

Summary

Conditions affecting the choice of anaesthetic methods in developing countries have been described, and the place of halothane in this situation considered.

It has been emphasised that halothane, like ether, can be administered precisely by face-mask or endotracheal tube, with relatively simple apparatus, employing the "draw-over" principle with air as the carrier gas.

The importance of including facilities for supplementing the inspired air with oxygen, and of providing a means for assisting or controlling the patient's respirations, has been stressed.

A brief account has been given of a self-contained portable anaesthetic outfit for the administration of halothane/oxygen/air anaesthesia.

REFERENCES

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OBITUARY

E. R. CULLINAN

C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.

THE sudden death of Dr. Edward Cullinan, Consulting Physician to the Army, came as a shock to his many friends in the R.A.M.C.. His long association with army medicine and with the Queen Alexandra Military Hospital in particular, enabled him to become a well known and universally respected figure in army medical circles.

Edward Revill Cullinan qualified in medicine from St. Bartholomew's in 1924 and obtained the M.R.C.P. and M.D. in 1926. Shortly after qualification he was appointed house-physician to Lord (then Sir Thomas) Horder, a most coveted post, and later became his chief assistant. After a period as Demonstrator in Morbid Anatomy he was appointed to the senior staff of St. Bartholomew's, a position he held for more than 30 years. His interest in gastroenterology led to his appointment to the Gordon Hospital.

Dr. Cullinan's connection with the R.A.M.C. commenced in 1941 when he was posted to No. 28 General Hospital as officer commanding the medical division. Later in that year he served in Egypt and Syria and in 1944 was appointed Consultant to the East Africa Command with the rank of Brigadier. On his return to civilian life Cullinan did not sever his connection with the forces. He valued greatly his appointment as Consulting Physician to the Army and his membership of the Army Medical Advisory Board. For his services in these respects he was awarded the C.B.E. in 1964.

Cullinan's main professional interest was in the clinical aspects of gastroenterology and his early classic papers on haematemesis and the natural history of infective hepatitis are well remembered and still frequently quoted. As a consultant who attained eminence at an early age it was natural that he should attract many honours. He was elected F.R.C.P. in 1934 and gave the Bradshaw Lecture before the Royal College of Physicians and was the Lettsomian Lecturer of the Medical Society of London. He was twice a Censor of the Royal College of Physicians.

Cullinan was at his best at the bedside of the sick. The unhurried courtesy, the air of equanimity and the sympathetic support and encouragement which he emanated truly reflected the art of the physician. He was never too busy to give of his best even though in the last few years indifferent health made everything more of an effort. To bring a patient to him at his house in Park Square West was a rewarding experience. After the consultation a glass of sherry would afford the excuse for the display of the most recent acquisition from his collection of eighteenth century glass, of which he was a connoisseur. It was in this relaxed setting that his expertise as a raconteur was best displayed and he would talk with charm of his past experiences in the R.A.M.C..

Cullinan had many facets to his character, some displaying a touch of the baroque. He was a conjurer of merit and at one time was a member of the Magic Circle. His holidays were often spent with his family on a converted barge exploring the inland waterways of England. He acquired possession of the Beachy Head lighthouse and had much fun in renovating it into a pleasant retreat. In his younger days he was an enthusiastic mountaineer and during his service in East Africa climbed Mount Kilimanjaro.

Cullinan's family life was exceptionally happy. He leaves a widow, the Hon. Joy Cullinan, daughter of his old chief, and four children. One son is a doctor; another entered the Church and officiated at the Requiem Mass at St. James', Spanish Place. To them we extend our most sincere sympathy in their loss.

R.J.G.M.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

R.A.M.C. HISTORICAL MUSEUM

From : Major-General R. E. Barnsley, C.B., M.C., M.A., M.B.

SIR—May I crave the hospitality of your columns in order to express my very sincere thanks to all who played any part in the events culminating in the presentation which took place in the Mess at Millbank on February 10th?

I feel that perhaps a word or two of explanation from the "receiving end" is due to all the kindly folk who have subscribed and sent their signatures.

Early in January I was told that a proposal had been circulated that some kind of presentation should be made, bearing the signature of subscribers, at a dinner in the mess. A few weeks later I was profoundly moved to learn that applications and subscriptions had got beyond the mess dinner and presentation stage and I was asked to suggest some deserving cause to which the very substantial fund might be devoted.

Both during my service and in the years of retirement the fine historical tradition of our Corps has been one of my greatest interests, one which I have been lucky enough to be able to pursue in helping to compile our Corps History and in establishing our