

In 1973 John Strong chaired a Council Committee which drew up a 'Brief for a Lecture Theatre'. Eventually this became the guidelines on which the planning of the Conference Centre was based. The money raised by Sir Derrick Dunlop for a lecture theatre in the early 70s was used for other purposes, and it was not until John Strong was elected President in 1979 that the matter was taken up again. He was greatly concerned at the time of the Tercentenary that we had to hire the Assembly Rooms because the accommodation in the College for meetings, symposia and lectures was inadequate.

After persuading the Council to pursue the idea again he personally undertook the feasibility studies, speaking to the owners of the adjacent site, architects, financial advisors and many influential Fellows. Thus he was able to show the Council that the project was viable.

John, like Stanley Davidson, has a flair for selecting the right person for a particular job. It was his inspired choice and persuasiveness which brought in Ian Campbell as co-ordinator of the Tercentenary Celebrations, and then led to his appointment as Treasurer of the College.

It was also John Strong's inspired choice which encouraged Sir John Crofton to take on the convenership of the Fund Raising Committee—an operation which as a result of considerable personal effort was extremely successful. John Strong was Vice-Convener of that same committee. Indeed he was a driving force on all the committees to do with the Conference Centre.

The project was a combined effort of many Fellows and advisors and the College has recognised their contributions in various ways, but it is appropriate to acknowledge that the Conference Centre was really John Strong's baby, and now that it has grown to maturity it is right to honour his early vision, his hard work, and also his determination in persuading those who were against the project or lukewarm about it at the time.

Sir John Crofton retired from the Fund Raising Committee when the target for the Conference Centre was reached, but John Strong continued to convene this Committee. It was a difficult task to go on asking for more, but he saw the need to place the commitment of the College to further education on a sound basis, and it was due to his personal efforts that the Education and Research Trust Fund came into being.

As we know he continues to this day to be a quiet, unobtrusive and constructive critic of the ongoing activities of the College.

I have indicated that the Honorary Fellowship goes only to those who are held by us in the highest esteem, and in the case of John Strong it is a well deserved appreciation of all he has done for the College and for postgraduate education. The honour could not go to a more courteous and remarkable physician and a true gentleman.

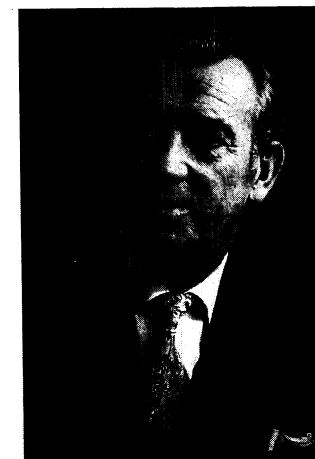
Thank you President and Council for allowing me the great privilege of speaking on this occasion.

Obituaries

KENNETH W. DONALD

Kenneth Donald who died on 17 July 1994 was professor of medicine in Edinburgh from 1959 to 1976 and effected marked changes in attitudes to health care, medical education and medical research. He was born 25 November 1911, the son of a Colonel of Artillery, and educated at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and at St Bartholomew's Hospital, qualifying just before the second world war. He served in the Royal Navy from 1939 to 1945, initially with the 2nd and 5th Flotilla of destroyers, and was decorated with the DSC for his services at Narvik. He also liked to claim that he was instrumental for the good health of the children of Britain during the war by bringing back large stocks of cod liver oil from the raid on the Lofoten Islands. He subsequently undertook pioneer research work with the Admiralty diving unit investigating the use of oxygen in diving operations. Oxygen poisoning underwater did not arise as a problem until the second world war when divers began to breathe pure oxygen during covert operations and Donald's work led to the development of oxygen-nitrogen mixtures useful for the crew of midget submarines. Equally important was its use by large teams of divers in clearing mines from newly captured ports. His work made him an acknowledged international expert in underwater physiology and he retained a lifelong interest in diving medicine, producing in 1992 an authoritative work entitled *Oxygen and the Diver*.

After the war, he became chief assistant in the medical professorial unit at St Bartholomew's, and for a time worked at the Brompton Hospital. A Rockefeller fellowship gave him the opportunity to work in the USA with André Cournand; there he helped in the development of the techniques of cardiac catheterisation that were just being developed. He published extensively on the investigation of cardio-pulmonary conditions. He moved from London to the academic unit at Birmingham as reader in medicine working with professor Melville Arnott. There he formed a team with John Bishop, Gordon Cumming and Owen Wade, publishing a number of seminal papers on the function of the heart in health and disease. Mitral valvotomy had been introduced and gave patients with mitral stenosis great relief. However if, at operation in those early days, the valve was found to be incompetent, it could not be repaired or replaced and the operation would have been unnecessary or even harmful. By passing a catheter through the right ventricle into the pulmonary artery they were able to diagnose mitral stenosis with greater precision. Using the Fick principle they were able to measure flow and derive vascular resistance; they then realised that more useful diagnostic information could be obtained by studies made during exercise as well as at rest. The findings in patients with heart disease were dramatic. Many had a low cardiac output at rest and the cardiac output hardly rose at all during quite



heavy exercise; the increased oxygen needed by the exercising muscles was obtained by extracting more oxygen from the circulating blood. Donald would often speak of blood from the femoral vein being totally stripped of oxygen.

