Dr. Harcourt B. Church, MD

CMA President, 1951-52
McGill University, 1917
General practice

Dr. Church practised in Aylmer, Que., and was also a lecturer in general practice and rural medicine at the University of Ottawa. A Past President of the Quebec Medical Association, Dr. Church was also ahead of his time. When he died in 1955, his obituary in CMAJ stated: “General practice was a form of religion with him and he practised it with all the devotion of a high priest, though with no trace of mysticism. He was a simple man in the most admirable sense, but he never tried to make the work of a general practitioner appear too simple [and] he looked with a bleak eye at anyone who was not prepared to spend himself without counting the cost.” He was also ahead of his time in another way. By his promotion of conservation, “he was responsible for the planting of many thousands of trees.”