



**THE FOUNDERS OF
THE ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN
COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS**



The Founders of The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

Edited by

Sir Patrick Kenny

*President, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons,
1969-1971*

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**The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
MELBOURNE**



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Introduction

Sir Patrick Kenny

This is a necessarily brief account of those surgeons who signed the original *Exordium* to establish the College. It is a multiauthored task in which a leading Fellow in each State of Australia and New Zealand has participated, and will serve as an historical record of the times of each of our Founding Fathers.

According to Smith's excellent History of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons from 1920 to 1935, published in *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery* 40, August 1971, 41 surgeons can be listed as Founders of the College. They were:

New South Wales

A. J. Brady	Sir Alexander MacCormick
William Chisholm	Frank Antill Pockley
C. P. B. Clubbe	F. P. Sandes
C. E. Corlette	E. T. Thring
R. Gordon Craig	Ralph Worrall
Thomas Fiaschi	

Victoria

Sir James Barrett	Reginald Morrison
H. B. Devine	D. Murray Morton
A. L. Kenny	R. Hamilton Russell
B. Kilvington	Sir George Syme
Felix Meyer	B. T. Zwar

New Zealand

Sir Hugh Acland	Sir Donald McGavin
Sir Louis Barnett	Sir Carrick Robertson
Sir Henry Ferguson	D. S. Wylie

South Australia

Sir Arthur Cudmore
Anstey Giles
A. M. Morgan

Sir Henry Newland
Sir Thomas Wilson

Queensland

Donald Cameron
G. P. Dixon
Lockhart Gibson

E. S. Jackson
W. N. Robertson

Tasmania

D. H. Lines

Sir John Ramsay

Western Australia

F. A. Hadley

W. Trethowan

In April 1927 Thomas Fiaschi died, and in May 1927 C. E. Corlette signed the *Exordium* as a Founder. A. J. Brady also died in 1927.

As these Founding Fathers are unknown except to a small fragment of senior Fellows, it has been thought an integral part of college history to present short biographical notes about each. In this I have sought the valued aid of Sir Douglas Miller for the New South Wales Founders, Mr Russell Howard for the Victorian, Mr Alistair McEachern the South Australian, Sir Clarence Leggett the Queensland, Mr Wyn Beasley the New Zealand, Mr Peter Braithwaite the Tasmanian, and Mr Donald Fleming the Western Australian. Each has responded magnificently and done much arduous searching of archives to effect what must be a unique presentation.

**New South Wales**

Sir Patrick Kenny and Sir Douglas Miller

Andrew John Brady

Born in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, on 23 July 1849, and educated at Pretoria in Erniskillen, Andrew John Brady (Fig. 1) gained Licentiates of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland and the King's and Queen's Colleges of Physicians in

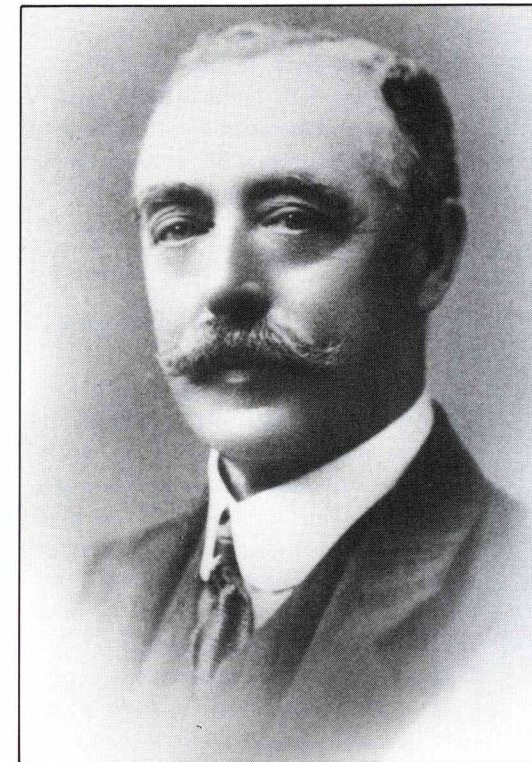


Fig. 1 Andrew Brady

Dublin in 1872 and a year later, his Licentiate in midwifery. He migrated to Australia and took up practice with his uncle John Moffat in Castlereagh Street, Sydney, and was appointed to a position at the Sydney Hospital. A little later he moved to Lyons Terrace where he practised until 1911. In 1882 he was a Councillor of the British Medical Association and in 1883 travelled to Vienna where he worked in Politzer's famous ear, nose and throat clinic.

He had been appointed to the staff of Sydney Hospital in 1881, and on his return from Vienna he worked assiduously for the formation of an ENT Department, which was instituted in 1887 under his care. It was so successful that he was invited to begin a similar service at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. He was also instrumental in a Dental Department and a School of Nursing being commenced at the Sydney Hospital.

He was President of the New South Wales branch of the British Medical Association in 1904.

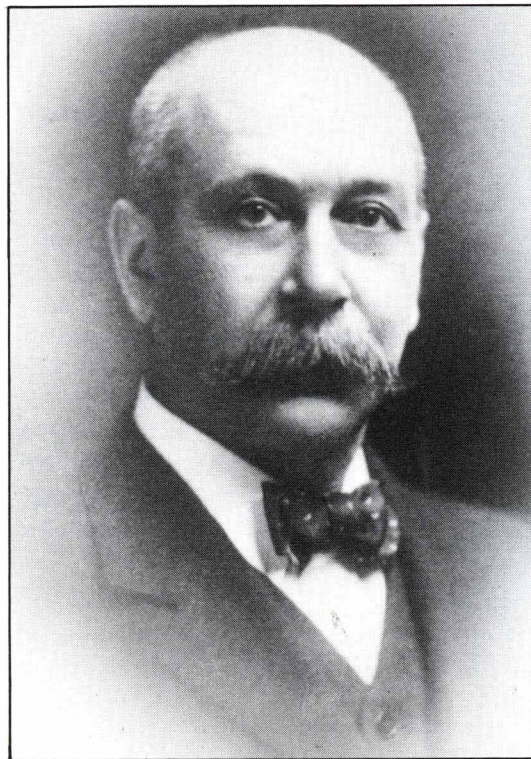


Fig. 2 William Chisholm



A courtly, lovable gentleman with a world wide reputation, he was elected President of the Rod Fishers' Society. He was a good golfer as well as a great surgeon. He died in 1927.

William Chisholm

William Chisholm (Fig. 2) was born near Goulburn in 1853, was educated at The King's School and became captain of the school. In 1872 he studied at Sydney University as a resident at St Paul's College, and graduated BA in 1875. Going to England he studied medicine and became MRCS in 1880 and MD in 1883.

After returning to Australia he was appointed surgeon to the staff of St Vincent's Hospital in 1885 and retired in 1889. He then became surgeon to the Sydney Hospital for Sick Children where he was associated with C. P. B. Clubbe. From 1889–1894 he was surgeon on the staff of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and was then appointed to the staff of Sydney Hospital where he served until given consultant status in 1911. He was a member of the hospital board from 1903–1908.

In 1910 he went to Europe and in 1914 at the outbreak of World War I he was in Vienna. He travelled to England and joined the RAMC, later transferring to the Australian Army Medical Corps, and worked at the Australian Voluntary Hospital in Wimereux and the Stationary Hospital at Southwall, London. The William Chisholm operating theatre at the Sydney Hospital was named in his honour in 1930. He died in 1941.

Charles Percy Barlow Clubbe

Born near Hughenden in Buckinghamshire in 1852, and educated at Uppingham School and St Bartholomews Hospital, Charles Clubbe (Fig. 3) graduated MRCS, LRCP, in 1877 and was appointed house surgeon to Kidderminster Hospital. In 1880 he saw service as a surgeon in the Zulu war. He was then appointed to the Manchester Children's Hospital, but in 1882 because of a 'chest complaint' migrated to Australia and established a general practice in the Sydney suburb of Randwick.

In 1884 he was appointed to the honorary surgical staff of the Hospital for Sick Children at Glebe, and in 1889 to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.

His surgical skill was widely recognized by his colleagues as early as 1888 with his success with urgent tracheostomy and diphtheria antitoxin in diphtheria. His monumental work on the diagnosis and treatment of intussusception in 1905 sealed his fame. His service at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children extended from 1884 to 1932, and he was President of the Board of Management from 1903 until his death. He was clinical lecturer in the University of Sydney from 1895 to 1907, a consultant surgeon to

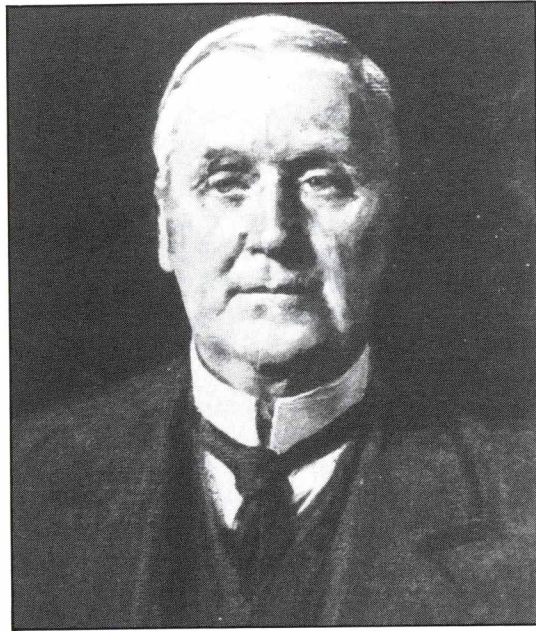


Fig. 3 Sir Charles Clubbe

the Coast Hospital, the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute and the Greycliffe Hospital and President of the Bush Nursing Association and the NSW Antipoliomyelitis Committee. He was President of the NSW branch of the BMA in 1897 and in 1907 was elected an honorary fellow of the American College of Surgeons. 1927?

His treatment of talipes and his use of subcutaneous tibial osteotomy were the first manifestations of orthopaedic surgery as a specialty in Sydney. He was created a KBE in 1927. He died in 1932.

Cyril Ernest Corlette

Cyril Corlette (Fig. 4) was the son of the Rev. Dr J. C. Corlette, MA, DD, and the grandson of Sir William Manning, Attorney General of NSW and Chancellor of the University of Sydney and Captain J. C. Corlette, master mariner.

Born in 1868 he was educated at Sydney Grammar School and later graduated MB, BS, from the University of Sydney in 1892. Appointed as a resident medical officer at Sydney Hospital, he subsequently became one of the first two doctors of medicine of Sydney University in 1895. After postgraduate work in the UK and Europe, during

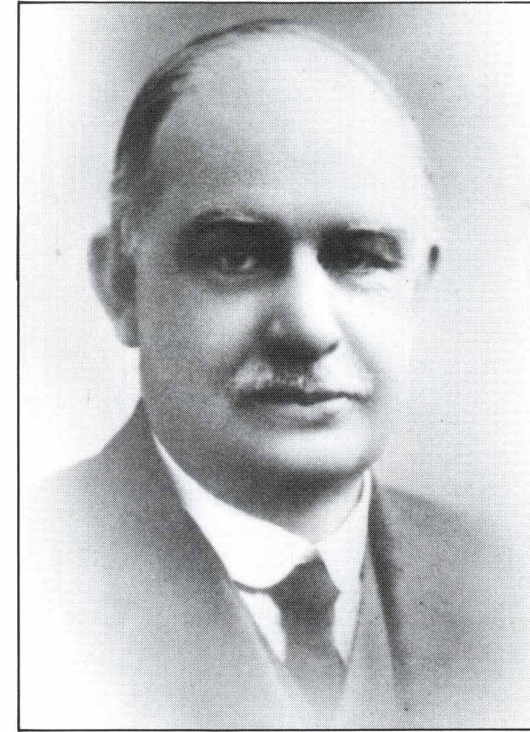


Fig. 4 Cyril Corlette

which time he gained the DPH (Cambridge) in 1898, he returned to become City Health Officer in Sydney, and started general practice in Liverpool Street, Sydney. The year 1900 saw his appointment as honorary surgeon to Sydney Hospital, and in 1913 he entered specialist surgical practice in Macquarie Street, Sydney.

He was assistant pathologist to Sydney Hospital from 1900 to 1912, and retired from active staff to become consultant surgeon in 1928, when he also became consultant surgeon to Balmain Hospital. He served on the Board of Directors of Sydney Hospital from 1928 to 1957, and was a pioneer in the use of local anaesthesia and published extensively in the medical literature. He died in 1960.

Robert Gordon Craig

Born in Ardrossan, Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1870, Gordon Craig (Fig. 5) came with his family to Sydney in 1878. His education was commenced at Sydney Grammar School

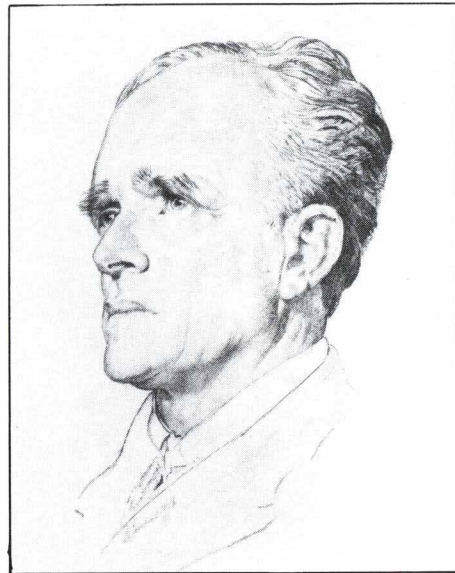


Fig. 5 Gordon Craig

and continued in Edinburgh. On his return to Australia, he studied arts for a year at Sydney University during which time he developed typhoid fever. Later he spent a year in a shipping office (his father was a master mariner) after which he returned to University to graduate MB, BS, with first class honours and the university medal in 1894. After residency at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and a term in general practice in Newtown, he was appointed honorary assistant surgeon to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1900.

In 1908 he left general practice for postgraduate study in England and America, repeating this every 5 years. He then commenced specialist practice in Macquarie Street and owned his own building 'Ardrossan'. He became a pioneer of urology and was made honorary surgeon to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1911, eventually switching to be urologist in 1926. In 1920 he had endowed a Fellowship in Urology at RPAH and the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children with a donation of 20000 pounds.

He is credited with introducing ether anaesthesia at RPAH in 1909.

He bequeathed a sum of 60000 pounds to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons to foster postgraduate education and research, a large part of the investment income going to build up the Gordon Craig Library in the College. He died in 1931.

A keen yachtsman and golfer, he was also President of the NSW branch of the British Medical Association.

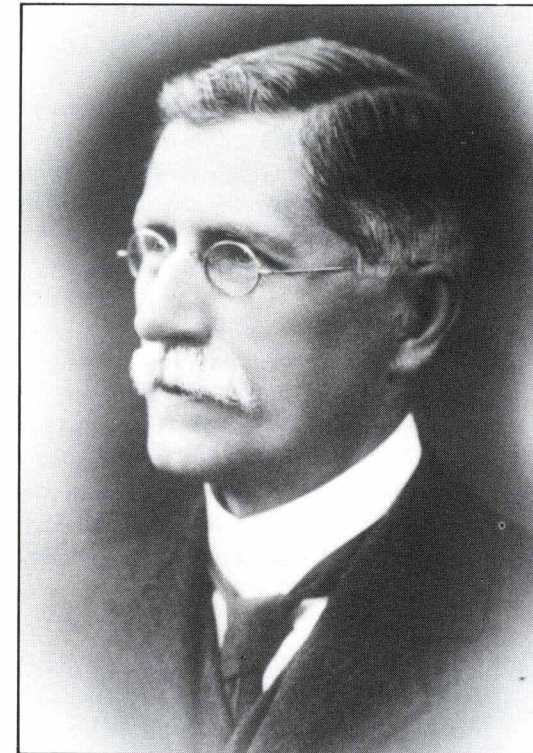


Fig. 6 Thomas Fiaschi

Thomas Henry Fiaschi

The son of a Professor of Mathematics at Florence University, Thomas Fiaschi was born on 31 May 1853. He undertook medical courses at the Universities of Florence and Pisa, and graduated MD from both in 1877. He migrated to Australia and for a short time practised in Cooktown, Queensland, before moving to Windsor, NSW. He was appointed honorary surgeon to the local hospital, and also in 1894 to the Sydney Hospital. He was President of the NSW branch of the British Medical Association in 1899.