In order to interpret these results correctly they considered it essential to make measurements during exercise in normal subjects. The idea of putting a catheter into a normal person's heart was regarded with trepidation by most physicians at that time. It was thought to be justifiable to undergo such a procedure for the diagnosis of heart disease but surely not for normal subjects! However those who had seen how well tolerated the procedure was in patients were convinced that it was feasible and ethical. Legacies of this debate were still to continue when Donald moved to Edinburgh. The first catheterisation in this country was carried out on Ken himself, the leader of the team, by Owen Wade. In later years Owen Wade was to find that Ken Donald had left a letter in his desk, to be opened in case of his death, explaining that he took full responsibility for the investigation and for any ill effects that might accrue to him. Fortunately all went well and they studied sixteen normal subjects, the whole team and other close colleagues. The work confirmed that cardiac output increased during exercise in normal subjects but, more importantly, there were significant changes in the distribution of blood within the non-exercising parts, including liver and kidney getting less blood so that more should go to the exercising muscles. Indeed, in athletes, exercising muscles can extract almost all of the oxygen delivered to them. This work was recognised widely and led to the award of a D.Sc. In later life he used to enjoy visiting Americans asking why he had two Doctorates of Science!

When in 1959 Donald was appointed professor of medicine at Edinburgh, he succeeded Sir Stanley Davidson. The main part of the department of medicine was still located in the medical school at Teviot Row. Donald's powers of persuasion were great and he managed to get the University and National Health Service to agree to establish a new, jointly funded department of medicine in the Royal Infirmary, bringing the academic unit from the medical school into closer contact with its clinical activities. This new department opened in 1962 and was intended to have a life span of about 15 years until the new Royal Infirmary was built. In 1994 it remains one of the most attractive areas within the unreconstructed Infirmary. It was equipped with laboratory facilities that attracted clinical research workers in the cardio-pulmonary field to join the professorial staff and their activities heralded a new era in Edinburgh academic medicine. The recognition of the importance of controlled oxygen therapy for patients with severe lung disease and the development of means of monitoring this therapy along with the recognition of the importance of ischaemic heart disease and the functional abnormalities after myocardial infarction were some of the key areas of research. New appointees as NHS consultant physicians were offered sessional attachments to the academic department and their recruitment did much to promote the close liaison between the University and NHS staff which Ken Donald did so much to encourage. John Richmond, James Innes, Andrew Doig and David Flenley were all involved in the development of the new department.

The chair of medicine in Edinburgh carries heavy administrative duties in respect of teaching, research and NHS organisation. Kenneth Donald tirelessly undertook a heavy share in the running of *res medica* both in Edinburgh and on the national scene. For three years he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; he served on the University Court, travelled widely on behalf of the University

Grants Committee, was adviser to the Admiralty on underwater physiology and chaired the underwater physiology committee of the Medical Research Council. He was a Governor of the Institute of Occupational Medicine. He was appointed Physician to Her Majesty the Queen in 1967, and was President of the Association of Physicians of Great Britain and Ireland in 1976.

Colleagues in the Edinburgh Medical School found him at all times approachable and helpful. He maintained a measure of naval discipline in running his department but a rich sense of humour tempered his directives. He was an excellent committee chairman steering meetings quietly but effectively to reach a conclusion. Each night he took home a briefcase heavy with homework, though occasionally he found time for his favourite pastime—casting from a riverbank.

Kenneth Donald left the Edinburgh Medical School on a sound course with an evolving medical curriculum, close liaison with the National Health Service and with a strong research base. In retirement he and his wife, Rêthe settled in a house that they built in the Welsh countryside. He continued to advise on underwater physiology to the Navy and chaired the advisory group to the Secretary of State for Scotland on health care aspects of industrial development in the North Sea. He was still able to develop his not inconsiderable skills with the fly rod and to continue to share his wife's interest in the theatre. He will be greatly missed by all his colleagues and friends.

