Dr. John H. McPhedran, MD, FRCPC

CMA President, 1944-45
University of Toronto, 1905
Internal medicine

Dr. McPhedran, a former chief of staff and physician-in-chief at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto, served as President of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) before becoming CMA President. After serving as a medical officer in World War I, he began working closely with both the OMA and CMA. During World War II he chaired the CMA’s Procurement and Assignment Board, which was created to maintain a “satisfactory balance” in the numbers of physicians serving military personnel and civilians. After the war ended, he was appointed the first full-time registrar of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. A staunch supporter of a national health insurance system, Dr. McPhedran wrote about the topic in both *CMAJ* and the *Globe and Mail*. After his death in 1963, a colleague wrote in *CMAJ*: “[Of staff] he demanded the care of the patient who had the disease and not the disease entity alone. He was a master physician.”