Fiaschi (Fig. 6) offered his services to the Italian authorities in the Italian-Abyssinian War, and received the Order of St Maurice and St Lazarus and the Crown of Italy. After the war he travelled through Italy and America. In the Boer War he commanded the No. 1 Field Hospital and his bravery in the field won him the DSO. In 1911 he became principal medical officer of the Second Military District as a Colonel.

A strict disciplinarian, he took command of the No. 3 Australian General Hospital at Lemnos, and was later invalided to England. When about to be repatriated, he rejoined the Italian army and subsequently fell victim to beri-beri.

An expert viticulturist, he earned a reputation as a great surgeon, a fine soldier, a fluent master of French, Italian and English, and a gentleman who would say to his house surgeons in the middle of the night, 'Disease knows no holiday'. 'El Porcellino' erected by his daughter in front of Sydney Hospital will always remind his successors that he was a man of eminence. He died in 1927.

Alexander MacCormick

Born in 1856, Alexander MacCormick graduated at Edinburgh in 1880, in company with Robert Scott Skirving and Arthur Conan Doyle, following which he worked as a house surgeon in Liverpool.

He accepted T. P. Anderson Stuart's invitation to become a demonstrator in the new Medical School at Sydney University and arrived in Australia in 1882. He gained an appointment to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in 1883 and was the first in this



Fig. 7 Sir Alexander MacCormick



hemisphere to use Listerian principles, much to the derision of some of his elders. He was appointed lecturer in surgery and although he did not shine as a didactic teacher he was an excellent exemplar. He was admitted MD of the University of Sydney (*Ad Eundem Gradum*) in 1888.

He rapidly built up a large surgical practice and for 40 years was unchallenged as the surgical leader in Sydney. After 30 years at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital he retired at the age of 58 and was appointed to St Vincent's Hospital in 1914 where he worked until the age of 75. In addition he worked in his own hospital, 'The Terraces', now the Scottish Hospital in Paddington. He also held an appointment at Prince Henry Hospital.

He was granted an honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, was a foundation fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and its first Vice-President, resigning in 1933 without ever having attended a council meeting. He had seen active service in the South African War and the 1914-18 War.

Knighted in 1913, Alexander MacCormick (Fig. 7) retired to the Isle of Jersey after a surgical career spanning 50 years and died at the age of 91 in 1947.

H. M. Moran says of him 'he achieved the greatest fortune ever made in surgery in this country' (this may no longer be true) — 'and every penny of it honestly'.

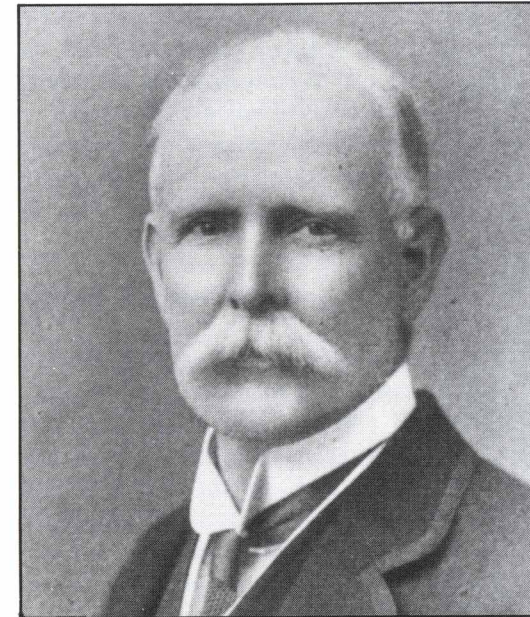


Fig. 8 Francis Pockley

Francis Antill Pockley

Born in Sydney in 1857, the son of a sea captain of renown, and a mother who was the youngest daughter of Major Henry Antill, who was Governor Macquarie's ADC in 1809, Francis Pockley (Fig. 8) came from pioneer stock on both sides of the family. After his schooling at Sydney Grammar School, he spent several years acquiring business knowledge in the Commercial Bank of Sydney before proceeding to Edinburgh where he graduated in Medicine with first class honours and topped his year.

He journeyed to Vienna in 1884 for postgraduate study, and was present when Kohler realized the anaesthetic properties of cocaine. He brought back to Australia 3 grains of cocaine, for which he paid 3 pounds, and performed the first eye operation in Australia using cocaine — the extraction of a cataract.

After some years in general practice at North Sydney, he embraced the specialty of ophthalmology in 1892 and became the doyen of that branch of medicine. He was appointed lecturer in ophthalmic medicine and surgery in the University of Sydney

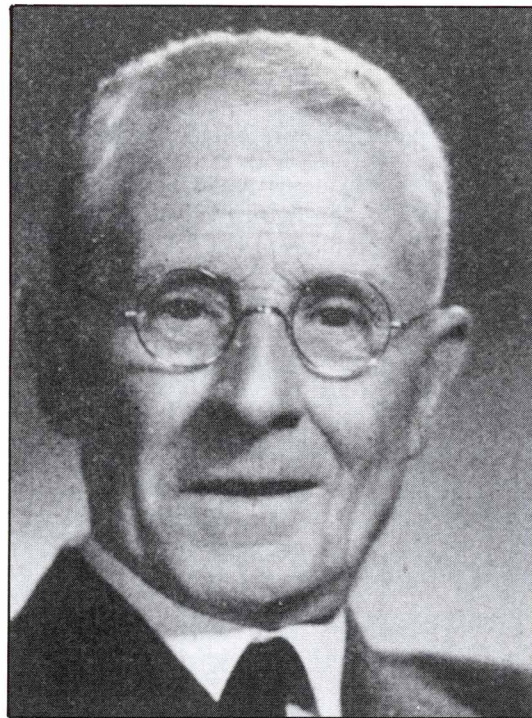


Fig. 9 Francis Sandes



Medical School, and ophthalmic surgeon to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and he held his lectureship for the record term of 37 years. Granted the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1911, he was President of the NSW branch of the BMA, and President of the Australian Medical Congress in 1911. He died in 1941.

Francis Percival Sandes

Born in 1876 and educated at Brisbane Grammar School, he qualified, MB, BS, from the University of Sydney 1899, and MD with first class honours and the university medal in 1903. In 1913 he also qualified BSc. After graduation Francis Sandes (Fig. 9) spent 2 years as a resident medical officer at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital. He then entered general practice and at the same time became demonstrator in anatomy. Later, he was for a time, acting professor of anatomy. In 1908 he was appointed honorary assistant surgeon to Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and served on the surgical staff for his full term. He was lecturer in surgery at the University of Sydney from 1915 to 1920, when he was appointed as the first professor of surgery — a part-time appointment, which he held until 1927. From 1921 he had been Honorary Secretary of the Cancer Research Committee and in 1928 was made Director of Cancer Treatment in the University Cancer Research Organization. He held this post until 1934. He took an active interest in the affairs of the British Medical Association for many years. In 1927 he was foundation member of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and composed the 'Exordium'.

Very much a man-of-affairs, he was an amusing, interesting conversationalist and raconteur. His manner was cheerful, unaffected and friendly, and he had a great many admirers in the profession. He died in 1945.

Edward Thomas Thring

Born in 1860, he proceeded to University College Hospital for his medical education, where he had a brilliant student career, and graduated MRCS in 1882 and LRCP in 1883, followed by FRCS in 1885. Edward Thring (Fig. 10) arrived in Australia in 1886 and entered practice in partnership with Drs Collingwood and Twynam at Petersham, Sydney. For 6 years he served on the staff of Lewisham Hospital and in 1890 moved to Macquarie Street to specialize in gynaecology. In 1889 he was appointed to the staff of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and later served that institution for 58 years, becoming a consultant in 1915 when he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. He subsequently transferred to the Australian Army Medical Corps in 1917 to serve in France.



Fig. 10 Edward Thring

One of the most brilliant technical surgeons of his day, he achieved a wide reputation as a charming intelligent man with interests in the arts, literature and sport. An excellent swordsman, horseman, and general athlete, he was founder and first President of the Australian Massage Association, President of the Australasian Trained Nurses Association, and was on the board of the Bank of New South Wales. He was surgeon to the Royal Hospital for Women, Paddington, gave 10 years of service to the Coast Hospital, and was President of the New South Wales branch of the British Medical Association. He died in 1947.

Ralph Worrall

Born in Ireland in 1859, he had little formal education but still managed to graduate in medicine at Queen's University at the age of 19 years in 1879. Within a few weeks of graduation he became locum tenens at a charitable dispensary in Liverpool, following which he made several voyages to the River Plate (Argentina) and Brazil as Medical

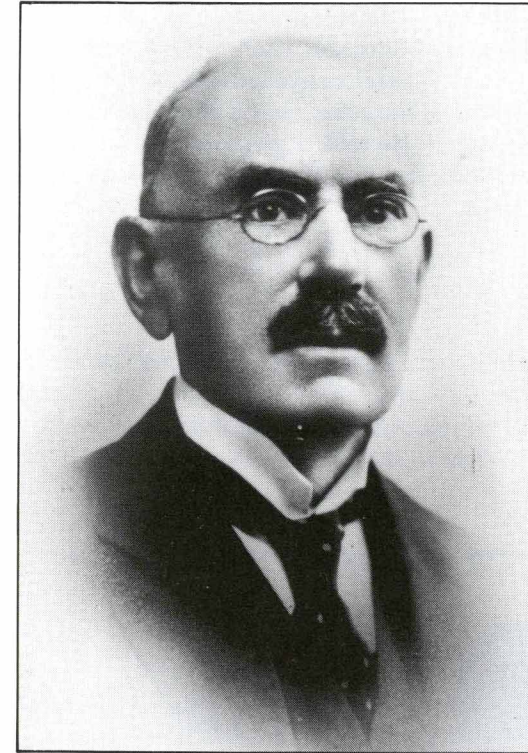


Fig. 11 Ralph Worrall

Officer to migrants. His return to Liverpool coincided with a typhus epidemic and at the age of 21 years he became Medical Superintendent of Mill Road Hospital for 2 years, followed by an appointment as Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator to the City of Liverpool.

When troubled by ill-health, Ralph Worrall (Fig. 11) migrated to Australia, arriving in 1885, and began private practice in College Street, Sydney. When he founded a gynaecology clinic at the district dispensary, the board of Sydney Hospital was stimulated to form a Gynaecology Department to which he was appointed. He became senior surgeon in 1896 and consultant surgeon in 1919. A quick but meticulous operator, he is credited with the introduction of aseptic surgery to Sydney Hospital and of various innovations such as foot taps for wash basins, sterilizers for instruments and dressings, and an adjustable theatre table.

Active in the affairs of the Sydney Hospital, he was medical representative on the board from 1911 to 1914 and Chairman of the board from 1914 to 1938, President of

the New South Wales branch of the British Medical Association in 1890, and a Councillor of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons 1927 to 1931. With many publications, he was regarded as the doyen of Australian gynaecologists, received an honorary fellowship of the American College of Surgeons, and is commemorated by the Ralph Worrall theatre at Sydney Hospital. He took a great interest in medical publications in Australia and was a frequent contributor. His last years were burdened by Parkinson's disease and he died in 1942.



Victoria

R. N. Howard

James William Barrett

James Barrett, eldest son of James Barrett, physician, and his wife Caroline Oliver, née Edkins, was born on 27 February 1862, at Emerald Hill (South Melbourne). His parents migrated from Oxfordshire shortly after his father's graduation and had nine children, four of whom graduated in medicine at the University of Melbourne.

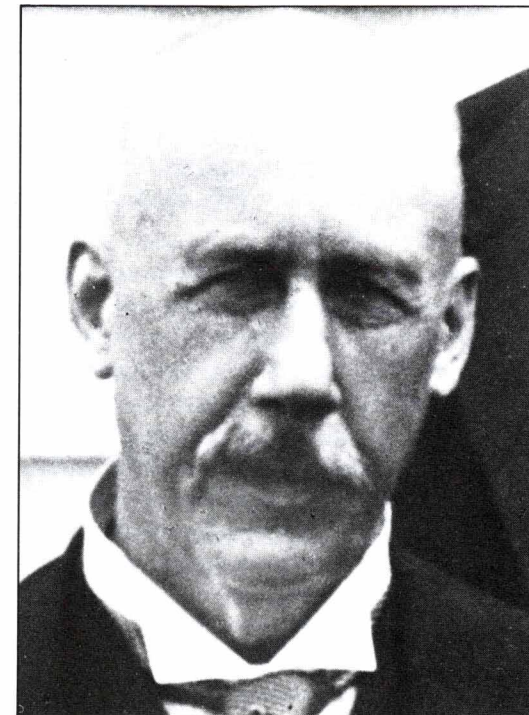


Fig. 12 Sir James Barrett

James William Barrett (Fig. 12) was educated at Melbourne Church of England Grammar School and Carlton College, where he was dux. In 1877 he matriculated and entered the University of Melbourne. He enrolled in the medical course along with George Adlington Syme, his academic rival at the time, and finished second to Syme (with whom he shared honours and exhibitions throughout the course) amongst the nine graduates in 1881.

He worked for over 2 years as a resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, where he published his first paper, 'Typhoid Fever in Victoria. In 1883 he went to London (MRCS 1884; FRCS 1887) and became demonstrator of physiology at King's College. Nevertheless, his main work here was done at Moorfields, where he was a clinical assistant for 2½ years. The great diversity of his interests was shown here by papers written on neurofibroma, hydatid disease in Victoria, the nature of the movement of the cardiac muscle; and, somewhat more topical, the use of homatropine and the mammalian retina. At this time he visited Austria and Germany, where he met Robert Koch.

Returning to Melbourne in 1886, he obtained the MD in 1887 and the MS in 1888 — again in the company of Syme. He now entered private practice, becoming part-time demonstrator in physiology and histology at the university and commencing a long association with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. He was appointed assistant lecturer in physiology and, from 1903 to 1935, was honorary lecturer in the physiology of the special senses. He became Vice-Chancellor of the University in 1931, succeeding the late General Sir John Monash and, 4 years later, succeeded the late Sir John MacFarlane as Chancellor, continuing in that office until 1939. Sir James was a member of the University Council from 1901 until his death.

His World War I record was unique. On the outbreak of war he became secretary of the Australian Red Cross Society and in October joined the AIF with the rank of major (serving without pay until the following May, when he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel). He was appointed to the 1st AGH at Heliopolis as registrar and oculist, and was also consultant to the British forces in Egypt. He was executive officer of the Australian Red Cross Society and was shortly appointed (completely irregularly) by the British Director of Medical Services as Assistant Director of Medical Services, Australian Forces, thus securing authority which went far beyond the 1st AGH. He proceeded to carry out his varied duties with immense energy and ability and succeeded in antagonizing all and sundry. He was described by Major (Sir) Stanley Argyle as 'the octopus of Heliopolis' and had a finger (or tentacle) in every pie. The situation was clearly impossible, and by July 1915, the 1st AGH was unmanageable. A War Office inquiry resulted in its CO and matron being recalled to Australia, and Barrett was relieved of all military duties (although maintaining his Red Cross activities). Lengthy and largely inaccurate charges were laid about his Red Cross administration, and his resignation was demanded — and obtained. He asked for an



inquiry, which exonerated him from any culpability in regard to either Red Cross or Army activities. Nevertheless he was ordered home.

Barrett now staged a remarkable *volte face*. He arranged to be invalided to London on 2 months' sick leave and there used all his energy and charm to arrange his transfer to the British Army after resignation from the AIF in February, 1916. He returned to Egypt in the RAMC with the same rank as before, serving as consulting aurist to the Egypt Expeditionary Force and, in 1917, as president of the invaliding and classification boards for most of Egypt.

