

Medical Society, and the American College of Physicians. He was elected Fellow of the American College of Physicians at its first regular meeting held in New York in December, 1916. He was elected President in 1923 in which capacity he served for two years. In 1925 he was elected to the Board of Regents where he served for three years; in 1929 he was elected to the Board of Governors on which he served for two years. He also served on various committees and gave generously of his time and energies to the work of the College.

Dr. Brooks was a prolific writer and published many monographs and special articles on medical and biological subjects. He was the Editor of Lippincott's *Everyday Practice Series*.

He was keenly interested in animal life, exploration, mountaineering and was an honorary Fellow in the New York Zoological Society and a member of the Explorer's Club, Adventurer's Club, and the Camp Fire of America.

Dr. Brooks was one of the outstanding diagnosticians of his time and was called in consultation as frequently probably, as any other doctor in the United States. He was looked upon as an authority in diseases of the circulatory system. He was often referred to as the "doctors' doctor," being constantly sought by his brother practitioners in cases involving their immediate families, among whom he was known as the "Beloved Physician."

Few physicians of his time gave so generously of their services to the poor.

As a young pathologist, Dr. Brooks collaborated with Dr. William Welch at Bellevue Hospital in advanced research work that resulted in the discovery of the bacillus named after Dr. Welch which is responsible for the disease commonly called "gas bacillus" infection, and which, by a curious coincidence was the cause of Dr. Brooks' own death.

One of the contributing factors which enabled Dr. Brooks to maintain his enthusiasm for his profession and for life in general was his devotion to his hobbies

which were very varied. He was a skilled musician and a collector of outstanding works of art, as well as being an anthropologist of note. His collection of Indian relics surpassed any similar private collection in the world; it contained some specimens not to be found in any other collection.

Probably his great physical stamina was due, in part at least, to his love for fishing and hunting, in each of which he was an outstanding expert. Often Dr. Brooks would remark that he gladly devoted ten months each year to the pursuit of his profession but retained two months to seek recuperation and happiness in the great open spaces.

One of the outstanding characteristics of this great physician was his genius for friendship. His friendship was a living vital force upon which rested profound gratification and innermost happiness. When Dr. Brooks bestowed his friendship it was for the duration of life. He was truly catholic in these friendships which were confined to no one profession or social stratum. Caring little for individual accomplishments, Dr. Brooks demanded honesty, frankness, and I was about to add, loyalty in his friends. However, since loyalty is the quintessence of true friendship, it may be omitted.

I have somewhat stressed this phase of Dr. Brooks' character because to him it was the dominating influence of his life, and also, because in these times of emotional upheaval and cross purposes the gift of true friendship is a God-given attribute which is all too rare.

And so, from our midst, has been taken this great physician, this talented gentleman, this indefatigable worker, this scientist of renown, this man of many enthusiasms, of loyal friendships, of kindly heart and broad sympathies—gifted in so many ways and with so many talents that the world, indeed, is richer for his having lived in it. Those who had the privilege of close association with Harlow Brooks will carry in their hearts ever the memory of his cheering and inspiring presence and the light of his Christian spirit.

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## Henry Wald Bettmann \*

*By*

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Dr. Henry Wald Bettmann, senior member and President of the American Gastro-enterological Association, died on December 4, 1935, of coronary artery disease.

Dr. Bettmann was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on January 14, 1868, the son of Matilda Wald and Bernhard Bettmann. In 1887 he received his A.B. degree from the University of Cincinnati and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Three years later he was graduated, with honorable mention, from the Medical College of Ohio. After a year's internship in the Cincinnati General Hospital, he spent two years in graduate study in the clinics of Berlin, Prague and Vienna.

In 1894 he was given the appointment of "Curator

of the Laboratory" at the Cincinnati General Hospital. While serving in this capacity he originated the first city-wide service for the bacteriological diagnosis of diphtheria. At the same time, with the help of several colleagues, he opened a course in clinical laboratory methods for practitioners. He was appointed pathologist to the Cincinnati General Hospital in 1894, which position he held until 1907.

Early in his career, Bettmann's interests began to lean toward the field of gastro-intestinal diseases. In 1903 he received the prize for a monograph on studies of the shape and position of the stomach. In 1904 he was elected Second Vice-President of the American Gastro-enterological Association and served as President during the years of 1905 and 1906.

