



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Army Medical
School
Fort Pitt
Chatham
OCTOBER, 1860

Royal Army Medical
College
Millbank
London
OCTOBER, 1960

Programme of

Centenary Celebrations

held at the

Royal Army Medical College, Millbank

on 26th October 1960

Graced by the presence of

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH, The Queen Mother

Colonel-in-Chief Royal Army Medical Corps



“CHATHAM FROM FORT PITT”

*A Water Colour drawing by J. M. W. Turner, R.A., from the England and Wales Series, 1832, size 11 × 18 inches.
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THE ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE

BRIEF HISTORICAL NOTE

Opening at Fort Pitt—1860

On 2nd October, 1860, despite three years of departmental prevarication and delay, the Practical Army Medical School opened at Fort Pitt, Chatham.

The need for organised instruction in Military Hygiene, Pathology, Surgery and Medicine had long been mooted before the Crimean War. It was then that Miss Florence Nightingale reported:—

“ Young men were sent to attend the sick and wounded who perhaps had never dressed a serious wound, who certainly had never been instructed in the most ordinary sanitary knowledge, although one of their most important functions was hereafter to be the prevention of diseases in climates and circumstances in which prevention is everything.”

It was Miss Nightingale who imposed her will upon the Royal Commission that inevitably followed the War, and, through its President, Sidney Herbert, achieved the creation of the School against the most cloying opposition. To her was delegated the drawing up of administrative regulations for the School; and she even nominated the professorial staff as far back as 1857.

The siting of the School at Fort Pitt was inevitable. Here were to be found soldiers at all stages of training and the sick and wounded evacuated from overseas. Also for some years an excellent library had been growing there, maintained entirely at that time by the voluntary efforts of Army medical officers; and the Museum, which had been moved to Fort Pitt earlier from York Hospital, Chelsea, formed the basis of the teaching collection.

The Staff

The brilliant opening address was given by Thomas Longmore—Deputy Inspector-General and first Professor of Surgery. He was a gifted writer, a distinguished soldier, a clear, precise and methodical teacher who held the chair for 39 years.

His colleagues were equally well chosen.

Edmund Alexander Parkes, Professor of Hygiene, was another inspiring teacher of great intelligence and practical ability, who was to remain in office for 16 years. Dr. William Aitken, Professor of Pathology, held an appointment belatedly agreed at Miss Nightingale's insistence. This was poetic justice as she had originally nominated him to be in charge of the School, and it is clear from her private correspondence that the idea of the School was at least in part his. Finally there was Surgeon-Major C. Morehead, Indian Medical Service, who was appointed as Professor of Military Medicine. He was a physician of wide Indian experience. He resigned after only a year, but the Indian Government continued to appoint officers to this chair until the School closed at Netley, and also shared the cost of maintaining the establishment until that time.



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

From an original miniature Water Colour kindly loaned by The Royal College of Nursing

The primary function of the School was to give courses of instruction to newly joined medical officers—not “back to school” but “forward,” as Longmore pointed out in his address. Incidentally the *Medical Times and Gazette* of 6th October, 1860, reported that:—

“the (43) candidates for both the Royal and Indian Armies appear to be an extremely gentlemanly and fine-looking set of men, of whom the Service may be well proud.”

Transfer to Netley—1863

Each course lasted for five months. After the first five courses the School was transferred to Netley when the Royal Victoria Hospital was opened there and the sick and wounded arrived by means of Southampton Water instead of the Medway.

The transfer was far from smooth but eventually a ward was converted into a lecture room, another into an operating theatre and other accommodation found for administration, Library and Museum. Hygiene and Pathology Laboratories were improvised in outbuildings.

The formal opening address was postponed for these reasons until the second course on 1st October, 1863, when it was delivered by Surgeon-Major William Campbell Maclean, now the Professor of Military Medicine in succession to Morehead. He, too, was a fascinating teacher both in the lecture room and at the bedside—and his pupils remained his disciples.

The School remained at Netley until 1902. From 1871 until 1880 probationary Naval medical officers also attended the courses and by the time the School closed no less than 3,218 surgeons had been trained. One is struck by the happy atmosphere of the place and by the practical nature of the syllabus and the ample time given for private study and outdoor sport. At the same time discipline was firm. Uniform was worn on duty, marks were deducted for non-attendance at classes and it was clear that officers were still on probation as well as under instruction.