A. L. MUIR

GEORGE HENRY VERNON CLARKE

Dr G. H. V. Clarke died in Tasmania on 17 May 1994. He was born on 29 March 1908 and initially followed a career in industrial chemistry. He graduated MB BS in London in 1947, joined the Colonial Service and served in Nigeria until 1963, specialising in dermatology and venereology. He became a Member of this College in 1962. He then became consultant dermatologist to the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Diseases of the Skin. He contributed much to the literature, particularly *The Atlas of Skin Diseases in the African*. He was elected a Fellow in 1969.

WILLIAM MAXWELL JAMIESON

Dr W. M. Jamieson of Dundee died on 17 August 1994. He was born in Forfar on 20 July 1914 and educated at St Andrews University where he graduated MB ChB in 1937, DPH in 1939 and MD in 1942. After service during World War II as a Wing Commander in the RAF he returned to Dundee where he held clinical and teaching posts in infectious and communicable diseases. Dr Jamieson took the Membership here in 1956 and was elected a Fellow in 1959. He contributed widely to the literature and was a member of many professional organisations and committees. In 1975 he was awarded the OBE.

HARI NARAIN KHATTRI

Dr H. N. Khattri, overseas adviser for the College in Punjab, died on 9 August 1944. He graduated MB BS with a Certificate of Honour in Medicine in Lucknow in 1960 and became a Member of this College in 1963. After working in Essex he returned to India in 1964 becoming Assistant Professor in Cardiology at the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh. He was elected to the Fellowship in 1975.

FRANK FIDDES MAIN

Dr F. F. Main died on 10 June 1994. He was Chief Medical Officer of Health for Northern Ireland from 1954-1968. He was born on 9 June 1905 and graduated MB ChB from Edinburgh University in 1927. After taking the DPH in Glasgow and in Edinburgh in 1931, he held appointments in public health in Perth and Dundee. He took the Membership of this College in 1954 and in 1956 he was elected a Fellow. Dr Main was a member of the General Medical Council from 1956 until 1969. He was Honorary Physician to the Queen and was awarded the CB.

BISHNUPADA MUKHARJI

Dr B. Mukharji, formerly Professor of Medicine at Rajendra Medical College in Ranchi, India, died at Calcutta on 17 June 1994. He was born on 25 February 1916 and graduated MB BS Patna in 1941 and MD in 1943. He took the Membership Examination in 1949 and held varied clinical and teaching posts at Darbhanga before his appointment as professor at Rajendra. Dr Mukharji was elected to the Fellowship in 1974.

MANICKARASAH NAGENDRA

Dr M. Nagendra of Sri Lanka died on 27 May 1994. He graduated MB BS in Ceylon in 1962 and MD in 1978. From 1973 until 1976 he held posts in Bedford and London taking the MRCP in 1974. Dr Nagendra returned to Sri Lanka before moving to Saudi Arabia in 1987 as a consultant physician. He was a member of the Ceylon College of Physicians and the Sri Lanka Medical Association. He became a Fellow in 1989.

BRIAN WILFRID PETTY

Dr B. W. Petty, formerly consultant physician in diagnostic radiology in Huddersfield, died on 8 July 1944. He was born on 9 March 1927 and qualified in medicine at Birmingham in 1950. He gained many other qualifications including the DCH in London in 1955 and the Membership of this College in 1958. Dr Petty held posts in Sweden and at Yale University before taking up his appointment at Huddersfield. He became a Fellow in 1971.

AWADH KISHORE NARAIN SINHA

Dr A. K. N. Sinha, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at Patna Medical College, India, and President of the Medical Council of India, died on 2 July 1994. Born on 15 January 1929 he graduated in medicine at Patna in 1951. After posts in the USA and Britain he took the Membership of this College in 1957 and the London College the following year. On his return to India Dr Sinha held various clinical and teaching posts specialising in cardiology. He was elected a Fellow of this College in 1971 and the London College in 1975. He was a founder Fellow of the Association of Physicians of India. He was President of the World Medical Association from 1983 until 1984 and was the College overseas adviser in Bihar.

SHREE KRISHNA NARAYAN SINHA

Dr S. K. N. Sinha of Darbhanga, Bihar, India died on 4 August 1994 at the age

of 76. He graduated MB BS at Patna University in 1942 and took the Membership of this College in 1951. Dr Sinha became Professor of Medicine at Darbhanga Medical College and was elected to the Fellowship in 1971.

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Sir John James Andrew Reid KCMG CB RD, formerly Chief Medical Officer at the Scottish Home and Health Department, died on 1 July 1994. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of *Proceedings*.

Dr R. J. G. Sinclair, a well known Edinburgh physician, died aged 87. A full obituary will appear in the next issue of the *Proceedings*.