**SIR (ALBERT) JAMES WALTON KCVO FRCS (1898-99)**



I can find little on him other than what is contained in the 1968 register.

He was born on 1 November 1881 and after leaving the College went to the London Hospital. Here he obtained a BSc in 1906; Honours in Anatomy and Morphology in 1908; Honours in Pathology, Midwifery and Gynaecology in 1909 and became FRCS in 1907. He won many medical and surgical prizes at London Hospital.

During WW1 he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps, rising to the rank of Captain. He was attached to the 2nd London General Hospital and also at the Endsleigh Hospital for Officers, the Palace Green Hospital for Officers and the Empire Hospital for Diseases of the Brain and Spinal Cord.

He was appointed surgeon to HM King George V and Queen Mary and then to HM King George VI. He was knighted with the KCVO in 1935.

He was Hunterian Professor in 1919 and a member of the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons (1931-47), Vice-President (1939-41) and President of the Association of Surgeons of GB and Ireland (1944) and President of the Medical Society of London. He was also a member of medical societies in America and Paris.

During WW2 he was a Brigadier in the Army Medical Department and consultant surgeon to South Western and Central Commands.

He was the author of "Fractures and Separated Epiphyses" in 1910 and "A text-book of Surgical Dyspepsia's" in 1923. In 1928 he was editor of "A text-book of Surgical Diagnosis".

When he retired he concentrated on the hobby of gemmology at which he became an acknowledged expert. He was awarded the diploma with distinction of the Gemmological Association of which he became President, and he was chairman of the National Association of Goldsmiths. These two bodies established at their headquarters in the city the Sir James Walton Memorial Library, containing models of minerals made by him. He was the first medical man to appreciate the importance of the atomic structure of minerals in the causation of chest diseases. His hobbies, apart from gemmology included fishing, tennis and badminton.

He died on 27 August 1955 at the age of 73.

*I'm grateful to the Royal College of Surgeons for most of the above information. He donated his papers to them in 1975 and they are described on their online catalogue - see*
*http://surgicat.rcseng.ac.uk/(hxvnkl45a0hw4v45ilrfzkms)/default.aspx*