He returned to Australia in 1919, and with inexhaustible energy threw himself into all manner of public works in addition to medical practice as an ophthalmologist. He was active on innumerable committees and, at the age of 75, was president of twelve, vice-president of two, chairman of seven and honorary secretary of three.

It is generally conceded that his most important achievement was the foundation, in 1910, of the Bush Nursing Association movement, which largely transformed medical practice in country areas. By 1945 there were bush nursing hospitals and 15 nursing centres in Victoria, all owing their existence to his vision and drive.

His first wife died in 1939, leaving three daughters and one surviving son; a second son was killed in the war. He was a talented pianist, and his great love of orchestral music was partly responsible for his meeting and subsequent marriage with Monica Heinze, the sister of Sir Bernard Heinze, in 1940.

As if the qualities outlined above were not enough, Barrett was a brilliant and lucid speaker, able, in a few well-chosen phrases, to clarify, and suggest the solution of, the most complex subject at debate. He was at all times courteous and never lost his calm control of discussion.

Perhaps because of his almost unbelievable versatility, tinged with jealousy of his enthusiasm and ability, he was not popular among his professional colleagues. An almost absent sense of humour was no help in this regard.

Once, when delivering a lunch-time lecture to first, second and third year medical students on one of his great interests, venereal disease, he opened with: 'I do not propose to discuss the signs and symptoms of venereal disease — you will get those later'. The uproarious applause brought only a mildly annoyed expression to his face.

He published six books and innumerable scientific articles and letters to the daily press. He was, of course, a founder of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, but one feels it was never close to his heart. He died in 1945. Perusal of two obituaries has failed to reveal any mention of even the name of the College (although, of course, the responsibility for this must lie with the respective writers).

His funeral cortege passed through the University grounds, and the Chancellor, Mr Justice (Sir Charles) Lowe, referred to Sir James as one of the most distinguished citizens of his generation. 'None in the past 40 years exercised a greater influence on the work of the University than he.' And these comments are so true of so many of the fields in which his influence was exerted.

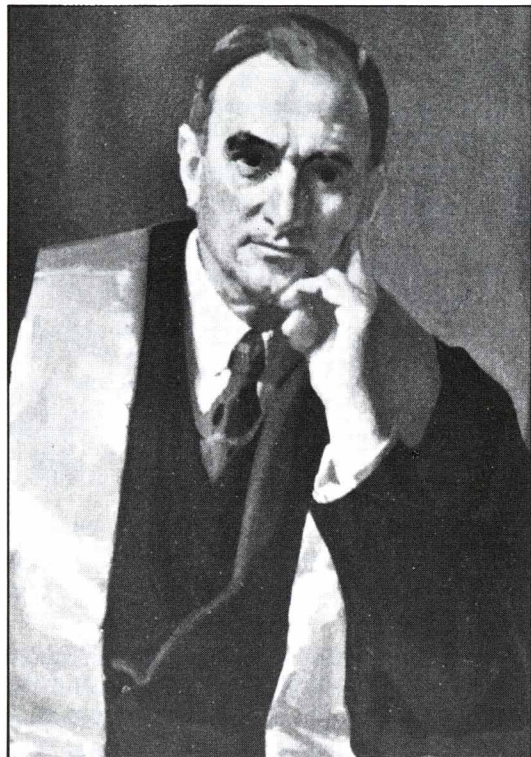


Fig. 13 Sir Hugh Devine

Hugh Berchmans Devine

Hugh Berchmans Devine was born in Victoria in 1878, educated at St Patrick's College, Ballarat, and did his medical course at Queen's College in the University of Melbourne. He graduated in 1907 with first-class honours and the Beane prize in surgery. The following year he spent as a resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and for a time acted as medical superintendent. Then, on the recommendation of Sir Thomas Dunhill, he was appointed to the staff of St Vincent's Hospital and assisted in the foundation of its clinical school.

In 1911 he visited Europe, Britain and the USA. Working at the Allgemeines Krankenhaus in Vienna, he interested himself in the developing practice of roentgenology, particularly as it affected the investigation of the alimentary tract, thus having his attention directed early to the field of surgery to which he made his best-known contributions.



He returned to Melbourne in 1913, obtained the degree of Master of Surgery and again identified himself with St Vincent's Hospital, with which his whole surgical career was bound up. He eventually became Dean of the Clinical School and, on retiring from the active staff, honorary consulting surgeon.

During the first world war he served as lieutenant-colonel in the Australian Army Medical Corps.

In the field of surgery Devine (Fig. 13) was an original and deep thinker. Having something of a mechanical bent, he devised a series of instruments which bear his name. The one which became best known and was very widely used throughout Australia was the self-retaining abdominal retractor which, in the days before the use of relaxants in anaesthesia, was of outstanding use in simplifying abdominal exposure. Although he was best known for his abdominal surgery, his repertoire was most comprehensive, and he was a brilliant example of the now vanished race of general surgeons.

The suggestion for the foundation of an Australasian College of Surgeons first came from Sir Louis Barnett of Dunedin in 1920, but no headway was made until the visit to Australia, in 1924, of Dr William J. Mayo and Dr Franklin Martin, who had been active in the formation of the American College. This visit acted as a stimulus, and in 1926 a letter was sent to senior surgeons in Australia over the signatures of G. A. Syme, R. Hamilton Russell and H. B. Devine. From this time on Devine devoted much of his time and energies to furthering the project and, at a meeting of the founders in 1927 at Dunedin, was elected a member of the first council. In the same year he was the prime mover in the formation of *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery* and the first chairman of the editorial committee, retaining that position for 20 years.

In 1936 he was created a Knight Bachelor, an honorary fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1937, and President of the Australasian College in 1939. In the same year he was awarded an honorary fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. Other honours which came his way were honorary fellowship of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, honorary fellowship of the Royal Society of Medicine, honorary fellowship of the Greek Surgical Society, and honorary fellowship of the International College of Surgeons.

He married in 1912. There were three children of the marriage, two daughters and one son, John. John followed in his father's footsteps as a surgeon and died prematurely in 1956 — a great blow to his father, with whom he had so much in common.

Sir Hugh was a prolific writer, producing two textbooks on abdominal and gastrointestinal surgery as well as numerous articles in medical journals.

As a tribute to his memory, the August 1960 number of *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery* was dedicated to him and named 'The Hugh Devine Number'. His memory is further honoured by Council's decision in 1972 to have struck the Hugh Devine Medal — to be awarded for meritorious services to surgery, the highest honour the College can bestow on a Fellow during his lifetime.

Hugh Berchmans Devine passed away in 1959, after a short illness, in his eighty-second year. None was more active in the foundation of the College than he.

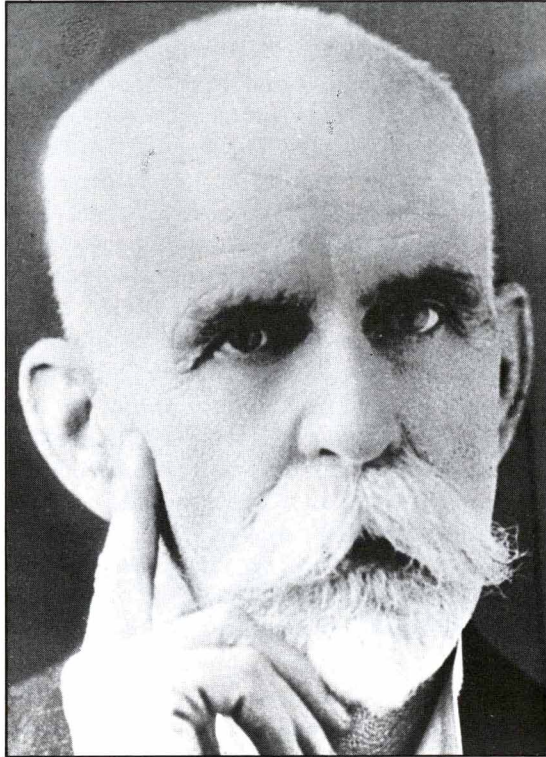


Fig. 14 Augustus Kenny

Augustus Leo Kenny

Augustus Leo Kenny (Fig. 14) was born in Salford, Manchester, England, in 1863. His early education was commenced at the Christian Brothers' College, Manchester, and after migration of the family in 1870, continued at the Christian Brothers' College, Melbourne, followed by St Patrick's College and Xavier College. He matriculated from the University of Melbourne, where he graduated MB in 1885 and ChB in 1886.

In 1886 he was appointed as the first resident surgeon of the Eye and Ear Hospital. Following this, he went to England to further his studies and became a member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom in 1888. After his return to



Melbourne he was appointed, in 1893, honorary ophthalmic and aural surgeon to St Vincent's Hospital, thus becoming a member of its first honorary medical staff. He resigned his appointment in 1908 to devote himself to private practice.

Kenny was one of the founders of the Ophthalmological Society of Melbourne in 1899 — the first ophthalmological society in the Australian colonies. He chaired a meeting of five Melbourne surgeons especially interested in diseases of the eye and ear and known as oculists and aurists, and from this meeting stemmed the Ophthalmological Society of Melbourne. Despite this enthusiastic start, he took little further part in the affairs of the Society.

In the same year, at the early age of 36, he was elected president of the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association and subsequently, after amalgamation with the Medical Society of Victoria, re-elected president in 1914. He was honorary general secretary of the Australasian Medical Congress in 1923. The influence exerted by Kenny on the conduct of medical politics in Victoria is apparent from his record, and this, along with his eminence as an ophthalmologist and the immense respect his contemporaries had for his opinions and judgement, was responsible for his selection as a founder of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1927. He was a member of the Medical Board of Victoria and a founder of Newman College.

A very prominent layman of the Roman Catholic Church, during a visit to Rome he served as Privy Chamberlain of the Cape and Sword and was decorated by two popes — the Knighthood of St Gregory being conferred in 1888 and the Grand Cross of the same order in 1927. In 1932 he was awarded the CBE.

On the more personal side he was a good oarsman and cricketer, a fine horseman, and a well-known identity at the Melbourne Cricket Club. His interest in the arts was considerable and covered music, painting and sculpture; he was something of an authority on Persian rugmaking and a competent pianist. He married for the second time in 1912 and had two sons and two daughters, one of the latter (Elizabeth) becoming a member of the medical profession. His first wife had died childless.

After a long and harrowing illness he died in 1946 at the age of 83, truly a man of great talent and versatility through the exercise of which he had been able to accomplish so much.

Basil Kilvington

Basil Kilvington was born in Hartlepool, Durham, England, on 6 August 1877. He commenced his education at Greenoch. When he was 11 his family migrated to Australia, and he attended Camberwell Grammar School, where he matriculated for the University of Melbourne in 1893, completing his medical course in 1898.

He spent the following year as resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital and then became tutor at Trinity College, spending most of his time doing



Fig. 15 Basil Kilvington

research work and teaching in the Department of Anatomy and Pathology under the guidance of Sir Harry Allen. He obtained his MD degree in 1901 and his MS in 1902.

When the Physiology School was formed in 1904 he continued his research with Professor W. A. Osborne and devoted his time to the study of nerve regeneration. He was awarded the Syme Research Prize in 1908. About this time he married Lucy May, who shared his literary interests and was his devoted companion until his death. They had two sons. Kilvington (Fig. 15) was in general practice in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for a short time during his early years, but soon gave this up to devote himself to surgical work and consulting practice.

When, in 1909, a vacancy arose in the surgical outpatient department of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, he was elected to the position by the newly constituted advisory board — one of the first appointments made in this way. Until 1907 appointments to the honorary staff had been determined by the voting of hospital subscribers. The last election of this nature had been in 1907 and was described as a 'sorry spectacle'. Hence the change to what is still the routing procedure.



Kilvington's surgical technique was immaculate and performed quickly, efficiently, with a minimum of fuss. He was noted as an imperturbable operator. On one occasion the writer, in company with other students, was watching him perform a laminectomy for a presumed tumour causing spinal cord pressure. The tumour was exposed and debate as to its nature ensued — it was obviously highly vascular, possibly an aneurysm. A tentative incision into it resulted in a spurt of blood which almost hit the theatre wall and caused rapid evasive action on the part of all around the operating table — except the surgeon. 'Kilvy' watched the jet of blood for a second or so and then pressed a pack into the wound, saying quietly 'yes, it's an aneurysm'. The other occupants of the theatre were much more moved! He retired as inpatient surgeon in 1934 to become a consultant surgeon to the hospital. He returned to active work at the seat of his former triumphs during the second world war when the surgical staff was depleted by those away on war service.

He was President of the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association in 1921 and was for many years Stewart Lecturer in Surgery in the University of Melbourne. The formation of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons was a project which he espoused with enthusiasm, and he was a founder as well as a foundation fellow.

On his retirement from the Royal Melbourne Hospital he was appointed consultant surgeon to Prince Henry's Hospital — the first surgeon to hold that position during its metamorphosis from the Homeopathic Hospital to its new role as a postgraduate teaching hospital. His advice and help with its surgical and administrative problems were invaluable.

Latterly his health slowly failed, and he finally succumbed in 1947 after a period of several months in hospital.

Felix Henry Meyer

Felix Henry Meyer was born in Melbourne in June, 1858. His father had emigrated from the United States of America in 1853. After early education at smaller schools he entered Wesley College on an exhibition in 1873 and was dux of the school 2 years later, when he passed his matriculation examination with credit.

Meyer (Fig. 16) commenced his medical course at the University of Melbourne in 1876 and graduated in 1880 after a distinguished course. He subsequently obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1902. He was instrumental in the foundation of the Medical Students Society in 1880.

For a short time he was resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital before being appointed sole resident medical officer at the Lying-in Hospital (now the Royal Women's Hospital). Here he initiated the course for nurses and clinics for medical students. He resigned from the hospital in 1885 to enter private practice as a specialist in diseases of women. In 1887 he was appointed senior indoor obstetrician

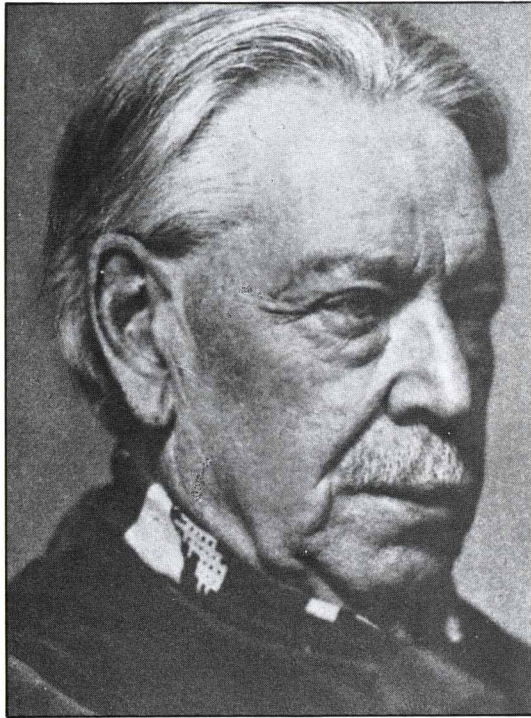


Fig. 16 Felix Meyer

and in 1891 senior indoor gynaecological surgeon, which position he occupied until his retirement from the staff in 1918. In 1914 he was appointed lecturer in obstetrics and gynaecology in the University of Melbourne.

In 1893 Meyer represented the Victorian government and the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association at the International Medical Congress in Rome, and in 1894 was elected President of the Victorian branch. In 1916, at the request of the Council of the branch, he created the State Board of Examiners for the Midwifery Certificate and became its first chairman.

In practical surgery he was an excellent operator and performed the first panhysterectomy for uterine myoma at the Royal Women's Hospital, whilst the first two Caesarian Sections in Victoria were performed there by Meyer and M. U. O'Sullivan. He published a number of papers in his speciality in medical journals, and in Brisbane in 1932 delivered the Jackson Lecture, 'The makings of obstetrics'.

In 1904 he married Mary, the second daughter of Professor E. J. Nanson. They had no children.



