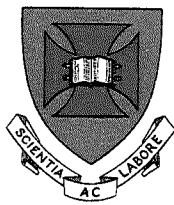


AWARDED 15th DECEMBER, 1975.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



DOCTOR OF MEDICINE 'HONORIS CAUSA'

PROFESSOR SIR SYDNEY SUNDERLAND

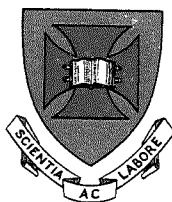
"MR. CHANCELLOR,

SIR SYDNEY SUNDERLAND HAS SPENT THE GREATER PART OF HIS LIFE OUTSIDE QUEENSLAND. HE IS, HOWEVER, A QUEENSLANDER BY BIRTH. HE WENT TO SCHOOL HERE AND STUDIED FIRST YEAR SCIENCE IN THIS UNIVERSITY BEFORE HE WENT TO MELBOURNE TO STUDY MEDICINE AT A TIME WHEN IT WAS NOT AVAILABLE IN THIS UNIVERSITY.

HE GRADUATED WITH GREAT DISTINCTION AND AFTER FURTHER EXPERIENCE IN THE DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL OF NEUROANATOMY IN OXFORD HE WAS APPOINTED IN 1939, AT THE AGE OF 29, TO THE CHAIR OF ANATOMY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE. HE HELD THAT CHAIR UNTIL 1961 WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED TO A PERSONAL PROFESSORSHIP IN EXPERIMENTAL NEUROANATOMY.

AS A NEUROANATOMIST SIR SYDNEY'S AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST HAS BEEN IN THE MORPHOLOGY AND FUNCTION OF PERIPHERAL NERVES, THEIR RESPONSES TO INJURY, AND IN THE BIOLOGY OF NERVE REGENERATION. IT HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT FIELD IN WHICH TO WORK, INVOLVING DESCRIPTIVE HISTOLOGY AND TISSUE CULTURE TECHNIQUES, IN WHICH HE HAS BEEN A PIONEER OF THE FIRST CALIBRE. SIR SYDNEY WOULD REGARD HIMSELF AS A PURE SCIENTIST, BUT HE HAS BEEN WELL AWARE OF THE ANORMOUS PRACTICAL, SURGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF HIS WORK. DURING THE WAR HE WAS VISITING SPECIALIST IN PERIPHERAL NERVE INJURIES AT THE 115TH AUSTRALIAN GENERAL MILITARY HOSPITAL, WHERE THE MARRIAGE BETWEEN THE NEUROANATOMIST AND THE NEUROSURGEON RESULTED IN THE QUITE DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT OF TECHNIQUES OF RESTORATIVE SURGERY. SIR SYDNEY'S RESEARCHES HAVE APPEARED IN OVER ONE HUNDRED PUBLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS, AND

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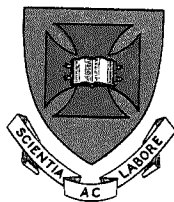
SIR SYDNEY SUNDERLAND (cont.)

HIS REVIEW OF THE WORLD LITERATURE AND HIS OWN SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION HAS APPEARED IN HIS LENGTHY AND DEFINITIVE MONOGRAPH 'NERVES AND NERVE INJURIES', PUBLISHED BY LIVINGSTONE IN 1968. THIS IS A TRULY REMARKABLE WORK WHICH INCLUDES THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY EVER COLLECTED ON THE SUBJECT, AND IN A THOUSAND OR MORE PAGES DRAWS TOGETHER THE STRANDS OF A QUARTER OF A CENTURY OF INTENSIVE RESEARCH. HE IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF BRINGING OUT A SECOND EDITION OF WHAT HAS BEEN WIDELY ACCLAIMED BY REVIEWERS AS A CLASSIC IN THE NEUROLOGICAL LITERATURE.

SUCH A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN SCHOLARSHIP WOULD HAVE OCCUPIED A NORMAL LIFETIME, BUT SYDNEY SUNDERLAND HAS MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. IN 1953, HE BECAME DEAN OF THE MEDICAL SCHOOL IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE. HE WAS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE CLINICAL SCIENCES WHICH TOOK PLACE THERE AND WHAT HE DID SET PATTERNS FOR OTHER MEDICAL SCHOOLS. BEFORE THIS TIME CLINICAL TEACHING HAD BEEN PROVIDED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY BY PART-TIME 'HONORARY' PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. SYDNEY SUNDERLAND SAW THE NEED FOR FULL-TIME ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS AND UNDER HIS GUIDANCE CLINICAL CHAIRS WERE ESTABLISHED IN SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS DURING THE 1950'S AND 1960'S.

