Dr. Kenneth A. MacKenzie, MD

CMA President, 1938-39
Dalhousie University, 1903
General practice, internal medicine

Dr. MacKenzie was President of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia before taking on the CMA’s top role in 1938. According to the obituary that appeared in CMAJ after his death in 1958, he “belonged to that small and dedicated group of general practitioners who before and after World War I prepared themselves to take a place in the specialist field.” In Dr. MacKenzie’s case, that field was internal medicine, and he was soon made head of that department at Dalhousie University. A colleague who attended one of his lectures commented: “What struck me about his talks was the simplicity of his reasoning and the clarity with which his reasoning led to a sound clinical conclusion. He set his compass by a few stars and was never led astray by that type of celestial red herring that so often misguides the more esoteric mind.”