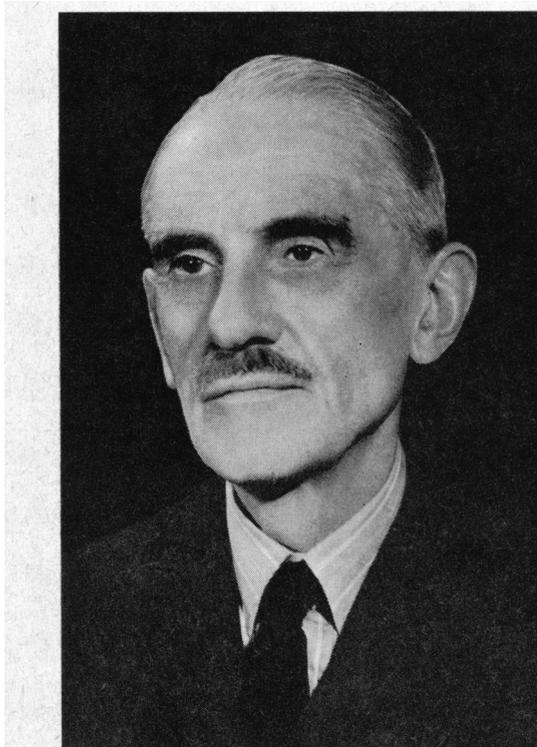


OBITUARY

REGINALD AFFLECK GREEVES, 1878-1966

Reginald Affleck Greeves, Emeritus Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital and to Moorfields Eye Hospital, died on October 4, 1966, at the age of 88. Born in Strandtown, Co. Down, the youngest of a family of eleven children, he was educated privately and at Queen's University, Belfast. In 1900 he graduated B.A. with honours, and gained a first class exhibition.



After a distinguished undergraduate career in medicine at University College Hospital, London and at Guy's Hospital, he qualified as M.B. London (1903), B.S. with honours (1906), M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. (1906) and F.R.C.S., England (1906). Greeves was not immediately to specialize in ophthalmology but went to South Africa where he was a country doctor in the Transvaal. Here he met his charming wife and companion, Sarah, with whom he returned to England because of the illness of his father. After acting as Surgical Tutor and Registrar to Guy's Hospital, he decided to specialize in ophthalmology. He was appointed assistant ophthalmic surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital in 1914, later becoming full ophthalmic surgeon to that hospital, from the active staff of which he retired in 1946. He was elected to the surgical staff of Moorfields in 1915, after two years as the curator of the Museum and Pathologist to the hospital, and retired in 1938, to become an active member of its staff again during the war years, when he held outpatient clinics at the hospital and operated regularly at the Tindal House Emergency Hospital in Aylesbury.

Greeves was a particularly able clinician, a well-trained pathologist, and a competent surgeon with the good judgment that this demands. His opinion on difficult fundus cases

was sought by his former pupils and colleagues until his complete retirement in 1960. He wrote many important papers on the pathological and clinical aspects of ophthalmology, and included in his teaching and his publications many of the nice points of refraction that are so important in ophthalmic practice. In 1941-2 he was president of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, of which he had been an unusually active member since 1911, and had contributed richly to its transactions.

Sometimes an apparently morose and unapproachable character, Greeves was, to those who knew him well, a kindly and patient teacher and a loyal friend. During the 1939-1945 war he lived in a delightful country house at Datchworth, in Hertfordshire, to which he invited many friends, and where he and his wife shared a happy home and a keen interest in art and music with their visitors. Sarah, his wife, died in 1954, and this loss overshadowed his later life. He moved back to London, and remained an active participant in ophthalmological meetings until he retired.

Greeves will be missed by very many pupils and colleagues, much of whose basic knowledge of ophthalmic pathology, surgery, and medicine they owe to his teaching. He is survived by his daughter and two sons, one an ophthalmic surgeon, to whom we extend our sympathy. J. H.