Move to Millbank—1902-1907

After any campaign when things have not gone well, the Medical Services come under fire; and this was especially so after the Boer War. There was a heated Parliamentary debate followed by the inevitable Royal Commission. In general the Services were acquitted. But it was obvious that the Royal Army Medical Corps was unpopular and undermanned and radical re-organisation was decided upon. A committee specially appointed expressed the opinion, *inter alia*, that a military hospital and staff college were needed, presumably in London. Temporary arrangements were hastily made by using the laboratories of the Royal College of Surgeons on the Victoria Embankment and students were accommodated at the St. Ermin's Hotel. On 29th June, 1902, instruction in Military Hygiene, Pathology and Medical Administration shifted to London. Clinical teaching was gradually transferred as facilities became available. This was largely contingent upon the opening of The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital on the East side of the Tate Gallery in May, 1905, and by the last day of that month the Army Medical School at Netley finally closed to the great regret of many ex-students.



LORD HERBERT OF LEA

From a drawing by George Richmond, R.A.

It is interesting to note that some 40 years earlier, at the time the School was moved from Fort Pitt to Netley, the professorial staff had protested strongly that the move *should* then have been to London, where the facilities of the newly opened Herbert Hospital could have been used. They emphasised, in a document signed by Parkes:—

“its proximity to London and the offices of the head of the department, of the great hospitals, medical schools and learned societies, and the facilities its nearness to these great fountains of medical knowledge afford for profitable intercourse, as well as for receiving visits of professional foreigners of distinction, who have already evinced a desire to profit by what the professors have to show and to aid them in return.”

In spite of the greater speed of travel by road and rail (and helicopter) these century-old arguments are still valid and are routinely invoked.

College Opening—1907

The College was not ready for opening on its present site on the West side of the Tate Gallery until 1907, but thereafter all training became centralised there. In 1908 the College was admitted as a School of the University of London in the Faculty of Medicine. One of the most important results of the move was to focus attention once more on the splendid work of the School, which had recently been overshadowed by the struggle for autonomy in which the Medical Services had been engaged.

Courses for Lieutenants on probation and for Captains qualifying for promotion to Major (instituted in 1903) continued twice a year until the outbreak of the First World War. During the War the College continued as a research establishment and as a centre for vaccine production. It was in the Hygiene Laboratories that the first prototype respirator against poison gases was designed and tested.

Between the Wars routine instruction was resumed, and indeed courses in Tropical Medicine continued throughout World War II. But again research dominated. In 1940 the building was seriously damaged by bomb explosion and the Hygiene Department was forced to transfer temporarily to Mytchett.

Recent Events

Since the end of the Second War, full courses have become re-established and the field considerably expanded. Two courses a year are held for Senior Officers and three for Junior Officers. The College is recognised for teaching for the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene; two courses a year are held and the numbers of entrants are increasing rapidly with very creditable results. Special courses are run for Army Health and for Pathology specialists, whilst every assistance is given to officers studying for higher degrees in Medicine and Surgery. All the time short courses for National Service medical officers succeed each other at fortnightly intervals.

It is upon the incomparable foundation of the early professorial talent and of many great teachers who followed that the School and later the College secured their reputation. The present staff continue to be inspired by their example and humbled by their foresight.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

1. The Royal Guard of Honour, furnished by the Royal Army Medical Corps, will march (via Millbank) from The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital to the Parade Ground, Millbank Barracks, preceded by The Royal Army Medical Corps Staff Band.

The Band will play selections of music.

2. The following will take up position in front of the entrance to the Royal Army Medical College, arriving in the order given:—

Commandant Royal Army Medical College;
Director General Army Medical Services;
Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Army Medical Corps;
Permanent Under-Secretary of State for War;
Adjutant General to the Forces;
Chief of the Imperial General Staff;
Secretary of State for War;
and their wives.

3. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Colonel-in-Chief, will drive on to the Parade Ground. The Director General Army Medical Services will present the Representative Colonel Commandant Royal Army Medical Corps.

4. Her Majesty will proceed to the Saluting Base and will receive a Royal Salute.

5. Her Majesty will then inspect Her Guard of Honour.

6. The Secretary of State for War will then join Her Majesty and will present Members of Army Council and Army Medical Advisory Board, and their wives.

7. The Director General Army Medical Services will then present the Commandant, Royal Army Medical College.

8. Her Majesty will enter the College Vestibule and will meet Colonels Commandant R.A.M.C., Major-Generals late R.A.M.C., the Director Army Dental Service, and their wives; and the Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services.