Felix Meyer had a most versatile brain. In fields far removed from the practice of medicine he excelled. Personally attractive, he had full command of the social graces. His appreciation and understanding of music constituted his great joy, so also with the other arts of painting and sculpture. Extensive travel expanded his mind and furnished him with the opportunity to enjoy at first hand the beautiful things of this world. Full of the joy of life, he was a most entertaining conversationalist who basked in the admiration and affection of a wide circle of friends, whom he delighted to regale with the deep fund of his knowledge of literature and of the poets — in particular Shakespeare, Shelley and Keats. He wrote verse himself and contributed essays to local newspapers. Although he had little personal ability at sport, he was a familiar figure at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

His interest and attainments in surgery and his ability and eagerness to express to others his conviction that the formation of an Australasian College of Surgeons was a necessary step along the path of surgical progress were of great assistance in the controversial days of its formation.

Felix Henry Meyer died at the age of 79, an acknowledged leader of the medical profession, a man of culture in art and literature.

Reginald Herbert Morrison

Reginald Herbert Morrison (Fig. 17) was educated at Geelong College and did his medical course at Edinburgh University. He was a member of a notable family. His father, Dr George Morrison, founded Geelong College in 1861, and his brother, Norman, later became headmaster of the school. The famous 'Chinese' or 'Peking' Morrison, adviser to the Chinese Government in the Boxer Riots, was another brother.

'Reggie' Morrison (as he was universally known) graduated MB, ChM at Edinburgh in 1888. He returned to Melbourne about 1890 and built up a large and successful general practice in Toorak. Obstetrics and gynaecology soon became his main interest and he joined the honorary staff of the Royal Women's Hospital in 1899, practising first as an obstetrician and then as a gynaecologist, as was the hospital routine. He was appointed honorary gynaecological surgeon in 1925. He had previously relinquished general practice in 1910.

In 1920 he succeeded Dr Felix Meyer as lecturer in obstetrics and gynaecology in the University of Melbourne, retiring from this appointment in 1926.

In his youth Morrison was a top-class athlete in cricket, football, swimming and middle-distance running. He represented Scotland in international Rugby over three seasons and on his return to Australia played Australian Rules football for Geelong.

He was active in the foundation of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and subsequently a member of its Victorian State Committee.



Fig. 17 Reginald Morrison

Morrison was a tall, good-looking, well-proportioned man, greatly respected by his contemporaries and students. He practised medicine in a way which embraced the highest ideals of the profession.

He died in 1941 at the age of 76 years, leaving a family of three sons.

David Murray Morton

David Murray Morton was born in New Zealand in 1871. His parents moved to Australia and he was educated at the Christian Brothers' College in Wellington Parade, East Melbourne. He matriculated at the age of 14 years, but was unable to start his medical course, at the University of Melbourne, until 2 years later. He graduated with honours and the exhibition in medicine in 1892. He served 1 year as



Fig. 18 Murray Morton

resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital followed by 2½ years at the Alfred Hospital.

In 1896 he began general practice in Richmond and in the same year was appointed anaesthetist at St Vincent's Hospital, 3 years after the foundation of the hospital. He subsequently received a surgical appointment and continued his active association with the hospital until 1932 when he was appointed consulting surgeon. St Vincent's became a clinical school in 1910, and Murray Morton was its first Dean. He acted for many years as examiner in surgery at the University of Melbourne.

He obtained the degree of MD in 1899 and relinquished general practice in 1909. He then visited various medical centres in Europe, the USA and England, where he came in contact with Arbuthnot Lane and was much impressed with his open operative treatment of simple fractures. On his return to Melbourne he entered practice as a consulting surgeon and was one of the first Australian surgeons to use Lane's plates successfully. His fastidious application of the principles of asepsis was characteristic of

his surgery and undoubtedly contributed to his success. Whilst in America he became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Murray Morton (Fig. 18) was an excellent teacher and a most competent operator. He was a man of incorruptible probity with a wise head on his shoulders. These qualities were responsible for his association with the Medical Defence Association, of which he was president for many years. He was active in the establishment of the Australasian College of which he was a founder and a foundation fellow.

On his retirement from practice he was presented by his colleagues and old pupils with his portrait, in operating gown, cap and gloves, painted by Colin Colahan, which now hangs prominently in the board room at St Vincent's hospital. He died in 1959 as the result of a coronary occlusion 6 days after reaching his eighty-eighth birthday.

Robert Hamilton Russell

Robert Hamilton Russell (Fig. 19) was born at Farningham in Kent in 1860. His early education was at Nassau school near London, and from there he went to King's College, London. His medical course was completed at King's College Hospital, where he qualified as MRCS, LRCP in 1882. Here he was student and later house surgeon under Lord Lister, who was his inspiration throughout a long surgical career. He obtained the diploma of FRCS in 1889. For 2 years he was house surgeon to the Shropshire County Hospital and followed this with a period of 3 years furthering his medical education in various hospitals on the continent.

In 1889 he came to Melbourne, largely for the benefit of his health, and set up in general practice in the suburb of Hawthorn. This venture proved unsuccessful, but in 1892 he was appointed to the honorary staff of the Royal Children's Hospital, where he was welcomed by his professional colleagues and proved himself a man of exceptional ability and original thought. The problem of inguinal hernia came readily and rapidly to hand. In 1898 he read his first paper on the subject at the Inter-Colonial Medical Congress in Brisbane and the following year published in the *Lancet* a notable article 'The Aetiology and Treatment of Inguinal Hernia in the Young'. His published works on this subject brought him world recognition, and eventually his views prevailed, although after much controversy. At about this time he evolved his method for the treatment of fractured femur in the child in which no actual splint was used and suspension of the fractured limb and traction of the fracture were performed by the same weight. This 'Hamilton Russell suspension' is still in occasional use.

He was an honorary demonstrator in anatomy in the Melbourne Medical School at this time and, in order to widen the scope of his surgical work and clinical teaching, in 1901 he applied for a position on and was appointed to the honorary surgical staff of the Alfred Hospital. As anticipated, he was able to amplify his work in inguinal hernia and teach it by precept in wards and operating theatre. In this regard there is a saying

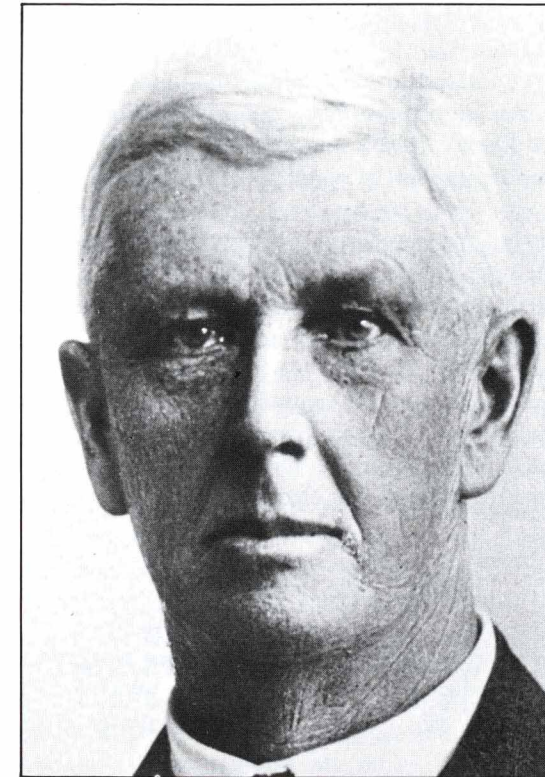


Fig. 19 Hamilton Russell

still to be heard at the Alfred Hospital, 'the sac the whole sac and nothing but the sac, so help me Hamilton Russell'. The treatment of urethral stricture claimed his attention, and he was the first to postulate that, were complete resection of the stricture performed, the urethra would reform if its roof was joined even though the remainder was left unsutured.

An early case of historic interest, in 1903, was the removal of a shawl pin from the lower lobe of the lung at thoracotomy — believed to be the first case of its kind in surgical history.

Two years after his appointment to the Alfred he was elected President of the Medical Society of Victoria. In August, 1914, Hamilton Russell was in England, enlisted in the British Expeditionary Force, and was sent to France where he served in Lady Dudley's Hospital. He returned to Melbourne with the rank of colonel and became attached to the base hospital at St Kilda and the Caulfield Military Hospital.

In 1920, on his retirement from the Alfred Hospital, Hamilton Russell was specially reappointed by the committee of management as a full surgeon to the Royal Children's Hospital for a period of 5 years. Both here and at the Alfred he exercised a notable influence on his colleagues and his students. A remarkably good-looking man, he had a personality which drew all to him and fostered peace and goodwill throughout any gathering. He was an extremely talented pianist and his chief personal pleasure was in music.

From 1925 onwards he was occupied in the foundation of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He was a founder and a member of the first council, elected in 1927 and, on the death of the President, Sir George Syme, in 1929, was appointed Director-General — an office shortly to become known as Censor-in-Chief. He retained this office and his position on council until his death.

On 24 March 1930 he was presented with his portrait, painted by George Lambert, by the Fellows of the College in recognition of all he had done for surgery and surgeons. It was possibly the proudest moment of his life. This portrait now hangs in the Hailes Room at the College. At the same time he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Never possessed of robust health, in his declining years he suffered greatly from osteoarthritis of both hip joints. He died in 1933 as a result of a motor-car accident — a collision with a centre-of-the-road lamp post whilst driving himself into town.

His name is commemorated in 'Hamilton Russell House' — the private wing of the Alfred Hospital, named for him and an indication of the esteem with which he was regarded by his major hospital. A bust of him by Paul Mountford stands at the entrance to the hospital.

Without doubt Hamilton Russell was one of the College's greatest figures — an eminent technical surgeon and an original thinker.

George Adlington Syme

George Adlington Syme was born at Nottingham, England, in 1859. In 1862 his parents left England to settle in Melbourne. Syme was educated at Wesley College, matriculated at the University of Melbourne, and entered its medical school in 1877. He gained honours and exhibitions throughout the course and graduated MB in 1881 and BS in 1882. He then served for a year as resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

In 1883 he went to London and worked in King's College Hospital under tutelage of Lister, obtaining his Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1885. He then acted as clinical assistant at Moorfields Ophthalmic Hospital, the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital, and the Soho Hospital. On his return to Melbourne in 1887 he was appointed Demonstrator and Examiner in anatomy in the University of



Melbourne and pathologist to the Royal Women's Hospital, Carlton — in all, an extremely comprehensive training for the practice of general surgery, which he more specifically commenced with his appointment as honorary surgeon to outpatients to the Royal Melbourne Hospital in 1887. He obtained the degree of Master of Surgery in 1888.

In 1888 he became secretary to the Royal Commission on the Sanitary Commission of Melbourne and, in 1889, surgeon to the Victorian Police Force. In the same year he was appointed honorary consultant surgeon to the Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and in 1893 honorary surgeon on the first staff appointed to St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, retaining this position until selected as honorary surgeon to inpatients to the Royal Melbourne Hospital in 1903.

He lectured in anatomy at the medical school of the University of Melbourne from 1900 to 1904 and was a member of the Faculty of Medicine. From 1912 until his death he was a member of the Council of this University.

He was elected the first president of the Medical Defence Association of Victoria in 1894 and was to hold this office for a period of 35 years.

In 1928 he was elected Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Royal Melbourne Hospital, retaining that position until his death the following year.

Throughout his whole career he was intimately associated with the Medical Society of Victoria and the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association, both individually and after their amalgamation. He was elected president of the branch in 1900 and again in 1920, and occupied himself actively with the intercolonial Medical Congresses and subsequently with the Australian Congresses of the British Medical Association, holding, at various times, all offices.

In 1914 he enlisted in the AIF and, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, was posted overseas and was an active participant in the Anzac landing at Gallipoli. At this time he contracted a severe infection in the right hand which almost proved fatal. Prior to this he had been Chief of Surgical Staff in the 1st AGH in Cairo. After his return to Australia in 1916 he continued his army service at the Caulfield Military Hospital and in the Repatriation Department.

When the formation of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons was mooted Syme (Fig. 20) was universally considered the most eminent medical man in Australia, with a reputation for complete honesty, clarity of thought and lack of bias. He became a vital influence in the considerable dissension which accompanied negotiations. Initially he was worried at the possible prejudicial effect on the Australian Medical Association and favoured the formation of the surgical body under the auspices of this association. However, further consideration convinced him the necessity for an autonomous college, and he worked heart and soul to accomplish this purpose. It was largely owing to his unremitting efforts and the trust imposed in him by the medical profession as a whole that the formation of the College became an established fact in 1927. Syme was the unanimous choice as its first president. He had been created



Fig. 20 Sir George Syme

Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1924, which made his choice as first president singularly apt. In 1929 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Wales and the honorary fellowship of the American College of Surgeons.

To paint a more personal picture, Sir George Syme was short in stature and of not particularly impressive appearance. He was usually stern, silent, and almost monosyllabic. Withal, he could surprise his audience at times, with his ready wit and happy sociability. He was a member of the 'Beefsteak Club' and consistently present at its monthly dinners. An early member and President of the Wallaby Club, he regularly participated in its walks. In 1899 he married Miss Mabel Barry of New Zealand, with three resultant daughters and one son (the late) George Robin Adlington Syme, who followed in his father's footsteps as a notable surgeon and a Fellow of the College, two of whose sons (grandsons of Sir George) are similarly surgeons and Fellows of the College.

Sir George Syme died in 1929 after a short illness.



His memory is perpetuated in the Syme Memorial Lecture delivered triennially under the auspices of the Victorian branch of the Australian Medical Association and the Syme Oration of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, an integral part of the Annual General Scientific Meeting of this body.

Bernard Traugott Zwar

Bernard Traugott Zwar was born in Adelaide in 1876, educated at Prince Alfred College, and did the first three years of his medical course at the University of Adelaide. Trouble at the Royal Adelaide Hospital made it impossible for students to complete the course there: accordingly Zwar moved to Melbourne and, at the University of Melbourne, graduated MB in 1889 and BS in 1900. Throughout this split course he obtained first-class honours and exhibitions and topped his final year. He served a year's residence at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, where his work attracted the attention of Sir George Syme, Sir Thomas Fitzgerald and Mr William Moore. He was then appointed medical superintendent at the Austin Hospital, holding the position from 1901 to 1904. He obtained the degree of MD in 1902.

In 1904 he proceeded overseas and pursued his postgraduate studies in England and Germany. On his return to Melbourne, he gained the degree of MS in 1908 and was appointed to the staff of St Vincent's Hospital, where he played an active part in securing the recognition of this hospital as a clinical school by the University of Melbourne. In 1911 he resigned from St Vincent's and was appointed outpatient surgeon to the hospital of his formative years, the Melbourne. He rose to the rank of honorary inpatient surgeon in 1919 and held this position until 1935, when he became honorary consultant surgeon. He joined the Committee of Management in 1925 and was President from 1937 until 1945. Thus was he given the opportunity to initiate a long-cherished project — the moving of the (now Royal) Melbourne Hospital, which was almost literally bursting at the seams and therefore unable to fulfil adequately its role as Melbourne's No. 1 hospital. To this problem he devoted himself with unremitting zeal and energy and to the comparative exclusion of other more remunerative activities. During his presidency the decision to rebuild in close proximity to the University was taken and the actual rebuilding and rehousing effected. This involved also the transfer of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of whose governing committee Zwar was Chairman. The intimate association of these three bodies was thus accomplished and remains a worthy memorial to his insight, energy and single-mindedness.

On the outbreak of the first world war Zwar (Fig. 21) enlisted and served as a major in the AAMC at Gallipoli and in Egypt. In 1916 he returned to Melbourne and married Miss Essy Craig, cementing what was to be a most happy partnership until his death. They had one son, John, who has followed in his father's footsteps as a surgeon and a Fellow of the Australasian College.



Fig. 21 Bernard Zwar

Long a member of the Medical Society of Victoria and the British Medical Association, he was elected to the Victorian Branch Council in 1922 and became its President in 1929. He was vice-president of the Section of Surgery of the fourth session of the Australasian Medical Congress (BMA), Hobart, in 1934 and of the fifth session at Adelaide in 1937.

