Dr. Jonathan C. Meakins, MD, FRCP (Edin.), FRSC

CMA President, 1935-36
McGill University, 1904
Pathology, internal medicine, cardiology

Dr. Meakins, who served as Dean of Medicine at McGill from 1942 to 1947, also had a distinguished military career. During his five years in the Canadian Army Medical Corps in World War I “he made a number of contributions to research in cardiology, writing a number of papers on ‘irritable heart.’” He was also placed in charge of the army’s investigation into chemical warfare. Dr. Meakins also served in World War II as deputy director of medical services with the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. CMAJ described him as a prolific writer. “His best known work, The Practice of Medicine, first appeared in 1926 and was virtually one of the last one-man textbooks of medicine, although three colleagues did contribute chapters. When the sixth edition appeared in 1956, it had a list of 87 contributors, with Dr. Meakins serving as editor.” Dr. Meakins, who died in 1959, also held major posts in clinical medicine, including physician-in-chief at Montreal’s Royal Victoria Hospital. A colleague told CMAJ that he “brought a breath of the laboratory and the new world and clinical medicine . . . and lit a lamp of clinical science.”