



Newsletter

AMERICAN RHINOLOGIC SOCIETY

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MAURICE H. COTTLE

Dr. Maurice H. Cottle, Founder of the American Rhinologic Society, died in Chicago on May 5, 1981 at the age of 83. His death deprived the specialty of Rhinology and the American Rhinologic Society of a most dynamic and influential member.

Dr. Cottle was born in England and immigrated to the United States from France in 1913 and lived the remainder of his life in Chicago.

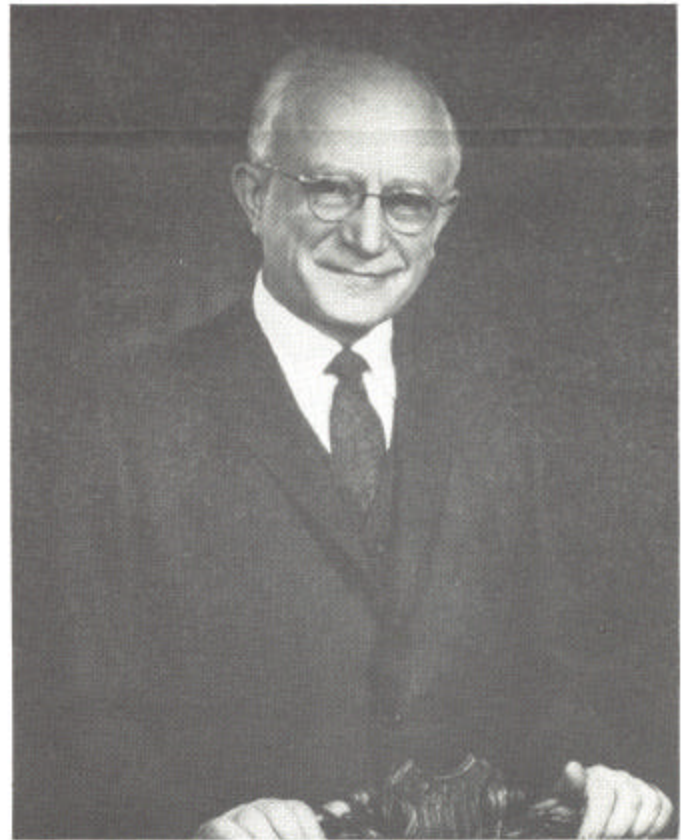
He was graduated from the Illinois University and the former Illinois College of Medicine, now the University of Illinois, in 1920.

Dr. Cottle's intense dedication to education was evident throughout his professional life. His profound interest in the study and treatment of the nose was the stage for his life's devotion. Dr. Cottle's renown stemmed not so much from one achievement as from a combination of broad knowledge and dedication to the field of medicine. He concentrated on every facet of the specialty. His early studies of embryology, anatomy and physiology, for example, proved a valuable preparation for his later accomplishments in rhinologic principles of functional nasal surgery. He returned medicine to the ENT doctor by making him aware of the relationship of the nose to the systemic health of the individual. The effect of the nose and the relationship to the heart and lungs, and the correlation of pulmonary and naso pulmonary function test as they play a role in the health of the individual was his later contribution to medicine.

His extensive work in the relationship of the nose to the heart and lungs and the development of simple breathing tests that can indicate potential heart trouble has resulted in the publishing of two recent workshop books on rhinomanometry. (Rhinomanometry 1980 & Supplement 1981).

He was a past professor and head of the department of Otolaryngology at the Chicago Medical School; Attending at the Children's Memorial Hospital, Cook County Hospital. He was Director of Rhinology and Rhinomanometry at the Illinois Masonic Hospital and Medical Center where he has worked for over 50 years.

Dr. Cottle founded the American Rhinologic Society in 1954 and the International Rhinologic Society in 1961. He was also founder of the Golden Head Mirror



Award for Meritorious sharing in the service of Rhinology and of the Annual Dr. Maurice H. Cottle Honor Award for original papers of rhinologic or associated allied problems.

The American Rhinologic Society was organized for the accumulation and dissemination of scientific knowledge in the field of Rhinology, and to engender original investigation and to stimulate interest in all phases of this branch of medicine. Dr. Cottle instructed postgraduate seminars and has been honored by universities and faculties around the world, including the New York Eye and Ear Hospital, Yale Medical School, Johns Hopkins University, Tulane University, University of Oregon, Medical College of Virginia, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Loma Linda School of Medicine, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Leiden in the Netherlands, Odense in Den-

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mark, Bologna in Italy, and was to be honored guest at the International Rhinologic Society meeting with the World Congress in Otorhinolaryngology in Budapest, Hungary in June 1981.

He has won numerous awards and honors for his works and exhibits from universities and medical schools, from the American Medical Association and from the American Academy of Otolaryngology.

To his students, Dr. Cottle will be remembered as an outstanding teacher, and as a perfectionist.

His family established the Dr. Maurice H. Cottle Research and Educational Fund to perpetuate Rhinology in the American Rhinologic Society.