He became a founder of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1927 and a member of the Board of Censors and the Victorian State Committee.

He held high office in the bodies and institutions with which his medical activities brought him into close association. Thus he was a member of the Medical Board of Victoria, and the Advisory Committee of the Repatriation Commission. He was honorary treasurer of the Medical Defence Association of Victoria, a member of the Anti-Cancer Council and of the War Pensions Assessment Tribunal from its inception. In 1922 he became President of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses Association and, from 1924 to 1927, was Chairman of the Nurses Board of Victoria.



His association with the University of Melbourne was long and close. From 1924 to 1935 he occupied the position of Stewart Lecturer in Surgery and was a member of the Standing Committee of Convocation for the same period. He was elected to the Council in 1935, remaining a member until his death, and was Deputy Chancellor of the University in 1943 and 1944.

He was made a Companion of the most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George in 1941.

A gruff, sincere, and lovable man, he was affectionately and universally known to his friends, acquaintances and medical students as 'Zeddie'.

His lighter moments were occupied with his garden and walking with other members of the Wallaby Club. He was a keen golfer and tennis player and developed his own quite inimitable style at each game. One of his considerable pleasures was the late afternoon social gathering of his tennis group at the home of Dr Roden White after a Saturday afternoon's tennis at Royal South Yarra Tennis Club.

He died in 1947 the unhappy victim of a surgical disease with which he had had to cope so frequently in his patients. The discomfort was borne with the fortitude so characteristic of the man in his life.

His contribution to his era was great, and his name brings affectionate memories to those fortunate enough to have been his friends.



New Zealand

A. W. Beasley

Hugh Thomas Dyke Acland

Hugh Thomas Dyke Acland (Fig. 22) was born in Christchurch on 10 September 1874, the son of the Hon. J. B. A. Acland, MLC, who was a pioneer settler in the Canterbury region, having been a partner in the establishment of the Mount Peel Station in 1856. His mother was the daughter of the Most Reverend H. J. C. Harper DD, Primate of New Zealand and the first Bishop of Christchurch.

Hugh Acland was educated at Christ's College serving as a prefect and a member of the first fifteen. Subsequently he studied at Otago University, and later at St Thomas's Hospital, London, where he was awarded the Cheselden Medal as the best surgical



Fig. 22 Sir Hugh Acland

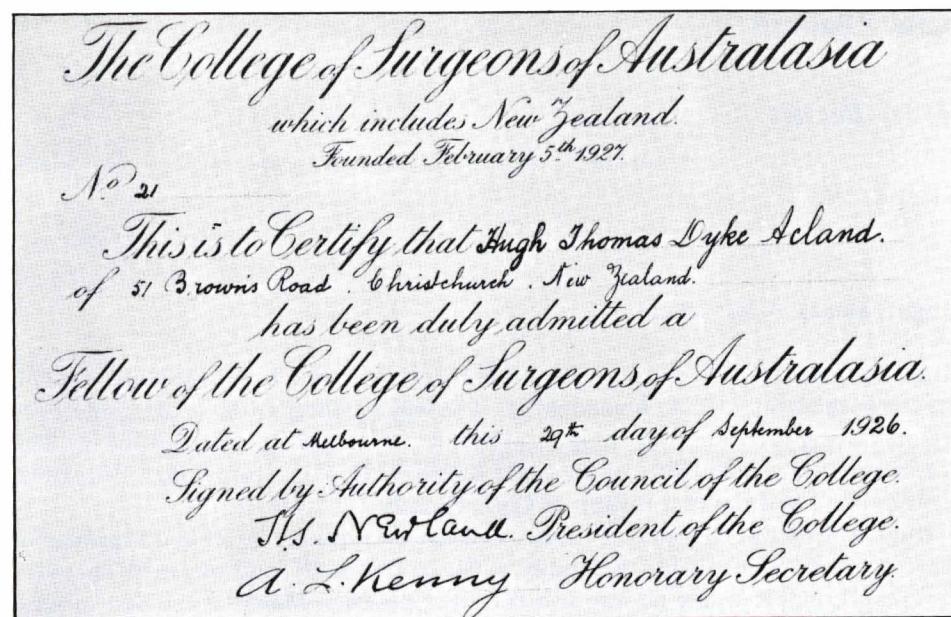


Fig. 23 Sir Hugh Acland's Certificate of Fellowship

student of the year. The Boer War intervened at this stage, and he became a civil surgeon attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps in South Africa during 1900 and part of 1901. He returned to England and St Thomas's in 1901 and during that year became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. He was already a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians.

On his return to Christchurch in 1903 he was appointed honorary surgeon to Christchurch Hospital and held this appointment for 25 years. He was, in fact, the first medical practitioner to specialize in surgery in Christchurch, and one of the first in the whole of New Zealand.

During World War I he again left for England, and in March 1915, was given the rank of major in the Royal Army Medical Corps, serving in Egypt and Port Said. During the war years he was one of the fortunate survivors of the sinking of the hospital ship *Marquette*, which was torpedoed in 1915 in the Gulf of Salonika. After this he served in Salonika for a time, as well as in France and again in England. It is of interest that during his period of service he is known to have performed more than 4000 operations upon members of the serving troops, and was noted for a great sense of humour — no doubt a great help under difficult conditions.



He returned to New Zealand again in 1919 with the decorations of CMG and CBE and was later knighted. Until 1922 he served part-time as Medical Officer and Consulting Surgeon in charge of artificial limbs with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He then returned to his own practice in Christchurch, retiring in 1939. He did, however, remain a member of the North Canterbury Hospital Board for many years, at one time being Chairman of the Hospital Committee of the Board.

Sir Hugh was one of the distinguished Founder Fellows of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and a member of the Executive of the New Zealand Division of the College. Fig. 23 depicts his Certificate (No. 21) of Fellowship. It is interesting to note the original name of the College, the date of admission (prior to the founding of the College in 1927), and the signature of H. S. Newland, who was not to become President until 1929. In his retirement years he took part in many activities. In addition to his involvement in local government, he was active in many branches of army and hospital work, being at one time Chairman of the Canterbury Branch of the Joint Council of the New Zealand Red Cross Society and the Order of St John, Chairman of a branch of the British Empire Cancer Society, honorary surgeon to the Governor-General of New Zealand, President of the Canterbury Division of the British Medical Association, and an Examiner in Surgery at Otago University. With all these appointments, he still found time to act as Chairman of the Peel Forest Board — an organization in charge of scenic reserve and forest, as well as attending most enthusiastically his own spacious garden in St Albans, Christchurch, and maintaining great interest in his collection of curios and relics of the early days of New Zealand.

He was knighted in 1933 for his services to his profession and his country. He died in 1956.

Louis Edward Barnett

Louis Barnett (Fig. 24) was born in Wellington on 24 March 1865. He received his early education in Wellington and won a university scholarship in 1883, which enabled him to enter the Otago Medical School in that year. After 2 years he proceeded to Edinburgh, where he completed his medical course and then after graduation went on to London, where he held a resident position at the Middlesex Hospital. He took the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1890 at the age of 25, the first New Zealander to achieve this distinction.

He returned to Dunedin in 1892 and married Violet, the daughter of James Fulton, MLC, in that year. Two years later he was appointed lecturer in surgery at Otago Medical School, having in the previous 2 years occupied locum tenens positions as lecturer in medicine and also lecturer in surgery. He was appointed professor of surgery in Dunedin in 1909 and retired in 1924. In those years of his long connection with the Otago Medical School, he gained national recognition as a fine teacher and a

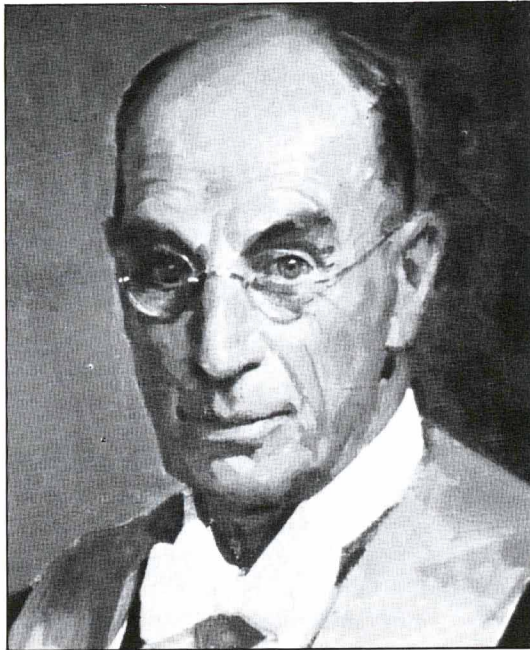


Fig. 24 Sir Louis Barnett

highly conscientious, safe, and sound surgeon. His lectures were clear and illustrated by blackboard drawings, displaying a high degree of technical and artistic skill. His own note-taking remains to this day as an example to any hospital resident. Sir Lindo Ferguson, a former Dean of the Otago Medical School, recalls that Sir Louis was of a singularly equable temperament, and that in the period of 60 years of their acquaintance he never remembered him losing control of his temper or having heard him say an unjust or uncharitable thing about anybody.

At the time of his retirement from the Chair of Surgery, he made an anonymous donation of £8000 for the endowment of this Chair. He also gave another £2000 to the university, part of which was allocated to the building of the university sports pavilion at Logan Park. But as Sir Henry Newland records in the *Medical Journal of Australia* in 1947, the name of Sir Louis Barnett will always have two associations, the foundation of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and the Hydatid Registry, established by that body. His fame in the annals of Australasian surgery is therefore secure. Sir Henry Newland goes on to say that although the name of Sir Louis Barnett is recorded with others as one of the founders of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, it is but just to regard him as the prime founder of the College.



His long-standing interest in hydatid disease became a major project for him after his retirement, and he was entirely responsible for the establishment of the College hydatid register. He became President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1937 and 1938, but then he came to spend most of his retirement in the small village of Hampden, north of Dunedin, where in 1977 on the occasion of the College Jubilee, Sir Edward Hughes, then President, unveiled a memorial plaque outside the house where Barnett had spent his remaining years until his death in 1946.

Henry Lindo Ferguson

Henry Lindo Ferguson was born in London in 1858, educated in Dublin, and entered the Royal College of Science for Ireland at the age of 15, gaining a scholarship in industrial chemistry. However, he soon entered Trinity College, Dublin, to study medicine, and qualified in 1880.

Deciding to take up ophthalmology, he entered St Mark's Ophthalmic Hospital, Dublin, and subsequently studied in Germany later becoming assistant to Charles Fitzgerald, Oculist in Ireland to the Queen. He became FRCS (I) in 1883. On settling in Dunedin, Ferguson (Fig. 25) was appointed ophthalmologist to the Dunedin



Fig. 25 Sir Henry Ferguson



Fig. 26 Otago Medical School, New Zealand

Hospital, and in 1886, lecturer in ophthalmology in the medical school and is regarded as the founder of the speciality in New Zealand.

He was instrumental in the building of a medical school on modern lines and in 1914 became Dean of the Faculty, proving himself to be a gifted and far-sighted administrator, Morrell, in his book entitled *The University of Otago*, quotes Ferguson as saying: 'To speak of a Dean being content was a contradiction in terms. If a Dean was content he was not fit to hold his position'. The President of the College during its Jubilee Year in 1977, Professor Sir Edward Hughes, unveiled a plaque in the Lindo Ferguson Building of the Otago Medical School (Fig. 26) to commemorate the first formal business conducted within its walls, which was the meeting in February 1927 of the Founders of the College, at which Professor Louis Barnett was elected Vice-President. Sir Henry retired from the hospital staff after a distinguished term of 52 years.

He was honoured in 1909 by his appointment as professor of ophthalmology of the University of Otago, in 1924 by the award of an Honorary Fellowship of the American College of Surgeons, and in 1935 by the award of an Honorary MD of the University of Melbourne.

A most generous person, he endowed medical research and a student fund. He was a member of the University Council and Senate.

Appointed CMG in 1918, and knighted in 1924, Sir Henry died in 1948, aged 90.

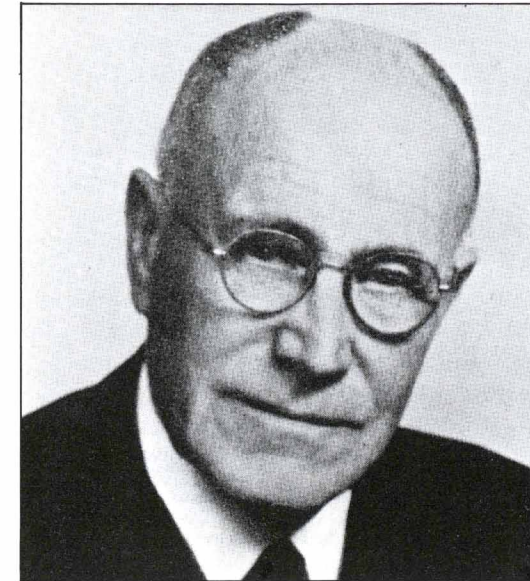


Fig. 27 Sir Donald McGavin

Donald Johnstone McGavin

Donald Johnstone McGavin, was born in Rochester, Kent, in 1876. He was educated at King Edward Grammar School, Birmingham, and the University of Birmingham. He then joined the London Hospital, where he completed his course and graduated MD, studying also for a time in Heidelberg, Germany. Donald McGavin was an outstanding personality and had a brilliant academic career, winning a gold medal and a scholarship at the University of London. After service as a surgeon in the Boer War, he migrated to New Zealand to start practice in Hawkes' Bay. He returned to England and gained his FRCS in 1904, after which he moved to Wellington to become one of its leading surgeons.

The first world war commenced, and in 1915 he was given command of No. 1 New Zealand Stationary Hospital. Two of his senior officers were Hugh Acland and D. S. Wylie of Palmerston North. The hospital was first set up at Port Said to receive casualties from Gallipoli, and then at Salonika in Greece. Donald McGavin (Fig. 27) was one of the fortunate who were rescued when the hospital ship *Marquette* was torpedoed on its way to Salonika. In 1916 the hospital was set up on the Suez Canal. Promoted to be ADMS of the New Zealand Division, he served with great distinction and received the CMG and DSO. When war ended he returned to New Zealand and

was promoted to DGMS with the rank of Major-General. He did not retire from the army until 1923, when he entered private practice again as a consulting surgeon. Both before and after the war Sir Donald was a senior surgeon at the Wellington Hospital.

He was one of the 'Big Five' who represented New Zealand at the launching of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1927, being secretary of the New Zealand section — a position he held for nearly 20 years. It has been said that his incisive, decisive mind, business-like qualities and belief in New Zealand's place in partnership with Australia played no small part in establishing the College in its formative years.

He was also very prominent in the BMA, served for a long time on the Council and Committee, and was Chairman of the Wellington Division. He was appointed by the Council of the BMA as medical representative on the Defence Committee before World War II and became the profession's representative on the Medical Advisory Committee to the Minister of Defence serving with the greatest distinction throughout the war in this position. For many years he was also a member of the Medical Council of New Zealand.

Apart from his medical work, Sir Donald had many other interests. He was for many years a member of the Prisons Board, and also a member of the Pensions Appeal Board. At the time of his death he was a director of the Wellington Publishing Company Ltd, publishers of *The Dominion*, having also been Chairman of the Company for 10 years previously. He was also a trustee of the Wellington Club and was its President at one time. Among his other appointments was that of honorary surgeon to the Governor-General of New Zealand.

Sir Donald McGavin died in 1960, with the reputation of having been a leader in his profession as well as a very able and wise surgeon.

Carrick Hay Robertson

Born in Glasgow, Carrick Robertson (Fig. 28) was educated at St Dunstan's College, and graduated from Guys Hospital in 1902. He undertook a locum tenens in Pietermaritzburg in South Africa, and went to New Zealand in 1905 to become Superintendent of the Waihi Hospital for 5 years, after which he set up practice in Auckland. He remained a member of the Auckland Hospital Staff for 26 years from 1911 till 1937, with a break for service with the first NZEF in 1915 and 1916.