9. Her Majesty will enter the office of the Professor of Pathology to don the gown of a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons.

10. Her Majesty will thence proceed to the adjacent laboratory and will meet the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons and their wives.

11. Her Majesty will enter the Lecture Theatre preceded by the College Professorial Staff, Representative Colonel Commandant R.A.M.C., Commandant Royal Army Medical College, Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons, the Army Medical Advisory Board, Members of Army Council, and escorted by the Director General Army Medical Services.

12. When Her Majesty, the Secretary of State for War, Members of the Army Council, Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons, the Director General Army Medical Services and the Commandant Army Medical College have been conducted to their places in the Lecture Theatre, there shall be sounded a Fanfare of Trumpets, after which the National Anthem will be sung. Then all standing, the Chaplain of The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital will lead the assembly in prayer.

13. Her Majesty will be presented with a bouquet.

14. The Secretary of State will give an address of welcome.

15. The President of the Royal College of Surgeons will request Her Majesty to present the Mitchiner Medals for 1959 and 1960.

16. Dr. E. R. Cullinan, Army Medical Advisory Board, will then request Her Majesty to present the McCombe Professorship of Military Surgery to Professor John Bruce.

17. Dr. E. R. Boland, Army Medical Advisory Board, will request Her Majesty to present the Guthrie Award to Sir Stanford Cade.

18. The Commandant Royal Army Medical College will request Her Majesty to present the College Prizes.

19. The President of the Royal College of Surgeons will make an announcement in respect of the Professorship of Military Surgery at the Royal Army Medical College.

20. Her Majesty will give an address.

21. The Director General Army Medical Services will thank Her Majesty.

22. Her Majesty will leave the Lecture Theatre to visit the Army Health Laboratory and the College Library where Her Majesty will meet the Directors General Medical Services, or their representatives, of the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Commonwealth, N.A.T.O., C.E.N.T.O., A.F.N.E., and S.E.A.T.O. Nations, Sudan and Yugoslavia.

23. Her Majesty will then proceed to the Barry Room, H.Q. R.A.M.C. Officers' Mess, for tea.

24. After tea, Her Majesty will visit the Anteroom and will meet the visiting Officers and Officers of the Army Medical Services and their wives.

25. Her Majesty will finally visit the V.C. Room.

26. Her Majesty will depart by the Atterbury Street exit to a fanfare of trumpets.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

SIR ARTHUR PORRITT

Sir Arthur Porritt, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., LL.D., M.A., M.Ch., P.R.C.S., Sergeant Surgeon to the Queen, Consulting Surgeon to the Army, President of the British Medical Association, Consulting Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital was Consultant Surgeon to 21st Army Group for the Normandy Landings until the end of the war. Under his aegis the mortality among the wounded reached an unprecedentedly low figure and the standard of war surgery a new height.

In addition to his surgical pre-eminence as President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Sir Arthur served on the International Olympics Committee and on the British Olympic Committee where he can draw on practical experience as he was a finalist in the 100 metres in the 1924 Olympics, and Captain of Britain's Olympic Team in 1924. Coming from New Zealand as a Rhodes Scholar he set up new records in the 100-220 yards hurdles and is as outstanding in the world of sport as in surgery. Since 1950 he has been a member of the Army Medical Advisory Board.

PROFESSOR JOHN BRUCE

Professor John Bruce, C.B.E., Q.H.S., T.D., P.R.C.S. (Edin.), Regius Professor of Clinical Surgery University of Edinburgh, saw active service in Norway and was mentioned in dispatches. He was later Consultant Surgeon to 14th Army in South-East Asia Command and was mentioned in dispatches for gallant and distinguished services in Burma. He gave unswerving support and constant advice to the medical services and particularly to the forward surgeons. His clinical acumen, outstanding knowledge and professional skill, salted always with pungent wit made his constant visits to the forward areas forever memorable to all who served in that arduous campaign. He is Honorary Consultant Surgeon to the Army in Scotland and has been a member of the Army Medical Advisory Board since 1957.

