even more, and he participated fully and as eagerly as ever in the informal soccer matches that the students played on Sunday afternoons in the local park. Here, too, as well as in the classroom, others found that they could learn much from him, and did so; he was always a most popular, as well as a most skillful, player. He was never too busy, either, to join the rest over a beer after the game, discussing various soccer points or simply enjoying their company, joining in their songs -- or entertaining them with selections from his own repertoire of British Student Songs! Perhaps therein is to be found a large part of his success as a scholar and a teacher. He could talk comfortably and easily with scholar or student and, with all his affability, could still command the greatest respect.

It was through a collision at soccer that he broke his collar-bone in the summer of 1967, but, far from being deterred, he began playing again with all his old enthusiasm immediately on his return to Austin in September. Typically, he even quietly supplied the team with a new and expensive soccer ball -- as he had done the previous year.
Perhaps, through his absolute dedication to living a full life with boundless energy and industry, by his very refusal to do anything by half measures, by his willingness to help others, he took too much out of himself. But, even if he had known, I don't think that he would have changed much. That was not his way. All that we can do is feel a deep and lasting gratitude for what he has given us and the Classics, and regret the great loss of Ken himself and all that he would have given.

Norman Hackerman
President of the University of Texas at Austin, Texas

Eugene W. Nelson
Secretary of the General Faculty

These resolutions were prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors George Doig, Chairman, Gareth Morgan and John Herington.
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I. Books

*Date and Author of the Satyricon.* Monograph Press, 1968.


II. Articles


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III. Reviews


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J.P. Sullivan, (trans.), Petronius, the Satyricon and the Fragments,


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Additions