\*Delivered before the Thirty-Ninth Annual Session of the American Gastro-enterological Association, Atlantic City, N. J., May 4-5, 1936.

Dr. Bettmann made numerous contributions to the subject of diseases of the digestive tract and was particularly interested in the problem of so-called chronic appendicitis with particular reference to the pit-falls in the diagnosis of this condition as evidenced, for example, by the failures following surgical treatment. He was, up until the time of his death, engaged in a large practice much of which was consulting in character.

He wrote the chapters on Diseases of the Liver and Diseases of the Intestines for the George Blumer edition of *Forchheimer-Billings Therapeutics of Internal Diseases*. He wrote the section on Diarrhea for Nelson's *Loose-Leaf Medicine* and the section on Examination of the Feces in Tice's *System of Medicine*.

Dr. Bettmann was a friend of the younger medical man and would constantly encourage him in his undertakings. He was a man of diversified interests. His knowledge of literature, both ancient and modern, was profound. Both the fields of poetry and philosophy were his in which to wander and a remarkably tenacious memory made what he read his own possession. He was a chess enthusiast of the highest order; he delighted in setting and solving the most intricate problems. His was a mind which lent itself naturally to a culture of uncommonly wide extent. Endowed with a delightful sense of humor, his qualities made him a colleague to be loved and cherished; his humanitarianism and ability, one to be admired.

His passing represents a distinct loss to this Association.

## George Washington McCaskey\*

By

WILLIAM GERRY MORGAN, M.D.  
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Through the death of George Washington McCaskey in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on December 30th, 1935, the American Gastro-enterological Association lost one of its earliest and most distinguished members.

Dr. McCaskey was born in Fulton County, Ohio, November 9, 1853. He was graduated from the Jefferson Medical College in 1877 and in 1880 from the University College of London, England. Upon his return to his native land he established his practice in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he continued his life work up to the time of his death. He retired from clinical work seven years ago, to devote himself to writing and to research.

By his untiring devotion to the pursuit of knowledge in his chosen profession, Dr. McCaskey won a high place as a diagnostician and clinician, and was a recognized authority in diseases of the alimentary tract.

Dr. McCaskey was a prolific writer and his contribu-

tions to medical literature were numerous and valuable.

In 1910, Dr. McCaskey was a delegate to the International Medical Congress at Madrid, Spain, at which he delivered a noteworthy address.

Dr. McCaskey had several honorary degrees conferred upon him in recognition of his professional attainments, among which were Ph.B. in 1881 and M.A. in 1884, both by the DePauw University.

Dr. McCaskey by his broad vision, keen judgment and wise council won the confidence and esteem of those with whom he worked for so many years.

*Be it Resolved:* That we, the American Gastro-enterological Association express our deep sorrow for the loss of this true physician and wise counselor.

*Be it Further Resolved:* That these resolutions be made a part of the permanent records of this Association, and a copy be sent to the surviving members of Dr. McCaskey's family as a token of the high regard and esteem in which he was held by the members of the American Gastro-enterological Association.

\*Delivered before the Thirty-Ninth Annual Session of the American Gastro-enterological Association, Atlantic City, N. J., May 4-5, 1936.

## Annual Abstracts of Proctologic Literature, 1935-1937

By CHARLES E. POPE, M.D., Evanston, Illinois

### INTRODUCTION

IN the performance of my duty in the review of the Proctologic Literature for the past year, it was immediately evident that the task was nearly Herculean and apparently never ending. That satisfaction that comes with the exhausting completion of a single subject for review is not the reward of the compiler of the Proctologic Literature for this Society. To do that is a physical impossibility and with the added interest given our specialty and the in-

creasingly large numbers of contributions, coupled with the importance of having a careful analysis of the literature on the multitude of related subjects, there might be some question as to the wisdom of delegating the work to a single member of the Society in the future.

As it has been with my predecessors, additional help always has been necessary from librarians and from abstractors for both foreign and domestic ab-

stracts; and each one has mentioned that, though a voluminous report was given, nevertheless it was by necessity many hundreds of articles less in the Transactions than the number actually reviewed. My respectful admiration and appreciation of past reviewers rapidly mounted at the start of this work last year.

Whereas this is merely offered as a suggestion for your future consideration one definite change was made following the suggestion of the secretary,