DR. E. R. BOLAND

Dr. E. R. Boland, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P., is Physician to Guy's Hospital, where he has also been Dean of the Medical and Dental School since 1945. During the 1914-18 War he served as a Subaltern in the London Rifle Brigade, and was wounded in action. In the Second World War, he was Consulting Physician at A.F.H.Q. in the Central Mediterranean. Few medical officers who served in French North Africa, Sicily and Italy will forget his work when malaria was rife among troops engaged in the Sicilian campaign. Brigadier Boland visited personally every field medical unit in the theatre to ensure that the principles of treatment were fully understood by medical officers and that such treatment was being properly carried out. His devoted work in this alone must have saved the lives of very many soldiers. His directives issued on medical problems arising during the course of the campaign, were masterpieces of lucidity. Since the end of the war he has retained his close connection with R.A.M.C. and has served since 1949 on the Army Medical Advisory Board. He is at the present time President of the Medical Services Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

DR. E. R. CULLINAN

Dr. E. R. Cullinan, M.D., F.R.C.P., is Senior Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital and Honorary Consulting Physician to the Army and Royal Hospital, Chelsea. He is also Censor of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and Examiner in Medicine at the Royal Army Medical College. He served in the Army during the war during which he was Consulting Physician to East Africa Command and held the rank of Brigadier. After the war it was largely due to his unbounded enthusiasm that researches were conducted into infective hepatitis and gastro-intestinal disorders at The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank. Since 1950 he has been a member of the Army Medical Advisory Board.

SPECIAL PRIZES

THE MITCHINER MEDAL

The Mitchiner Medal was instituted by the Royal College of Surgeons in October, 1953, and is conferred on the medical officer of the R.A.M.C. or late R.A.M.C., who, in a degree which is considered to be worthy of recognition, has brought about an advance in any branch of Medical Science in its application to the Army, or has contributed to an improvement in any matter affecting the health and living conditions of Army personnel. It was founded in memory of Major-General P. H. Mitchiner, C.B., C.B.E., T.D., M.S., M.D., F.R.C.S., who served in every rank of the Army from Private to Major-General and was the senior territorial medical officer during the war. Surgeon to St. Thomas' Hospital, his fame spread throughout the world for his skill as a teacher, his vitality and keenness in helping surgeons to advance the science of surgery and above all, for his unfailing kindness and charity, concealed under a flow of bluff invective and waspish humour.

1959 LIEUT.-COLONEL I. A. WALSH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

1960 MAJOR-GENERAL W. D. HUGHES, C.B., C.B.E., Q.H.P., M.D., F.R.C.P.(I), D.T.M. & H.

THE McCOMBE PROFESSORSHIP OF MILITARY SURGERY

Established by John Smith McCombe, D.S.O., M.B., Ch.B., who was commissioned in 1908 and retired—with the rank of Brigadier—in 1944. An outstanding officer in the Corps, McCombe in 1908, was awarded the Royal Humane Society's Certificate and the Arnott Memorial Medal for life saving; in 1910 he reached the semi-finals of the Army and Navy Boxing Competition as a Heavyweight; in 1916 he was awarded the Royal Humane Society Bronze Medal again for saving life, and in 1917 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for bravery in the Field.

PROFESSOR JOHN BRUCE, C.B.E., Q.H.S., T.D., P.R.C.S. (Edin.)

THE GUTHRIE AWARD

Founded in memory of George James Guthrie, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., who was born in 1785. At the early age of 13, through the good offices of the Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, Guthrie became an articled student to a London Surgeon. After three years tuition he satisfied his examiners at the Royal College of Surgeons and became Regimental Assistant Surgeon to the 29th (Worcestershire) Regiment. Four years later in 1806 he was promoted to the rank of Surgeon. Guthrie returned to Europe and served throughout the Peninsular War with much distinction. He earned the gratitude of the Duke of Wellington not only for his surgical skill but also for extricating the sick and wounded under his care during the retreat from Madrid in 1813, for it was the first time a British Army had retreated such a distance without losing its sick and its hospitals. After his war service Guthrie applied his surgical talents to civil practice. He became surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, and later surgeon to the Westminster Hospital. For some 20 years he gave free lectures to medical officers of the Services, and so originated the liaison between the Army Surgeons and the Westminster Hospital. In 1824 he was elected a member of the council of the Royal College of Surgeons; four years later he was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Surgery, and subsequently Vice-President and President of the College. In 1827 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. Guthrie was not only a brilliant surgeon and a gifted teacher, but he possessed an original mind well suited to research as evidenced by the large number and variety of clinical papers which were published before he died in 1856. The award was instituted in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the work of the Army Medical Services.

SIR STANFORD CADE, K.B.E., C.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.O.G., D.Sc., F.F.R., F.A.C.S.