He supervised the building and establishment of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital at Epsom. He was President of the New Zealand branch of the British Medical Association, and Honorary Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland and President of the Auckland Institute and Museum Council.

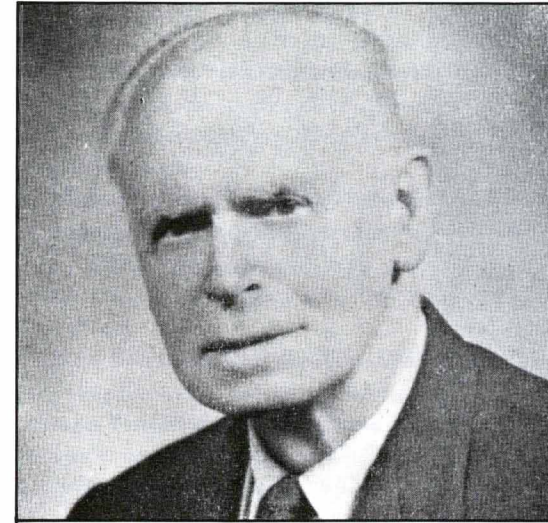


Fig. 28 Sir Carrick Robertson

A kind and friendly person, to whom others turned for advice and help, his work on the thyroid brought him world-wide renown, and he helped to pioneer neurosurgery. He was knighted in 1929, in which year he also became a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur. He died in 1963.

David Storer Wylie

David Storer Wylie (Fig. 29) was born in England. He completed his medical course at the Victoria University, Manchester, and graduated with first-class honours in 1898, having won the surgical clinical prize a year earlier. After completing residencies, at Manchester Royal Infirmary, he served as civil surgeon to the South Africa Field Force at the time of the Boer War. Returning from military service, he studied for his fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, at Kings College, London, being admitted as a fellow in 1903.

He migrated to New Zealand in 1904 and set up practice in New Plymouth, where he rapidly became known as an outstanding surgeon. At the outbreak of World War I in 1914 he joined the Army Medical Service and travelled overseas with the No. 1 Stationary Hospital. He served in Egypt and, as in the case of other Founders, survived the sinking of the hospital ship *Marquette* in the Mediterranean. After this he spent time in Salonika, and on his return to England was appointed commanding officer of



Fig. 29 David Wylie

the Brockenhurst Hospital as a colonel. His ability as a surgeon and as an administrator were rapidly established here, and by virtue of his outstanding services during the period of the war was recognized by being awarded the CMG.

He underwent a course in orthopaedics in London, and in 1918 returned to New Zealand to take charge of the military hospital in the Chalmers wards at Christchurch Hospital. It was here that orthopaedic patients were transferred from hospital ships for their long-term treatment. After his period at Christchurch he spent another year at Trentham Hospital, being discharged then with the rank of colonel. He was also appointed as consultant surgeon in Special Military Surgery to the New Zealand Defence Department.

He joined the Health Department as Inspector of Hospitals, holding this position for 18 months. This entailed visiting all New Zealand hospitals and reporting to the Director-General and the Minister of Health. While in this position he produced the original Registration of Physiotherapists' Act and assisted its passage through the House. In 1923 he recommenced private practice in Palmerston North, where his reputation as a first-class surgeon soon grew, with patients coming from far and wide to consult him. He remained in practice in Palmerston North until his retirement in 1947. He had been honorary visiting surgeon to the Palmerston North Hospital until 1937, then becoming consultant surgeon. It has been said that no one contributed more to the raising of the standard of surgery in the central districts of New Zealand than



D. S. Wylie. He was appointed external examiner in surgery to the Otago Medical School for 5 years — the first surgeon from the provinces to receive this appointment. Demanding the highest standard of patient care, surgical asepsis and devotion to duty, he yet earned the gratitude of all who served under him for the effect he had on their lives and future careers. He was a great teacher and an example to all young doctors and other staff.

D. S. Wylie was one of the Foundation Fellows of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and one of the first members of the New Zealand Committee. The interests of the College were always very close to his heart. He was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the American College of Surgeons, which is an honour infrequently bestowed.

He was president of the New Zealand branch of the BMA twice — in 1934 and 1949. He also played a very active part on the Cleary Commission and also on the Barrowclough Hospital Reform Commission. He took a leading part in advocating open hospital staffing as opposed to closed hospitals with no visiting staff.

In his later life failing vision prevented him from pursuing one of his greatest interests, reading. In his active days as a surgeon he had one of the best libraries in the country, and this was not limited to medicine. Due to the devotion of his wife, who read to him daily in his latter years, he managed to keep very much abreast of affairs of the College and the BMA and other events of interest to him, always remaining a vital personality. He died at his home in Tauranga, New Zealand, in September 1965, in his 90th year.



South Australia

A. C. McEachern

Arthur Murray Cudmore

Arthur Murray Cudmore, one of the best remembered South Australian surgeons and one of the founders of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, was born in 1870 at 'Paringa', his father's sheep station on the Murray River. He was educated at St Peter's College and the University of Adelaide where he qualified in medicine in 1894. As a student he played football for South Australia in a year in which his team gained the premiership, and he also played tennis for the University. After graduation 5 years were spent in surgical study in England during which time he worked at the London Hospital and St Mark's Hospital for Diseases of the Rectum. He gained the diplomas of LRCP and MRCS in 1896, and FRCS in 1899.

In 1901 he married Miss Kathleen Cavenagh-Mainwaring a daughter of the Hon. Wentworth Cavenagh-Mainwaring, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works. He is survived in 1980 by two daughters.

On returning to Adelaide he was elected honorary assistant surgeon to the Adelaide Hospital in 1901 and honorary surgeon in 1905, an appointment he held until 1925 when his term of 20 years expired and he became honorary consulting surgeon. He was lecturer in clinical surgery at the University of Adelaide from 1908 to 1919.

The writer retains vivid memories of serving as a dresser in Cudmore's wards. Remembered are his quiet voice, his courtesy, his simple and sometimes delightfully repetitive teaching, and his safe and gentle surgery. Years later as a consultant the same gentleness inspired the confidence of colleagues and patients alike.

In World War I with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel Cudmore (Fig. 30) served as consultant surgeon to the 3rd Australian General Hospital until invalided home with typhoid fever in 1916. He returned to France in 1918. In between the two world wars he served as a consultant surgeon on the Australian Army Medical Corps Reserve, and was a senior surgeon at the Keswick Repatriation Hospital, Adelaide until 1922.

In 1927 he was elected to the University Council, and in 1936 was honoured with the CMG. He was created Knight Bachelor in 1945.

On Cudmore's death in 1951 Newland wrote, 'Perhaps his most notable service to the Adelaide University was the part he played in the foundation and development of



Fig. 30 Sir Arthur Cudmore

the Dental School, as Dean of the Dental Faculty, and President of the Dental Board of South Australia', of which he became a member in 1904 and President in 1938.

His hobbies were golf and motoring and he helped to found the Royal Automobile Association of South Australia of which he was President in 1935.

A learned judge in 1963 wrote, 'Sir Arthur Cudmore was such a quiet fellow; he did not commit himself to many words on general topics; one needed to be one of his foursome at golf or a patient under his skilled hands to see him at his best.'

William Anstey Giles

William Anstey Giles, a founder of the College, was born in South Australia in 1860. He was educated at Clifton School in Bristol, and became a medical student in Edinburgh in the year following Lister's departure for the Chair of Surgery at King's College Hospital, London. During his student years the Royal Infirmary was moved to its present site in Lauriston Place.

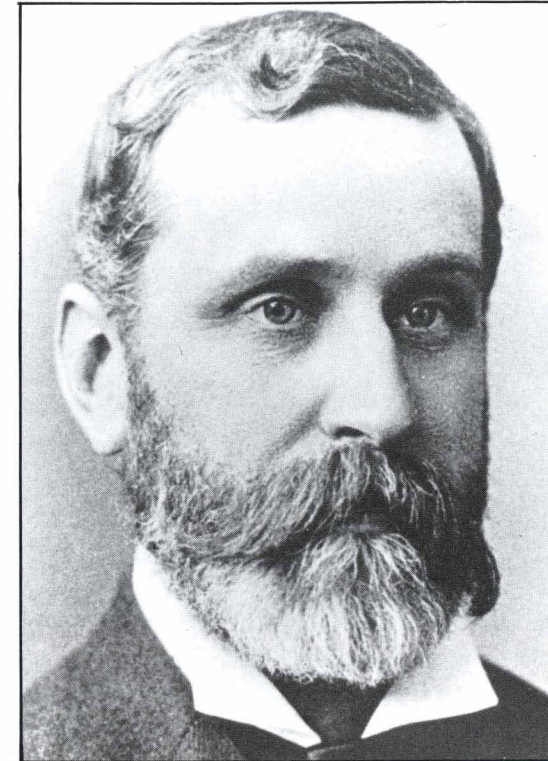


Fig. 31 Anstey Giles

While in Edinburgh he captained the University Cricket Team, and once played for an Australian Eleven against the Gentlemen of Scotland. He graduated in 1882.

He studied eye, ear, nose and throat surgery in Vienna, and it is recorded that Politzer, long regarded as the father of modern otology, was one of his teachers.

He returned to South Australia in 1885, the year of the founding of the Adelaide Medical School. His practice was initially confined to diseases of the ear, nose and throat, but in due course he succeeded to a large practice in general surgery. He was appointed lecturer in otology in 1886, and became successively assistant surgeon to the Royal Adelaide Hospital in 1887, honorary surgeon for diseases of the ear in 1891, lecturer in clinical surgery at the University of Adelaide in 1892, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in 1895 and 1902, Registrar to the Medical Board and consultant surgeon to the Royal Adelaide Hospital. He was the first Chairman of the College State Committee.

Anstey Giles (Fig. 31) lived through a tragic period in the history of the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Adelaide Medical School when teaching ceased for a

number of years, and the Board of Management of which he was a member was dismissed by the Government in 1896 following disagreement over the reinstatement of two members of the nursing staff. Resignation of the honorary medical staff followed, medical students had to go elsewhere, and it was not until 1901 that the staff returned and clinical teaching was resumed.

Anstey Giles had a commanding presence and an irascible temper. Whatever he undertook he did with a will. He was a good operator and a strict adherent to aseptic ritual. Newland was his dresser in 1894.

His contributions to surgical literature were wide-ranging and included such diverse topics as diseases of the knee joint, parital laryngectomy, laminectomy for fractured spine, enlarged prostate, congenital pyloric stenosis, carcinoma of the sigmoid colon, and neurectomy for spasmodic torticollis.

His grandfather, as manager of the South Australian Company for 20 years, had an important role in the successful start of the colony. In addition he reared 21 children. His father, from 1847 was involved in the development of large sheep stations. His mother was Mary O'Halloran of another pioneering family. In South Australia's beginnings the five roads to respectability are said to have been early arrival, thrift, temperance, piety, and the ownership of land. Measured against these criteria, and the eventual contribution by 1980 of seven generations, Anstey Giles was a member of one of Australia's great families. With his own distinguished record it is fitting that he should be remembered within the College by an annual lecture.

In 1928 when speaking of the newly formed College he said, 'Its objective was to make more perfect the art and science of surgery, and to give the best possible service to the community'.

In the field of sport in Adelaide he was a foundation member of the Royal Adelaide Golf Club which honoured him with life membership.

He died in 1944 at the age of 83, a few days after undergoing a prostatectomy.

Alexander Matheson Morgan

Alexander Matheson Morgan (Fig. 32) was a son of Sir William Morgan, who was prominent in the early history of South Australia, and one time Premier of the State, after whom the Murray River port of Morgan was named. He was born in Adelaide in 1867 and was educated at Geelong Grammar School and the University of Adelaide where he gained the degrees of MBChB in 1890. The Adelaide Medical School began in 1885. The first students graduated in 1889, and in the next year Morgan was one of the two new graduates. He practised initially at Laura in South Australia. In 1897 he was appointed honorary assistant bacteriologist to the Adelaide Children's Hospital and in 1902 honorary bacteriologist. At least from the year 1900 he was a visiting medical officer to the hospital performing general surgical operations usually under



Fig. 32 Alexander Morgan

chloroform or ether anaesthesia. The records show that these ranged from the tonsils and post nasal growths to intussusception, hernia and cleft palate. In 1908 he was President of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association, and in that year he began practice as an eye specialist. He resigned as honorary surgeon, while continuing to hold the appointment of bacteriologist. In 1910 he was appointed honorary ophthalmic visiting medical officer to the Children's Hospital, and from 1910 until 1925 he was Charles Gosse lecturer in ophthalmology at the Adelaide University. He was the only one of the South Australian Founders not to serve on the staff of the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

He became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1924, being 'one of several Australasians who showed interest in this College during its early years including most of those who were original founding members of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons'. In 1927 he was President of the Ophthalmic Section of the Australasian Medical Congress Second Session at Dunedin, New Zealand, but he did not live to see the formation of the Ophthalmological Society of Australia in 1938.

Morgan was also a noted authority in the field of Australian Ornithology and on his death in 1934 glowing tributes were paid to his accurate and painstaking work, in particular to the gift of a valuable collection of mounted birds and skins to the

Museum. He was especially interested in the areas around the Murray River and its Lakes, and the South Australian coast line. He was a foundation member and President of the South Australian Ornithological Society, and honorary ornithologist to the South Australian Museum.

He is survived in 1980 by his only daughter, Miss Elizabeth Morgan.

Henry Simpson Newland

Henry Simpson Newland outlived all the other founders; the following are the comments of his biographer, James Estcourt Hughes, on Newland's term as President of the College. 'He came to this office on the death of Sir George Syme in May 1929, and retired in 1935, his departure coinciding with the end of what is best described as the formative period of the College, because by then it had acquired a local habitation and a name. When Newland assumed office the College was still in its infancy, but was a lusty child and growing fast, which meant that important decisions had to be made constantly. It was fortunate that the new President was a man who thrived on work and threw himself into his duties with vigour and enthusiasm. Some of the landmarks of his Presidency were the approval by King George V of the inclusion of the prefix "Royal" in the name of the College, and the grant of arms, the presentation of the Great Mace and the institution of the Syme Oration, but the crowning achievement of those years was the opening of the College headquarters in Melbourne on 4 March 1935 by Sir Holburt Waring, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. To further enrich a notable occasion, later in the day Professor F. Wood Jones delivered his memorable oration on *The Master Surgeon*'.

Newland (Fig. 33) was born in Adelaide in 1873. He came of pioneering stock. His father, prominent in many aspects of public life, is remembered for his book *Paving the Way*, an important historical romance dealing with early South Australian life. Newland adopted the title of his father's book as his own personal motto.

In 1964 the *Medical Journal of Australia* produced an issue to pay homage to two Australian medical men each then in his ninety-first year — one a surgeon and the other a physician. The physician was Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn, the surgeon was Henry Simpson Newland CBE, DSO, MB, MS, (Adel.), LRCP (Lond.), FRCS (Eng.), Hon FRCS (Edin.), FRACS, FACS, DSc. (Honoris Causa) (Univ. WA), LLD (Honoris Causa) (Melb.).

In that issue Kenneth Starr as President of the College provided a summary of Newland's career.

'The First World War divided his career into three parts. From St Peter's College, Adelaide, he entered the Faculty of Medicine at the University and graduated with the Everard Scholarship in 1896. He went early to Europe, also obtained his qualifying degrees from the Royal College, and proceeded to the higher surgical diploma FRCS



Fig. 33 Sir Henry Newland

(Eng.). It was unusual in those days to seek surgical experience abroad, but he showed enterprise and foresight in visiting the leading centres of Europe and America. In 1901 he became surgical registrar of the London Hospital — the first Australian surgeon to hold such a coveted post. Returning to Adelaide in 1902 he was successful in gaining surgical appointments at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Adelaide Children's Hospital. Thus began a long and historic association with the major surgical centres of South Australia.