When they gathered to pay him tribute, this ob-

ervation was made by his son: "Most of all, he has been . . . a great husband, father, doctor, and most of all a great teacher, of whom there are so few. His teaching reflected in the lives and works of generations of doctors and scientists throughout the world, has vastly enriched both medicine and humanity. This is the peak of his distinction! It is this which all who revere him most admire, and for which they pay him highest honor."

He is survived by his wife, Gitta, a daughter, Mrs. Judith Kreston of New York City, and a son, Dr. Thomas Cottle, of Brookline, Massachusetts; four grandchildren, two brothers, and two sisters.

Tribute to MAURICE H. COTTLE, M.D.

*"Conduct is the great profession,
Behaviour is the great revealing of us,
What a man does, tells us what he is"* Huntington

Dr. Cottle, "A Man of all Seasons." . . . Teacher, physician, surgeon, philosopher, philanthropist and musician.

Known to his friends as "Maurie," he was recognized, especially by those of us in the American Rhinologic Society, as one of the outstanding teachers and investigators of this century. Through his efforts and support our present viable Society was founded and has flourished under his aegis.

Rhinology, through his teaching, research and innovations, was raised from its obscure level into the full light and prominence it now holds with Otology and Laryngology. Surgery of the nasal septum had fallen into disrepute due to the poor results so often obtained. Dr. Cottle corrected this attitude, and also these poor results, with the introduction of his now well know maxilla-premaxillary approach. This procedure associated with the surgical treatment of the para-nasal structures, and his development of Rhinosphygmomanometry brought Rhinology more into the area of an exact science than it had ever achieved before. His monumental work in this Rhinomanometry field will remain as a lasting epitaph to his great contribution to Rhinology.

His lectures were always inspiring, both in the class room and in the surgical amphitheatre. To share his knowledge and experience with others was his great desire. He had a charisma which attracted others to welcome the opportunity to work with him and he spared neither himself nor his students in his effort to inculcate in them his great fund of knowledge. He demanded complete attention during his lectures and treated all with equality. Those who came with inflated egos were soon deflated and some voluntarily left the class. They were the losers. Paradoxically, he could single out an inattentive stu-

dent, give him a lecture, often abrasive, before the entire class, and yet shortly after show that same student a great kindness and concern for his progress. He insisted that all laboratory material be treated with the same care and respect shown to a surgical patient and he, himself, strictly followed these admonitions.

The basement of his home was converted into a library and laboratory. Here he accumulated and catalogued a slide collection on Rhinology never before equalled. It was in this basement laboratory that he developed the science of measuring nasal breathing and its far-reaching influence on other body organs and functions.

His philosophical lecture given once each course, usually on Wednesday morning, was a rare treat. It was a sort of psychological catharsis and as a result, all present became more understanding individuals.

His philanthropy was broad and numerous but known to few.

Though tireless in his work, he found great relaxation in music and was a fine violinist, being a member of a prominent chamber music group. After a long day of lecturing, surgery and laboratory work, he would play his violin, alone or with an accompanist, if one could be found equal to his stamina.

Here a word must be said for his wife "Gitta," herself a well-known concert pianist. She supported his efforts during the trying times when he had to neglect his family life while he developed Rhinology as we now share it.

Personally I owe Maurie a great debt for the influence he had on my work and professional life and, probably more than I realize, on my private and intellectual life.

George Elliot's two lines could well apply to Maurie. "Our deeds still travel with us from afar,
And what we have been makes us what we are."

Amos E. Friend, M.D.
Manchester, Connecticut

A Memorial To MAURICE E. COTTLE

For those of us who have known Dr. Maurice E. Cottle for so long, and whose lives have been influenced, affected and improved by this fact, it seems as if it would be a monumental task to tell about him adequately. However, if you think about it, one realizes that one is so filled with the teachings and ideas of Maurie, as he is known to the legion of friends he has, then some of the knowledge should sort of "spill out" and make the task much easier than you would otherwise think.

Most of us know him as a doctor, a nose doctor—or a rhinologist, probably the greatest in this century. In fact, he was more than that, much more to all of us. He was a friend in the fullest sense of the word. One who gave much more than he received. Such friends are all too rare, and a great blessing to each of us.

His knowledge of medicine was immense, and alone would mark him as a great man, but that is only part of his many abilities. He was a musician of more than average ability. He also knew art, history, and philosophy. He was an excellent speaker, a delightful companion, a loving husband and father, and with it all, a most generous man.

If one had to classify him with only one word, it would be "teacher" because he was certainly that. He taught from his early youth until his end. For those of us who have been exposed to many teachers in school and later post-graduate teaching, it is rare to have one whom one could classify as an inspirational teacher — one who seemed to light a fire in your mind, and whose work was really a great pleasure to experience. Such was Maurie, par excellence. He taught from his early life mathematics, music, language, art, philosophy and medicine.

Maurie was born in England, where his father was a tailor. His family left England and went to France when he was twelve years old. He lived there until he was sixteen years old, during which time he contributed to the family income by various jobs. Here, also, was born in him a desire to become a nose doctor. It was an ambition he pursued with intensity until his death many years later.

He came with his family to Chicago when his family joined the thousands of other Europeans immigrating to the United States at that time.

