

WITH the death on January 1, 1940, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, of Dr. H. C. Burgess, an outstanding Canadian member of the American Gynecological Society passed away. McGill University has lost a brilliant teacher and a valued faculty member, Montreal a beloved physician, and the whole of Canada an outstanding citizen.

Born in Nova Scotia, Dr. Burgess received his early education in his native province, then entered McGill University for medical training. Like many of his compatriots he took a leading part in university life and graduated with high honors. Following graduation, hospital training was undertaken in Montreal, Baltimore, and finally in Great Britain and Germany.

It was in these years of preparation that Dr. Burgess accomplished some of the most constructive medical work of his life, for it was during his tenure of office as superintendent of the Montreal Maternity Hospital that this hospital grew and developed rapidly. It was then that the foundations were carefully laid for the larger institution which was to become some years later, the Royal Victoria Montreal Maternity Hospital.

With completion of postgraduate training abroad, Dr. Burgess returned to Montreal and was appointed to a teaching post in McGill University, The Royal Victoria Hospital and the Montreal Maternity Hospital. With the outbreak of the World War I in 1914 Dr. Burgess was one of the first medical men of McGill University to enlist his services in the common cause. He saw service continuously throughout the War both in base hospitals and in the more advanced areas. It was during this relatively brief but important period of his life that he displayed his true surgical ability and was widely recognized by all as an able general surgeon. When the War ended he returned to Montreal and resumed his place in university and hospital.

As the years passed Dr. Burgess became an outstanding member of his profession and his ability was widely recognized by both the profession and the public. He became a Fellow of the American Gynecological Society, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a charter Fellow of the Royal Canadian College of Surgeons and a foundation Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of the British Empire.

Few men of our time have enjoyed the friendship and respect of the student body as did Dr. Burgess; a born teacher and a skillful surgeon, with the faculty of making friends he did much to enhance the reputation of the medical school.

As a citizen Dr. Burgess will long be remembered as one who gave freely of his services to those in need: by his colleagues as an outstanding member of the profession and by his students as a great teacher and friend.

*John R. Fraser.*