Institute of Orthopaedics of the University of London. In those difficult times, after a devastating war when everything was scarce, he was its steadfast supporter. Indeed he was a founding father.

His surgical parish was large, for he was not only on the active staff of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, the West End Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery and other hospitals in London, but also on the consultant staff of the Prince of Wales Orthopaedic and Glan Ely Hospitals, Cardiff, the West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St Edmunds and the North Wales Sanatorium where he worked with Robert Jones. To his clinical work he brought a great fund of knowledge and vast experience. His operating was meticulous, straining the endurance of some assistants but bringing much benefit to his patients.

An Emeritus Fellow of the British Orthopaedic Association, Rocyn is a past Vice-President. He is a prominent freemason and Past Master of the London Welsh Lodge. He is a Deacon at King’s Cross Welsh Congregational Chapel, London, a member of the Cambrian Archeological Society and a member of the Honourable Society of Cymrodorion. He was President of the St David’s Day Dinner of the London Welsh in 1959.

His wife, Margaret, is a lady of charm, daughter of the Vicar of Beaufort and a former hospital sister. To their daughter they gave the Celtic name Glayne, meaning a pearl of great price. Although a Welshman, speaking his native tongue and rooted in the culture of the Principality, Rocyn presents none of the mystique of his race that can so puzzle and perplex the plain Anglo-Saxon.

The name Rocyn, first applied to the grandfather, is derived from a South Cardiganshire expression meaning “that boy.” This seems prophetic for our Rocyn remains ever youthful. He never seems to change. Why does this versatile man command our unalloyed affection? It is because everything he does is permeated with gentleness, kindness and courtesy. He is an exemplar to us all.

H. Jackson Burrows

CENTENARY TRIBUTE TO LORD MOYNIHAN OF LEEDS

Lord MoyNIHAN of Leeds was born on October 2, 1865, just six weeks after the fateful day on which Joseph Lister first applied carbolic acid to an open fracture in the leg of a Glasgow boy. The anaesthetic era had dawned some twenty years before, and it thus came about that the combined benefits of anaesthesia and antisepsis, especially the spectacular extension of the scope of surgery, were being fully appreciated at the time when MoyNIHAN was embarking upon his career. No wonder, therefore, that Lister should have been the greatest of his heroes, to whom he delighted to pay homage not only by eloquent tributes in orations and addresses delivered on many great occasions, but more particularly in the daily practice of the most careful antiseptic and aseptic ritual in every operation he undertook.

It is well that such a notable centenary should be commemorated, and this has been gracefully done by the Osler Club of London who have published a small volume containing ten of MoyNIHAN’s articles and addresses, carefully selected to portray his many and varied contributions to the science and art of surgery.* Furthermore, being his own compositions they manifest to future generations his mastery of the English language; for the beauty and clarity of his diction will remain as a memorial to a born orator long after many of the details of his surgical technique have become outdated—though the principles he taught of asepsis, gentleness and the control of haemorrhage must be imperishable.

THE FIRST LORD MOYNIHAN

Portrait by Herkomer reproduced by kind permission of the third Lord Moynihan and of the authors and publishers of Selected Writings of Lord Moynihan.
Moynihan will be remembered chiefly for his oratory and his mastery of the surgical art; yet those who knew him, and anyone who has studied his writings, must have recognised many other attributes which made him a leading figure in the professional life of his generation. Very important was his appreciation of the basic sciences, and especially of physiology, in the surgeon's approach to his clinical problems. He delighted to point out that though Lister had made surgery safe for the patient, the surgeon of today had to make his patient safe for surgery; and he was among the first to use intravenous infusions of fluid and electrolytes, and of blood, in pre-operative as well as in post-operative management. It must never be forgotten that the establishment of the Department of Physiology at the Royal College of Surgeons, and of the Buckston Browne Farm adjacent to Down House, took place during his presidency, and together bear eloquent testimony to his enthusiasm for surgical research.

He made a strong plea for studying pathology in the living body, partly because opportunities were thus afforded for assessing processes of disease at a much earlier stage than at necropsy, but chiefly because the ability to see and handle diseased organs instead of trying to form a mental picture of the disease made it easier to decide upon the appropriate treatment. For this reason he invited his medical colleagues to attend operations so that they also might see the pathology, and thus collaboration between fellow consultants might be facilitated.

But the greatest assets of all were his imposing presence, and his warm-hearted personality. From his earliest days he travelled widely in Europe and in the United States, and the first world war provided ideal conditions for extending friendships among the surgeons of many nations. British surgeons are indebted to him for the part he played in the foundation of the Association of Surgeons and the British Journal of Surgery. Professional friendships were not limited to his own speciality as is shown by the efforts he made to obtain for members of the Royal College of Surgeons direct representation on the Council.

Though almost all his publications were concerned with abdominal surgery it is noteworthy that one of the earliest papers described a case of excision of the scapula for sarcoma; and during the war there were several dealing with the treatment of gunshot wounds, one on wounds of the knee joint and another on the treatment of fractures complicating war wounds. He liked to recall the success he had obtained in the treatment of bone sarcoma with Coley's mixed toxins, and he must often have talked over orthopaedic matters with his friend Robert Jones.

Though he would never have laid claim to any special knowledge of bone and joint surgery, every surgeon, whatever his speciality, will be able to derive real pleasure, and perhaps profit also, from reading the book offered as a centenary tribute by the Osler Club of London.

James Paterson Ross