In Chicago, he began his teaching career. He taught music, violin playing and guitar to many poor people in northern Chicago, many of whom could not pay. He taught English to many Europeans from various countries. He taught mathematics in business schools. Many of his music students went on to successful professional careers. He worked his way through medical school and took an internship, followed by a residency, in ear, nose and throat. He then spent a year in Vienna, studying pathology of his specialty, and then returned to Chicago to practice privately.

In the meantime, he married Gitta. As a result of that successful marriage, a daughter, Judy, and a son, Tom, were born.

Gitta was, and is, a very talented successful musician, a pianist of international fame. She traveled all over this country and much of Europe with great success as a concert pianist. She and Maurie became intimate friends with many of the world's greatest musicians — two notables, Isaac Stern and Toscani. Music, as is plain to see, has played a great part in Maurie's life. For many years, he had a chamber music group play with him at his home every Tuesday night. It was his form of relaxation.

Maurie's greatest work was teaching and doing Rhinology. This began seriously in the late forties when he gathered together a small group of fellow doctors, and began a teaching course in nasal surgery at the Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago. This group grew in number and came several times a year to Chicago. In 1953, it met at John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where, under Maurie's direction, was organized as The American Rhinologic Society. Since then, this group has been very active in conducting courses and study groups in rhinologic surgery and medicine in many universities in the United States and foreign countries, such as Israel, Mexico, Holland, Yugoslavia and Italy — to name some of them. The organization, guided by Maurie, has grown to several hundred members and has been and still is one of the very few places where the study of Rhinology in all its ramifications is taught. It is a very important factor in promoting and maintaining health in the world.

In the beginning, Maurie did most of the teaching, surgery and lectures, himself. He provided most of the money, the exhibits, prepared the slides, gave the lectures and made the photographs. As time went on, under his direction, some of the faithful students took over part of the work and this increased until of late years. Maurie was relieved of a part of his responsibilities, and the Society is a dynamic vital force of its own.

Many hundred of nose doctors have been helped by these teachings and activities. The influence on the advancement of nose surgery and physiology has been most important. It has changed to a large degree the rather dismal effect of many operations that have been done in the past.

For this reason, it has contributed to the better health and happiness of many people, so has an important part in the health of the country and world.

Rhinology was actively studied and much research was done in the last century before ours. Strangely enough, it came to almost a complete halt in this century. Dr. Cottle's achievements have been to change this to one of hope for the future, and a rebirth in interest in the study and need for good Rhinology to be practiced and taught in our time. He

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has done this with competence and compassion, which he showed with so many of us.

It is to be hoped that the light he lit so brightly will not dim, but glow ever brightly from now on. Maurie was a most successful man in every way, as a doctor, a friend, as a husband, and as a father. He made everyone who came in contact with him a much better person, as a doctor and a friend. He accomplished what he started as a young boy to do far better than most people accomplish their mission. Most of us have dreams when we were young and many dreams don't come true, but his dream to become a nose doctor certainly succeeded. We all are better for that success.

This world is a better place because he lived in it in our time. None knows what the next world will be like, but we can rest assured it, too, will be a better place because he is there. We can take comfort for that fact and, in so doing, will lessen our sorrow at his departure. For this, at least, we may be thankful.

*Ivan W. Philpott, M.D.
Denver, Colorado*

TO MAURIE

This hour we are gathered to remember
A personal friend and colleague;
A creative and practical person,
A lasting contributor to our healing efforts and
health team.
He blazed a path that few could follow.
He gave himself in full of his chosen profession;
as a husband, a father, a teacher.
Excellence was the criteria he set for himself and
others to meet.
This was his challenge, and this should be ours!
To do our best!
To be more than what
We are at this moment!
To become a contributor to life!
Our deeds of helpfulness continuing on after we have
left the scene of activity.

MAURICE H. COTTLE, M.D. May 5, 1981

As I knew him, Maurie was always two or three years ahead of his contemporaries in his thinking on rhinologic subjects. He opened many dark recesses in my mind with the light of knowledge in rhinology, primarily by summarizing all of the good things presented in rhinology for at least three centuries.

In addition, he recognized the contributions of great people in rhinology living and active in the past 100 years. He cultivated their friendship and enhanced dissemination of their work. He personally introduced us to some of them while they were alive and active.

For me it was personal visits to Kenyo Takahashi and Evert Van Dishoeck, two great men I would never have known without Maurie.

In addition, he was a catalyst uniting many nationalities and many professors of rhinology through the International Rhinologic Society founded in Kyoto, Japan in 1965. Cottle supplied the motivation and Van Dishoeck, the guidance necessary.

Maurie insisted on a *Journal of Rhinology*, which became a reality with the help of Van Dishoeck. From this the world has a platform to advance knowledge in rhinology.

Maurie's indefatigable and determined efforts to improve the concepts and practice of rhinologic therapies left no crevice in the world untouched.

When we gave anything to Maurie for his programs or scientific endeavors, he always paid us back several fold.

Maurie and his crusade to advance rhinology will live on in our works as his students and in the works of our students.

Say not "good night" Maurie, but in some higher place bid me "good morning."

*George Drumheller, M.D.
Everett, Washington*