

OBITUARY

A. CHARLES KING

IT IS WITH REGRET that we record the death of Mr. A. Charles King of London, England on March 15, 1966. Charles King was an institution to a generation of British and British-trained anaesthetists. He described himself as a maker of anaesthetic equipment, and disliked being referred to as a "manufacturer." He lived through an era when every young anaesthetist aspired to develop new equipment or to modify older equipment to solve his own problems or to suit his personal idiosyncrasies. Charles King's attitude was that he was prepared to offer advice on the practicability of new ideas, but if his advice was not asked or not taken, he would construct the equipment as the doctor wanted it. Most aspiring inventors quickly learned the value of accepting his expert advice.

Many Canadian anaesthetists will remember Charles King as an honoured guest at the meeting of the Society at Murray Bay in 1951, at which time he was elected to Honorary Membership in the Society. Still others will remember him as a kindly gentleman who never seemed to be too busy to discuss with the young anaesthetist the unusual pieces of equipment housed in the museum in his London showrooms. An era has passed with the death of Charles King.