'The second phase of his career established him in the English-speaking countries as one of the leading surgeons of his time. The year 1915 found him in the Gallipoli Campaign, 1916 in Egypt, 1917 in France and 1918 at the Sidcup Hospital in Kent. His experience in casualty clearing stations and military hospitals was replete. He was at the height of his surgical powers and not yet 50 years of age. The section of the Australian War History on the management of facio-maxillary injuries reads like a

modern textbook on plastic and reconstructive surgery. He was in charge of the Australian section of the remarkable international venture at Sidecup. On the Council of Consultants at the War Office in London and at the Inter-Allied Surgical Conferences in Paris he was selected to represent the Australian Army Medical Corps. For those outstanding services he was awarded the DSO in 1917 and the CBE in 1919.

'The third phase of this long and unique career establishes him as one of the outstanding leaders of the Australian medical profession at home and abroad. At the Australasian Medical Congress in 1920 he was President of the Section of Surgery. In 1928 he was created Knight Bachelor and became a foundation fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and a member of Council. From 1929 to 1934 as President, his contributions to the newly emerging College were invaluable, representing, as they did, the fruits of his prestige and experience, his influence for many decades in the Federal Council of the British Medical Association in Australia and in the long years of his Presidency was paramount and was recognized by the singular award of the Gold Medal of the Association in Australia (1949) and of the British Medical Association in England (1955).

'The Listerian Oration of the Australian Medical Association is entirely due to his efforts and has for almost half a century established itself as one of the leading academic orations in Australian medicine.'

For almost a lifetime Newland guided the destinies of the Australian Medical Publishing Company. Also he will be remembered in Australian history for having on his own initiative influenced the wording of an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth whereby doctors can never be subject to civil conscription.

In 1953 to commemorate Sir Henry's eightieth birthday and 'a life of unparalleled service to surgery and to his fellow men in the country of his birth' the surgeons of South Australia presented his portrait to the Royal College of Surgeons in England.

Sir Henry died in Adelaide in 1969 in his 96th year.

Thomas George Wilson

Thomas George Wilson was one of the founders of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, and in his day pre-eminent in gynaecology and obstetrics in Adelaide. He was born in 1876 and died in 1958. He was the son of Charles Graham Wilson of Armidale, New South Wales. Educated at New England Grammar School, Armidale, and at St Paul's College, University of Sydney, he graduated in medicine in 1899, and MD in 1904. He obtained his FRCS (Edinburgh) in 1901. He was also a foundation fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, London, and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He did postgraduate work in London, Dublin and Vienna, and in 1902 was appointed honorary assistant gynaecologist at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and honorary gynaecologist from 1906 to 1927. He was



Fig. 34 Sir Thomas Wilson.

lecturer in gynaecology from 1920 to 1923 and Edward Willis Way Lecturer in gynaecology and obstetrics at the University of Adelaide from 1924 to 1941, and director of obstetrics from 1938 to 1941. He was an examiner in obstetrics until 1947. Wilson (Fig. 34) was appointed to the honorary visiting staff of the Queen's Home (later the Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital) in 1904, and to the Committee of Management in 1909. He was Chairman of the Medical Board in 1920, and Chairman of the Board of Management from 1935 until his retirement in 1941. He was a generous benefactor of hospital and university and endowed the T. G. Wilson Travelling Scholarship in Gynaecology and Obstetrics.

In addition to the teaching of students and graduates he was profoundly interested in the teaching of nurses, and was one of the founders of the South Australian branch of the Nurses' Association, and in turn its President and Patron.

In 1910 he inaugurated an Antenatal Clinic at the Adelaide Hospital, which, after lapsing during World War I, was transferred to the Queen's Home in 1920. It is

believed that the Antenatal Clinic established in 1910 was the first such clinic in Australia, and certainly the first in Adelaide. The inspiration to establish this clinic arose following a visit to Edinburgh in 1908: 'It struck me that the routine examination of all women during pregnancy might help in preventing those fulminant cases which were so often admitted in eclamptic seizure.' This implied an immense widening of outlook in obstetrics giving Wilson his place in history. In 1927 a special wing was added to the Queen Victoria Hospital, and named the 'T. G. Wilson Maternity Department'.

In the Australian Army Medical Corps he served from 1914 to 1919 with the First Australian Imperial Force in Egypt, Lemnos, the Gallipoli Campaign and in France. For nearly 2 years he commanded a hospital ship. In 1918 he was appointed Staff Officer to Major General Fetherston, Director General of Medical Services in Australia, with whom he visited North America, England and Europe to enquire into the positions of heads of medical services in the allied countries. Latterly he was attached to Administrative Headquarters, London.

In 1922 he was President of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association. He was created CMG in 1942 and Knight Bachelor in 1950.

Always known simply as 'T.G.' he was a tall man of fine physique and stern demeanour; but students and nurses soon found that at heart he was kind and considerate. In the eyes of hospital matrons and theatre sisters he was an heroic figure. An alert twinkle in his eye tended to conceal moderately severe deafness, which was sometimes surprisingly selective. He was remembered with gratitude by junior colleagues.

As a gynaecologist his operative technique was reduced to the fewest details. Similarly his teaching concentrated upon brief but unmistakably accurate essentials, which were readily remembered by the students, who received full credit for them when reproduced equally briefly in examinations. In the teaching of obstetrics there was the same economic choice of principles to support the young graduate in his first obstetric encounters.

He was a good sport. He rowed and played tennis for the University of Sydney; and was captain and later president of the Royal Adelaide Golf Club. At this time, (1980), he is survived by two sons — Graham, a Senior Surgeon at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and David, in the Department of Foreign Affairs.



Queensland

Sir Clarence Leggett

When a provisional executive committee consisting of Sir George Syme, R. Hamilton Russell, H. B. Devine and A. L. Kenny selected a group of senior surgeons as founders of the College they chose five Queensland surgeons. These were Donald Allan Cameron, Graham Patrick Dixon, John Lockhart Gibson, Ernest Sandford Jackson and William Nathaniel Robertson. The following biographies show these men as worthy recipients of the honour bestowed on them.

Donald Allan Cameron

Donald Cameron was born in Ipswich in 1878 and died in Brisbane on 21 March, 1937. His father was the much respected headmaster of Ipswich Grammar School. This school moulded the characters of many of the leading figures in Queensland during the first half of this century.

At school Cameron (Fig. 35) was prominent in both the sporting and the academic fields. It was evident early that his achievement would result from steady dedication rather than from natural brilliance. Indeed, his life's work was great because of his honest and steady dedication to his profession.

Cameron graduated from Sydney University in 1900 and served as a resident medical officer at Sydney Hospital for a period of 2 years. After returning to Queensland, he joined his brother, Dr J. A. Cameron, in general practice in Ipswich, but soon moved to Brisbane, where he developed a high-class practice. The practice built up by Donald Cameron was wide-ranging, as was the custom at that time. He was appointed to the honorary staff of both the Hospital for Sick Children and the Lamington Hospital for Women. In both areas his work was meticulous, and his detailed care of patients secured the confidence of his fellow practitioners.

It was in the surgical side of his practice that he achieved most distinction. His careful approach was mirrored in his meticulous preoperative and postoperative care which made his surgery so successful.

At the outbreak of World War I Cameron volunteered for service and went overseas with the rank of major. He served first in England and was then appointed head of a surgical unit at Remy Siding. This appointment brought him into contact with



Fig. 35 Donald Cameron

Canadian, British and American surgeons. In the same way that the association of Robert Jones and Harvey Cushing brought a fresh outlook to military surgery of the time, so did this experience enrich the life and work of Donald Cameron.

It was fortunate that the authorities saw fit at this time to recall him and post him to the infant orthopaedic unit at Rosemount Repatriation Hospital. He was indeed the forerunner of G. P. Dixon and Arthur Meehan, to whom the returned men of World War I owed so much.

Although Cameron did not publish much material, he contributed extensively to medical and surgical education on the local scene. His surgical opinion was much respected, most of all because of his absolute integrity. The zenith of his career was reached after the war ended, and he continued practice as a consultant surgeon until a long and painful illness terminated his very considerable surgical contribution. It was during this period of maximum surgical standing that he became a founder of the College. He had been Secretary and President of the Queensland branch of the British Medical Association, where he performed the duties of these offices with the methodical care which characterized all his work.

It was right and proper that this man was a founder of the College. He was gratefully remembered by his fellows as a man of personal surgical achievement and one who was



intolerant of any form of chicanery, one who was a patient searcher after truth, and one of unfailing courtesy and absolute integrity.

Graham Patrick Dixon

Graham Patrick Dixon (Fig. 36) as born in 1873, in Brisbane, where his father was the manager of the Bank of Australasia. 'Pat' Dixon died in Brisbane on 7 August 1947. He was educated at Brisbane Grammar School, where he manifested great academic brilliance. He won all the famous Lilley Medals, and when he was dux of the school he was awarded the Lilley Gold Medal in 1891. The Dixon family excelled in cricket, and Pat was captain of the Brisbane Grammar first eleven. Graham Dixon did his medical course at Sydney University, where his academic brilliance continued to manifest itself. After winning many prizes he graduated in 1897 with distinction and the University Medal.

In 1898 Dixon was a resident medical officer at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, and in the following year he returned to Brisbane as a resident at the Hospital for Sick Children. This was the beginning of a very long association with this hospital.

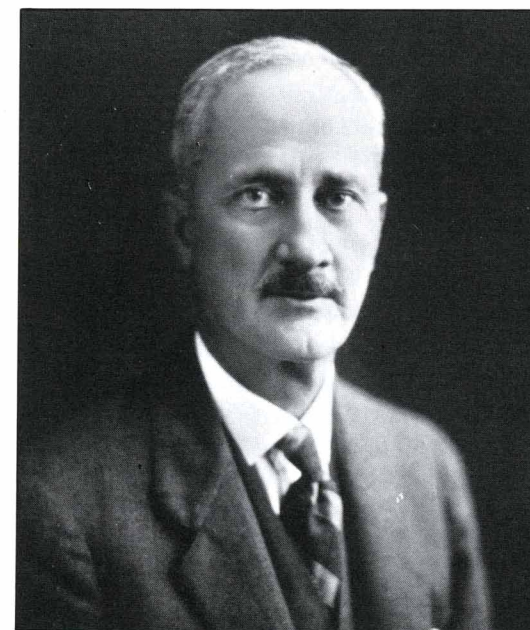


Fig. 36 Graham Dixon

Interestingly enough, he chose first to enter private practice in the country town of Maryborough, where he soon had a large and busy practice. During this time he became very proficient in the surgery of that era, and after 10 years he decided to travel overseas to do postgraduate work in surgery. He studied in England and Scotland and on the continent, and then returned to Brisbane and set up practice in Wickham Terrace as a consultant surgeon.

Dr Dixon was hardly established in practice when war broke out, and he enlisted immediately and sailed as a major with the Third Field Ambulance on 25 September 1914. Following training in Egypt and Lemnos he went to Gallipoli, and with Graham Butler, also of Brisbane, he was one of the first medical officers ashore. After the Gallipoli campaign he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in charge of the First Light Horse Field Ambulance. This unit served under his command with distinction in Egypt and in the Sinai Desert. In 1917 he was appointed Assistant Director of Medical Services, Australian Mounted Division, with the rank of colonel. At the end of hostilities Colonel Dixon was awarded a richly deserved CBE.

It seemed that this military experience led naturally to the field in which Dixon did his finest work.

Although he was appointed surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children, his main work followed his appointment as surgeon to the Repatriation Commission in Queensland. He had an extensive experience in both military and civilian practice and manifested a sympathetic wisdom which made him beloved by the 'Diggers' whom he treated over a period of 27 years.

He was a prominent but unassuming member of the medical profession in Queensland and was a member of the Council of the Queensland branch of the British Medical Association and a member of its Ethics Committee. He was President in 1922.

Graham Dixon was a modest man considering his high achievement. All were proud to number him among their friends, and the early College was honoured by his foundation fellowship.

John Lockhart Gibson

Lockhart Gibson was born in Ipswich, Queensland, in 1866, and received his early education at Ipswich Grammar School. Because of his Scottish ancestry he was sent to Scotland, where he did his basic medical course in Edinburgh. Gibson had a brilliant academic career and received the highest plaudits at the conclusion of his undergraduate course.

After graduation Lockhart Gibson went first to London to further his studies, but soon left for the continent to work in the famous clinics of Vienna and Berlin. It was in the latter city that he became interested in ophthalmology, in which speciality he practised in later life. He then returned to Edinburgh, where he might well have

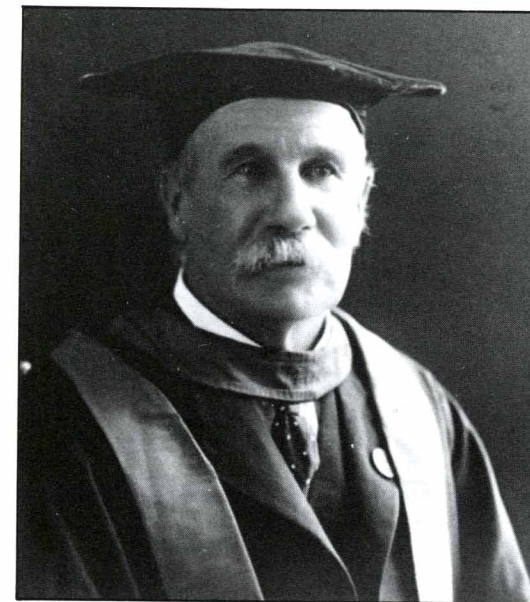


Fig. 37 Lockhart Gibson

proceeded to the Chair in Physiology, but he decided to return to his native land where he was destined to carve out a distinguished career. He commenced a general practice in Brisbane and joined that older group of Queensland practitioners whose work was marked by an extreme versatility forced upon them by the absence of specialist physicians and surgeons. He was appointed to the staff of the Hospital for Sick Children, where he early evinced a special interest in ophthalmology. It was this interest which led him into an area in which his most notable work was done.

Lockhart Gibson correlated the clinical features of lead poisoning in Queensland children with the ocular manifestations of plumbism. It was his clinical acumen which led to the establishment of the fact that lead poisoning was the most common cause of blindness in Queensland. He was to campaign for many years to establish the soundness of his views. He was opposed by vested interests, and by physicians in Sydney who were unaware of the special social conditions which contributed to the frequency of lead poisoning in the subtropical northern state.

The importance of his splendid work did not receive due application from the medical profession or the public until many years had elapsed. These years showed clearly his dogged persistence in the pursuit of truth and revealed the fighting qualities of his character which, though masked by his mildness of manner, were evident right to the end of a long a busy life.

Gibson used monthly scientific meetings of the British Medical Association to publicize his work to the local medical community which was involved in the problem of lead intoxication. He used the *Australasian Medical Gazette* and the congresses of the British Medical Association to publish his observations and conclusions.

For many years Lockhart Gibson served on the Branch Council of the British Medical Association, and he was its President in 1908. He led frequent deputations to government instrumentalities in relation to matters of public health in particular, and at all times he was a zealous champion of the medical profession. It can be said that throughout his long period of medical practice not once was he actuated by any but the highest principles to which he persistently adhered. An ignoble thought was foreign to his character.

Ernest Sandford Jackson

Ernest Sandford Jackson was born in Victoria on 18 July 1860 and was educated at Geelong Grammar School and the University of Melbourne. He graduated in medicine with honours before attaining his majority. As a young man he was a keen sportsman, excelling in a number of sports. Of tall and athletic build, Jackson was an excellent horseman.

Fortunately for Queensland surgery, Jackson came north in 1882 and became medical superintendent of the Brisbane General Hospital, a position he retained until 1898 when he was succeeded by the noted university benefactor Dr J. O'Neill Mayne. Jackson was a stern disciplinarian, and medical and nursing staffs as well as patients feared and respected his will.

By virtue of his long period as medical superintendent of the major hospital in Brisbane, Sandford Jackson (Fig. 38) obtained tremendous clinical experience in medical as well as surgical conditions. No one in Australia had comparable experience in the various manifestations of filariasis, ankylostomiasis and lymphogranuloma inguinale, which was a common disease in the Aboriginal population. It was, however, in surgical practice that he became best known. It can be truly stated that Sandford Jackson was the first real surgeon in the modern sense to practise in Brisbane.