THE PARKES MEMORIAL PRIZE

This prize was instituted in memory of Doctor Edmund Alexander Parkes, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., an assistant surgeon in the 84th (York & Lancaster) Regiment, who retired from the Service to become the first Professor of Hygiene from 1860 to 1875. It is awarded annually to the regular serving officer of the Royal Navy or Army, who, in the opinion of the Committee, has done most by professional work of outstanding merit to promote the study of Naval or Military Hygiene.

SURGEON-CAPTAIN P. K. FRASER, M.D., R.N.

COLLEGE PRIZES—SENIOR OFFICERS' COURSE

THE LEISHMAN PRIZE

The prize is awarded to the officer who comes first in Order of Merit in the final examination.

Prize Winner:— 1959 MAJOR D. KELLEHER, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.T.M. & H.

THE KATHERINE WEBB PRIZE

Mrs. Eglantine Katherine Webb, the widow of Surgeon-General Sir William Marshall Webb who joined the Services in 1854 and died in Cairo in 1899, bequested in her will a charitable legacy to found the "Katherine Webb Memorial Fund." The prize is awarded to the officer who comes first in Medicine, Tropical Medicine and Entomology.

Prize Winner:— 1959 MAJOR D. KELLEHER, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.T.M. & H.

THE PARKES PRIZE

The prize is awarded to the officer who comes first in Army Health.

Prize Winners:— 1959 MAJOR D. KELLEHER, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), D.T.M. & H.
1960 MAJOR N. NAWAZ KHAN, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H.

THE MONTEFIORE PRIZES

These were presented in 1881 by Mr. Nathaniel Montefiore, F.R.C.S., for the encouragement of Military Surgery, and were first awarded in February, 1882, for the highest and second highest marks in Military Surgery.

Prize Winner:— 1960 MAJOR W. P. MACLAY, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M. & H.

COLLEGE PRIZES—JUNIOR OFFICERS' COURSE

(Three Courses each year)

THE SIDNEY HERBERT PRIZE

This was instituted in memory of Lord Herbert of Lea, who as Secretary of State for War was responsible for the creation of the Army Medical School. The prize is awarded to the officer who has obtained the highest aggregate of marks in all the subjects of the examination.

Prize Winners:— CAPTAIN D. M. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S.
CAPTAIN J. F. IFFLAND, M.B., B.S.
CAPTAIN A. J. SALTER, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H.

THE MONTEFIORE PRIZES

These are awarded as for the Senior Officers' Course.

- Prize Winners:*— (1) { CAPTAIN R. F. KNIGHT, M.B., B.S., D.A., D.T.M. & H.
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(2) CAPTAIN D. I. MACNAIR, M.B., B.S., D.A.
(1) CAPTAIN J. S. BAILEY, M.B., B.Ch., D.T.M. & H.
(2) CAPTAIN W. R. O. EGGINGTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H.

THE PARKES PRIZE

This is awarded to the officer who comes first in Army Health.

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CAPTAIN A. J. SALTER, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H.

THE DE CHAUMONT PRIZE

This prize was endowed by Mrs. de Chaumont in July, 1891, in memory of her husband Surgeon-Major F. S. B. F. de Chaumont, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., formerly Professor of Hygiene at the Army Medical School, and is awarded to the officer who obtains second highest marks in Army Health.

- Prize Winners:*— CAPTAIN D. M. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S.
CAPTAIN J. F. IFFLAND, M.B., B.S.
LIEUTENANT M. R. BAYLIS, M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H.

THE RANALD MARTIN PRIZE

The prize was established by public subscription to commemorate the late Sir James Ranald Martin, Kt., C.B., F.R.C.S., F.R.S., Physician to the Secretary of State for India and a member of the original Senate of the Army Medical School of Fort Pitt, Chatham, and is awarded to the officer who obtains highest marks in Tropical Medicine.

- Prize Winners:*— CAPTAIN H. PULLEN, M.B. Ch.B., D.T.M. & H.
CAPTAIN J. F. IFFLAND, M.B., B.S.
CAPTAIN J. S. BAILEY, M.B., B.Ch., D.T.M. & H.

THE TULLOCH MEMORIAL PRIZE

The prize was founded in 1908 by the Royal Army Medical Corps Fund in memory of Lieutenant F. M. G. Tulloch, R.A.M.C., who died in The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank, on 20th June, 1906, of sleeping sickness contracted in the investigation of that disease in Uganda, 1904-1906. It is awarded to the officer who obtains highest marks in Pathology.

- Prize Winners:*— CAPTAIN R. F. KNIGHT, M.B., B.S., D.A., D.T.M. & H.
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