

Cushing

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Following work in Europe during the First World War, Cushing returned to his study, teaching, and operating at Harvard and Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, and to writing and presenting medical papers on his work. Because of the growth of neurosurgery, he helped organize the Society of Neurological Surgeons in 1919 and was elected its first president.

In 1925 he published his famous two-volume *Life of Sir William Osler*, a tribute to one of his most beloved teachers at Hopkins. The work won him the 1926 Pulitzer Prize for letters.

As he continued to describe a variety of brain tumors, Cushing emphasized the need for equipment to prevent or stop bleeding during neurosurgery. Working with Dr. W. T. Bovie of the Harvard Cancer Commission, he developed an electric cauterizer which proved a major advance in brain operations.

Despite his many technical achievements, Cushing's greatest reward, in his own opinion, was the gratitude of his patients. He aspired to mold his patient relationships like those of the country

doctor who followed his patients' daily lives for years after their operations.

One of Cushing's patients, a girl on whom he operated 17 times for a recurring cerebral tumor, dedicated a musical composition she had written and sold to the Boston Music Company to Dr. Cushing. "I would wish it better than anything Beethoven has ever done to dedicate it to you, but it is the best I have done up to the present time," she wrote. "While the composition is small, the spirit and affection that accompanies my wishing to dedicate it to you is very big."

A group of 35 enthusiastic young neurosurgeons and neurologists honored their great teacher when they established the Harvey Cushing Society in 1932 at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston. In a note to the group, Cushing replied, "I am very proud of you all and that I should have been immortalized by having you use my name is a source of pride and gratification."

Cushing took his final appointment at Yale in 1933 as Sterling Professor of Surgery. True to his reputation as a terrible speller, Cushing replied to the offer of this appointment using the words "privaledge" and "definate." He retired in 1937.

The Harvey Cushing Society planned its 1939 session to coincide with Cushing's seventieth birthday. The members presented the master with a bibliography of his writings, including 12 books and 330 papers in addition to 328 papers from his laboratory.

After the memorable party, Cushing returned to work on a biography of Versalius, the 16th century physician whose life and works had fascinated Cushing since Osler introduced the two in 1901. While still engrossed in this work, Cushing suffered recurrent attacks of angina pectoris and after a severe bout with heart pains on October 3, gradually worsened until he died on the morning of October 7, 1939.

One of his biographers, Elizabeth H. Thompson, says of Cushing, "By example he taught that a physician is obligated to consider more than a diseased organ, more even than the whole man - he must view man in his world. To do this, he must himself have breadth and vision and courage. In living this philosophy, Cushing joined the ranks of those humanist-physicians who have stood out from their fellows because of their broad approach to medicine and to life."



Medical Center Appoints Fowler As Fire Marshal

The Medical Center has hired a fire marshal.

His name, appropriately enough, is Marshall Fowler, and his job will be fire prevention, hazardous material and safety programs at the Medical Center to insure that in the event of a disaster, reaction will be quick, orderly, and well-handled.

Mr. Fowler explained that because of oxygen and chemicals stored in any hospital, fire hazards can be a problem. "We hope to organize inspectors in each department to watch out for potential fire hazards if and when they develop and work out appropriate measures to eliminate them," he said. "I hope we will have the cooperation of each Medical Center employe to promote fire prevention and safety for himself and others."

Mr. Fowler will also develop training programs for at least one employe in every department in handling fire fighting equipment and in safety practices.

He added that if any hospital employe knows of a fire hazard, he should report it to the fire marshal at extension 4004.

Mr. Fowler, a graduate of Rowan Technical Institute in Salisbury with a degree in fire and safety engineering technology, has been involved in fire prevention work with the Cary and Salisbury fire departments for the past four years. He is a certified instructor for fire service training with the North Carolina Department of Community Colleges.

His wife, the former Brenda Dennis, is employed in hematology.

Reporters contributing to the "Professional News" and "Intercomments" columns in this issue of *Intercom* include:

Inez Wilson, audiovisual education; *Nina Waite*, business office; *Maxine Book-knight*, cardiac care unit; *Ellen Bivins*, cardiology; *Barbara Webb*, Cardiology ward; *June Perry*, clinical research unit; *Carol Clark*, data processing; *Linda Williams*, dietetics; *Patsey Sutphin*, hematology; *Cinderella Lennon*, hospital laundry; *Judith Auman*, immunology; *Elizabeth Vickroy*, Medical Center Library; *Kitty Taylor*, Medical PDC; *Al Taylor*, nursing service; *Elizabeth Renkin*, occupational therapy; *Sue T. Cable, R. N.*, operating room; *Sue Galbraith*, orthodontics; *Jo Anne Douglas*, Osler ward; *Sherry Bass*, outpatient department lab; *Susie Clark*, outpatient department nursing; *Dot Efland*, PDC annex; *Gene Winters*, pathology; *Carol Schutz*, patient care education; *Grace Horton*, physical therapy; *Marge Stubblefield*, psychiatry; *Rozalyn Bradley*, speech pathology; *Judy Suggs*, surgery; *Annie Lee Terry*, Surgical PDC; *Alice Wilson*, Third West ward; *Peggy Poole*, unit administration; *Virginia Jordan and Leigh Haire*, urology; *Jonelle Gordan*, veterinary medicine; and *Welch ward*.