After he entered private practice he was appointed honorary surgeon to the Brisbane General Hospital. His professional reputation was high both because of his skill as a surgeon and because of his lofty ideals. He is credited with performing the first successful prostatectomy in Brisbane. He acquired a very large surgical practice, and was known and honoured by people in every part of the State of Queensland, and indeed by his professional colleagues throughout Australia.

The British Medical Association in Queensland owed much to Sandford Jackson. He was a foundation member of the Branch and was President in 1895, 1911 and 1926. He was in addition President of the Medical Board for a number of years. One of the



Fig. 38 Sandford Jackson

most important public duties he performed was as the medical member of the Royal Commission on Hospitals in Queensland in 1930.

Jackson was always interested in history, and in 1930 the Queensland branch of the British Medical Association honoured him by inaugurating an annual lecture known as the Jackson Lecture to place on permanent record the appreciation of the Branch of his distinguished services over a long period of time.

William Nathaniel Robertson

William Nathaniel Robertson was born in Edinburgh in 1866 and died in Brisbane on 12 July 1938. He was a son of the manse. His father, Peter Robertson, emigrated to Queensland in 1872, but the young son remained behind and was educated at the Royal High School and the medical school of the University of Edinburgh. From his forebears William inherited the Scottish love of work and learning and the literature of his native land remained a lasting passion. He could quote at any time a phrase from Dean Ramsay or a verse from Burns.

In medical school Robertson soon made his mark in work and play and served under the giants who, even after Lister's departure, filled the chairs of University and College.

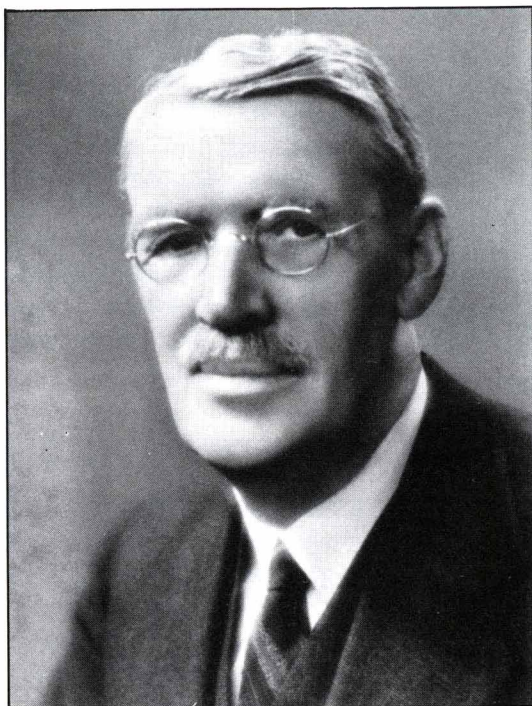


Fig. 39 William Robertson

Though pressed by his professor of pathology to remain in his alma mater as a teacher, lack of means forced him to come to Queensland, where he commenced general practice in Ipswich in 1893.

Dr Robertson (Fig. 39) was an engaging, virile, energetic, kindly and cheerful personality, and he served the community in Ipswich well until he entered into partnership with Dr H. A. Francis, who was conducting a practice in otolaryngology in Brisbane. Although the speciality was in its infancy, Robertson brought to this new field a keenness of insight and deftness of touch which soon made his work outstanding.

In 1900 he became nose and throat surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children and he remained on the staff until 1918. In 1913 he founded the ear, nose and throat department of the Mater Misericordiae Public Hospital and he worked here happily until 1926. After 1918 he was appointed honorary consulting surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children. This was no empty honour because of his expertise in removing foreign bodies from the bronchi and oesophagus.



To a man such as Robertson his routine professional work, tremendous though it was, was not sufficient, and he sought new worlds to conquer in the service of public bodies and in medical politics. He had unusual financial sense and his business acumen was of a high order. This entry into a wide field allowed him to make a multitude of friends in every class of the community and throughout the medical world of Australia.

In his public life Robertson never lost his cheerfulness, even though he was a dour fighter. He had about him a certain ruggedness, but he always fought with a smile, and no one could be more generous to a defeated adversary.

In 1901 the Medical Defence Society was formed in Queensland, and he served on this as a councillor until his death. In 1912 he was instrumental in forming the Medical Land Investment Company. This enabled the Queensland branch of the British Medical Association to build its first headquarters.

Robertson did not confine his activities to Queensland. He was a director of the Australasian Medical Publishing Company from its formation in 1913. He was Chairman of Directors from 1923 until his retirement in 1929.

When the need for a federal committee of the British Medical Association became apparent, Wilton Love and W. N. Robertson became the first Queensland delegates. He was always associated with innovation and foundation and he played an important part in the early development of a federal medical body. As Sir Henry Newland said, his sanity of outlook and sense of proportion made him a wise councillor.

Soon after the foundation of the University of Queensland he became a member of the Senate and served as Vice-Chancellor for 12 years, for which service he was awarded the CMG. The foundation of a medical school in Queensland was of the greatest concern to the Vice-Chancellor. He devoted an immense amount of time and energy in promoting his objective. He aimed to found a medical school comparable with those of older centres, and he constantly compared any standards with those of his own parent university. In fact his own university did recognize his work and achievement, and *The Scotsman* published the following notice on May 13 1938.

'William Nathaniel Robertson, CBE, CMG, MB, CM Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland: Doctor of Laws.'

Robert Godsall quoted a fellow Scot, R. L. Stevenson, when he wrote of 'Robbie'.

'So he walked among us, both hands full of gifts carrying with nonchalance the seeds of a most influential life ...'



Tasmania

P. Braithwaite

David Henry Edward Lines

David Lines was born in 1867 and educated at All Saints Church of England Grammar School, Melbourne, where he was dux of the school. He graduated MB BS, from Melbourne University in 1891.

For about 7 years he worked as a country general practitioner at Woodend, Victoria, after which he was appointed second surgeon to the general hospital in Hobart at a salary of £150 per annum all found, and next year became the head surgeon at a salary of £250 per annum. In these positions he gained a wealth of experience and responsibility on which to base his further surgical career.

At the turn of the century he entered private practice by buying into a partnership. While in this practice he went on two extensive trips to Europe, where he studied surgery in all its aspects. He then set up his own, and by his skill, knowledge and capacity for sustained and dedicated hard work, developed an extremely large general practice with an accent on surgery at first and later almost complete specialization. At this stage he had made a great reputation in thyroid surgery.

As was the custom in those days, surgery encompassed the whole gamut. His preference was for ophthalmology and ear, nose and throat surgery. His practice continued to grow, and he looked towards further specialization. After 6 months at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital in Melbourne to top up his overseas experience, particularly in London, he disposed of the general surgical portion of his practice.

Then came the Great War. Lines (Fig. 40), very much a leader of his profession, firmly believed that it was the duty of every doctor to serve. At the age of 47 he enlisted for a 12 month period and served on the hospital ship 'Orsova' and in Egypt. When his 12 month period was finished he saw where his duty lay and re-enlisted. He returned to his practice after the war and retired shortly after, becoming a foundation fellow of the College.

By the early thirties, his extensive surgical practice was in the hands of Frank Fay (general), Berthold Hiller (ear, nose and throat), and Bruce Hamilton (ophthalmology); the last-named soon had to take a partner, Walter Counsell.



Fig. 40 David Lines

Lines was active in medical affairs. He was President of the Medical Council of Tasmania and President of the Australian Medical Congress in 1934. He was instrumental in converting the Homeopathic Hospital to St John's Church of England Hospital. He was cofounder of Gellibrand House for old returned servicemen. He was President of the Tasmanian Club and the Naval and Military Club and a member of the Anglican Synod.

He died in June 1954.

John Ramsay

John Ramsay (Fig. 41) was born in Glasgow. He was educated at Prahran High School and Wesley College in Melbourne.

He was a graduate of the University of Melbourne, MB 1893, and BS 1894. During his course he won the Beaney prize in pathology and was one of the first five in his year on graduation, thus qualifying for appointment as a resident medical officer at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, where he served for a year. After a short stay in New Zealand he became house-surgeon at the Launceston General Hospital in 1896, and then served as surgeon superintendent from 1898 to 1912. In 1896 he took part in the



Fig. 41 Sir John Ramsay

first demonstration of X-rays and was therefore one of the pioneers of radiology. He became a forceful personality known all over Australia.

In 1902, having meanwhile won his degree of MS, University of Melbourne, he toured the main surgical centres of the world. During this, his special knowledge of hydatid disease was a cause of surprised comment in the United States of America. In 1906 he was probably the first surgeon to perform successful cardiac massage via an abdominal incision.

He was an honorary consultant surgeon of the Launceston General Hospital from 1912 to 1917 and again from 1925 to 1944. During the 1914-18 war he was medical officer to the Hornsey Military Hospital in Launceston.

A gifted administrator, he became Chairman of the Board of Management of the Launceston General Hospital in 1933 and served in this capacity until 1944. He was interested in radio therapy and was instrumental in radium being first used in Launceston in 1927. He had considerable influence in the events leading to the establishment of a 400 KV deep therapy unit at the Launceston General Hospital in 1937, said to be unique in the southern hemisphere at that time. A surgeon of skilful technique and great kindness, he took a leading part in community affairs and was made a CBE in 1924 and later was created a Knight Bachelor.

During his service at the Launceston General Hospital he published some 24 papers. He was a foundation member of the Launceston Golf Club in 1899 and became the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Launceston in 1924.

He was very active in the formation of the Crippled Children's Society and the Anti-Cancer Council in Northern Tasmania. During the 1939-45 war he represented the St John's Ambulance on the State Joint Council. In the year before his death, public subscription endowed a memorial library at the hospital as a token of the high esteem in which he was held. That library, which has a historical section as well as a large up-to-date collection of books and journals, is used extensively by the profession in Northern Tasmania in addition to the hospital staff and students to the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Tasmania.

John Ramsay died in 1944, and his obituary reads: 'One of the great surgeons Australia has produced.'



Western Australia

D. W. Fleming, L. E. Le Souef and H. M. Trethowan

Frederick Augustus Hadley

Born in Bristol on 21 December, 1873 and educated at Clifton College, Frederick Augustus Hadley (Fig. 42) completed his medical course and graduated LRCP, MRCS, London, 1899, at King's College Hospital. During this period he had shown outstanding proficiency in swimming, rugby, rowing and horsemanship. A decade later he represented Yorkshire and the West of England in tennis.



Fig. 42 Frederick Hadley

Enlisting for service in the South African War in 1900, he was medical officer to the 13th Imperial Yeomanry. His letters have described the ebb and flow of the opposing forces over this period of his medical postings, making him technically a prisoner-of-war of the Boers for short and repeated periods.

Returning to England after the war, he volunteered for a punitive force in Southern Nigeria in 1904. According to his letter he was 'medically examined and passed by the great malaria destroying "Pat" Manson himself'. His diary is interspersed with outstanding pen-and-ink sketches depicting the indigenous tribes, their homes, and their land. This expedition also explored several tracts of land in the region.

His surgical career began as a senior dresser and later house-surgeon to Mr Watson Cheyne, who had been brought from Scotland to King's College Hospital in 1877 by Lord Lister. He met Lister at times when the latter visited Cheyne in his old operating theatre, and he received his best wishes on setting out for South Africa.

Returning to England a veteran of two campaigns, he gained his FRCS (Eng.) in 1905 whilst working at the Golden Square Hospital, where he demonstrated to students. To augment his income at this time he turned his knowledge of horses to advantage, buying potential hunters and training and selling them.

Appointed surgeon to the Sheffield General Hospital, he also joined the Territorial Army organization, commanding a field ambulance — with Ernest Finch as one of his officers. However, the threat of arthritis of his left hip joint in 1912 brought him to Perth, Western Australia, where he followed the surgical practice of Earle Newton, FRCS. He now became senior honorary surgeon to the Royal Perth Hospital, and later in 1931 retired as honorary consultant surgeon, several years before the normal time. His busy practice in surgery included many fields. Amongst them were various facioplasties, but a paper in 1923 on the surgical approach to fractures led to a definite increase in interest in the general treatment of injuries.

He hoped to see the newly founded University of Western Australia (1913) develop a medical school, but this did not come until 1955. However, he maintained his interest, giving sporting trophies for competition amongst medical students, and on his death substantially endowed the school with travelling fellowships and a pathology museum.

With the outbreak of war in 1914 he was appointed colonel-in-charge, No. 5 General Base Hospital, and for his services was awarded the MBE.

He represented the Council of the British Medical Association (Western Australian branch) as one of the two members of the Federal Council, Australia, for many years.

With the progression of his arthritis, he retired from surgical practice in 1931 to his rural property south on the Frankland River. Here his success in farming paralleled that of his surgical career, and he topped the price for lambs' wool in his first year of residence. But his arthritic hip now forced him to return to Perth in complete retirement, saddened by the passing of his wife in 1955. He died on the day following his 88th birthday in December 1961. In addition to other legatees, the faculty of Agriculture benefited under the terms of his will.



The passing of Frederick Hadley could be considered as closing an era linking the antiseptic-aseptic regime with that of the antibiotics of today — Lister to Fleming and Florey. A truly remarkable career.

William Trethowan

William Trethowan was born in 1860, in Creswick, Victoria, the town that produced the Lindsay family. He was later educated at Ballarat. After 10 years working in a bank in South Australia he had saved sufficient to take him to Aberdeen University, where at the age of 28 he started a very successful career in the medical school. He graduated in 1892 with first-class honours and a gold medal. He then became house-surgeon to Professor Sir Alexander Ogston. At the end of the year he declined appointment as assistant to the professor to lecture on operative surgery. He gained further experience at the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin, and the West London and Chelsea Women's Hospitals in London. On returning to Australia he commenced general practice in

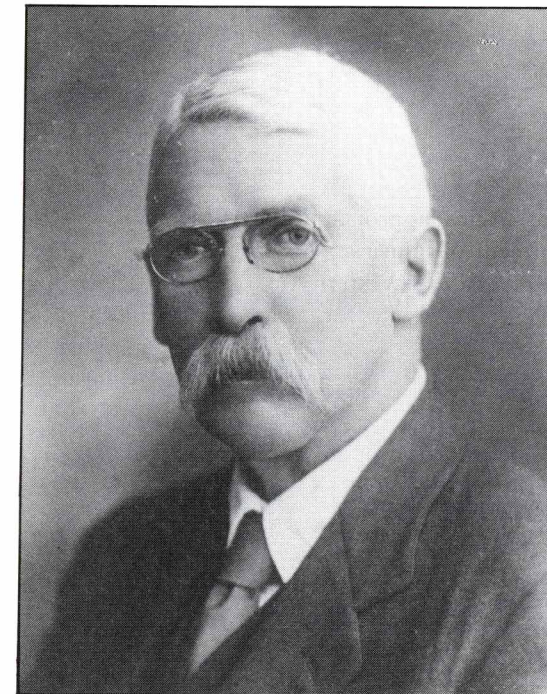


Fig. 43 William Trethowan

Perth, where he gained appointment to the surgical staff of the Perth Hospital — an appointment he held for 25 years.

Trethowan (Fig. 43) gradually relinquished general practice for specialist surgery, and by the end of the century he was regarded as a surgical leader. He was one of the pioneer doctors of the St John of God Hospital, and was later known as the 'Father' of the hospital. In 1915 he joined the Royal Australian Medical Corps and served as surgeon specialist in Lemnos and in Egypt. He contributed to the affairs of the BMA and was in 1907, President of its Western Australian branch. For a time Trethowan was also a member of the Medical Board of Western Australia.

A man of wide interests, he was, during 1913 to 1915, Commodore of the Royal Perth Yacht Club, and later was President of the South Perth Golf Club. An interesting episode in his professional career was a flight to Carnarvon in 1922 to operate on the daughter of a local doctor. The plane was a two-seater Bristol biplane and the pilot was Lieutenant Kingsford Smith. During his long career he exercised sound guidance and judgement in the profession and was generally highly esteemed as a good citizen and a man of great integrity and personal charm. He died in 1929.