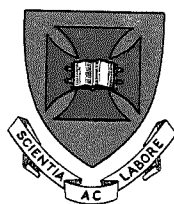
AT THIS TIME HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL. HE SAW VERY CLEARLY THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH IN THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED CLINICAL SCIENCES AND THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENTS OF UNIVERSITIES AND HIS ENERGETIC AND PERSUASIVE ADVOCACY IN THE N.H.M.R.C. LED TO SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT FOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH.

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SIR SYDNEY SUNDERLAND (cont.)

SIR SYDNEY'S OTHER GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO UNIVERSITY LIFE HAS BEEN HIS LONG MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES COMMISSION - SINCE 1962. HE HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL ADVISER TO THE COMMISSION ON THE INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL RESOURCES IN UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITALS. PRIOR TO 1962 THE TEACHING HOSPITALS WERE IN AN ALMOST PITIFUL STATE AND ACCOMMODATION FOR THE CLINICAL DEPARTMENTS WERE MEAGRE. OLD AND EVEN NEW HOSPITALS HAD NOT BEEN DESIGNED WITH THE TEACHING OF UNDER-GRADUATES IN MIND: LECTURE THEATRES, SEMINAR ROOMS, STUDENT LABORATORIES, ACCOMMODATION FOR LIVING-IN STUDENTS EITHER DID NOT EXIST OR WERE TOO FEW IN NUMBER OR INFERIOR IN QUALITY. IT WAS PART OF SIR SYDNEY'S PHILOSOPHY THAT CLINICAL SUBJECTS HAD BECOME TRUE SCIENCES; THEREFORE THEIR EXPONENTS SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH ADEQUATE LABORATORY FACILITIES AND STUDENTS SHOULD BE TAUGHT IN AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH REFLECTED A CHANGED EDUCATIONAL OUTLOOK. AS PART OF THE GREAT DEVELOPMENT OF UNIVERSITY BUILDING IN THE 1960'S THERE OCCURRED, LARGELY AT SIR SYDNEY'S INSTIGATION, A PROGRAMME OF UPGRADING OF FACILITIES IN TEACHING HOSPITALS. THIS WAS A DIFFICULT EXERCISE, INVOLVING STATE AND COMMONWEALTH COLLABORATION, NOT ALWAYS EASY TO SECURE, AND CREATING ARCHITECTURAL PROBLEMS IN ADDING NEW CONSTRUCTIONS TO OLD BUILDINGS. BUT OVER A DECADE THE JOB OF REMODELLING OLD SCHOOLS AND CREATING THE NEW HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. IN ALL, \$39 MILLION HAS BEEN EXPENDED ON TEACHING HOSPITALS SINCE 1961 AND SUDNEY SUNDERLAND WILL HAVE SEEN HOW ALL OF THIS HAS BEEN SPENT, AND IN HIS TERM OF OFFICE HE HAS SEEN THE NUMBER OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS INCREASE FROM FOUR TO ELEVEN.

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SIR SYDNEY SUNDERLAND (cont.)

HIS ACTIVITIES HAVE EXTENDED INTO MANY FIELDS: DEFENCE RESEARCH AND ORGANISATION, RADIATION HAZARDS, MUSEUMS, ZOOLOGICAL BOARDS, HOSPITAL BOARDS OF MANAGEMENT, SUPPORT FOR AND PLANNING OF MEDICAL EDUCATION OVERSEAS. IT HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE CAREER AND THE MAN WHO HAS DONE ALL THIS HAS ALWAYS PRESERVED THE HUMAN SCALE. HE HAS MANY FRIENDS AND MANY MANY ADMIRERS.

MR. CHANCELLOR, I PRESENT TO YOU SYDNEY SUNDERLAND, KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE, DOCTOR OF MEDICINE, BACHELOR OF SURGERY, DOCTOR OF SCIENCE, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, FELLOW OF THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, HONORARY DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA, FOR ADMISSION TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE 'HONORIS CAUSA'."

The Chancellor says:

"SYDNEY SUNDERLAND BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, I ADMIT YOU TO THE RANK AND PRIVILEGES OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE 'HONORIS CAUSA' IN THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND."