

AN  
APPLICATION

by

**HENRY S. SHUCKSMITH**

B.Sc., M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.

Senior Surgical Tutor, University of Leeds  
Honorary Demonstrator of Anatomy, University of Leeds  
Examiner to the General Nursing Council  
Late Hunterian Professor, Royal College of Surgeons

for the post of

HONORARY SURGEON

to the

LEEDS PUBLIC DISPENSARY  
AND HOSPITAL

4, The Grove,  
Alwoodley.  
31/3/46.

Dear Sir,

I beg to submit an application for the post of honorary surgeon to the Leeds Public Dispensary and Hospital. I am 35 years of age and I hold the post of senior surgical tutor in the University of Leeds, and of senior surgical registrar in the General Infirmary at Leeds. I am a graduate of the University of Leeds.

#### **DEGREES AND ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS**

I graduated bachelor of science with first-class honours in physiology in 1931, and bachelor of medicine and surgery with first-class honours in 1934. I obtained the diplomas of licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians and member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1934 and of the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1935.

During my University course, I was awarded the following distinctions:

- Infirmary scholarship 1930.
- Littlewood prize for anatomy 1930.
- Edward Ward prize for surgical anatomy 1934.
- McGill prize for clinical surgery 1934.
- Hardwick prize for clinical medicine 1934.
- William Hey gold medal 1934.

I was appointed Hunterian Professor of the Royal College of Surgeons for the year 1944-5.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

After qualification, I held a series of appointments in the General Infirmary at Leeds.

- 1934 House Surgeon to Mr. E. R. Flint.
- 1935 House Surgeon to Mr. R. Broomhead, and subsequently acting resident orthopaedic officer.
- 1935-1936 Senior casualty officer.
- 1937-1939 Resident surgical officer.

I was appointed junior surgical tutor in the University of Leeds in February, 1939. I joined the Territorial Army in 1938, and was mobilised at the outbreak of war. In 1941, I was appointed, in absentia, senior surgical tutor and took up this post on direction from the Army in February, 1945.

#### **CLINICAL EXPERIENCE:**

The continuous appointments in the Leeds General Infirmary provided training in general and orthopaedic surgery and, to some extent, in hospital administration.

A period of extramural training both in England and in foreign hospitals was contemplated, but this project was prevented firstly by the continuity of intramural appointments and secondly by the advent of war. During my war service, I was a surgical specialist holding the rank of Major, R.A.M.C. Until 1943, I worked in hospitals in England, France and Malta, treating general and traumatic surgical conditions; in Malta I gained experience with air-raid casualties. I left Malta to take charge of a field surgical unit which worked in Sicily and

participated in the invasion of Italy with the Eighth Army. This work gave me experience of battle casualties in a forward area, particularly at the battle of Sangro and in the siege of Cassino. I was fortunate, from the professional point of view, in having to manage many serious abdominal wounds and this subject formed the basis of a Hunterian lecture given at the Royal College of Surgeons in April, 1945. Prior to my release from the army, I served in Belgium.

Since returning to my present post, I have had every opportunity afforded me by the honorary staff to adjust myself to civil surgery and to perform operations of a type which the exigencies of army life had made rare.

Of necessity, my varied employment in the army entailed working under conditions ranging from crude improvisation to a standard comparable with that of a civil hospital. Such conditions stimulated my interest in ward and theatre construction and in the methods of attaining asepsis. The training of army personnel and medical students in the management of major surgical cases has furthered my concern in nursing problems.

**PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS:**

My training, opportunities and inclination have made me a general surgeon. I am interested in the anatomical problems of surgery of the neck and of peripheral vascular diseases. The physiological aspects of abdominal diseases present questions which I wish to investigate. The bacteriological aspect of wound healing and the care of the septic hand are matters to which I intend to give my attention.

My surgical teaching duties and a long association with the anatomy department, dating from an appointment as prosector in anatomy under Professor J. Kay Jamieson in 1931, have made me conscious of the importance of co-ordination between the academic and the clinical domains.

**MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIETIES:**

British Medical Association.

Royal Society of Medicine.

Leeds and West Riding Medico-Chirurgical Society.

Associate Fellow Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland.

I append a list of my contributions to surgical literature and the names of three gentlemen to whom reference can be made.

If you were to honour me with the appointment of honorary surgeon to the Leeds Public Dispensary and Hospital, I should endeavour to fulfil the obligations of the post and to maintain, to the best of my ability a high standard of service.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Henry S. Shucksmith.

Chas. F. J. Maury, Esq.,

Secretary and Superintendent,

The Leeds Public Dispensary and Hospital.

## LIST OF PAPERS PUBLISHED

- A case of ulcerative colitis complicated by vesico-colic fistula.  
University of Leeds Medical Society Magazine, 1934.
- Acute suppurative tenosynovitis of the hand.  
University of Leeds Medical Society Magazine, 1936.
- Dislocation of the carpal scaphoid.  
British Medical Journal, 1937 (correspondence).
- Stenosing tenovaginitis at the radial styloid.  
University of Leeds Medical Society Magazine, 1937.
- Haemorrhoids.  
University of Leeds Medical Society Magazine, 1939.
- A simple blood transfusion outfit, for storage.  
British Medical Journal 1, 210, 1940.
- Varicose Veins.  
British Medical Journal 1, 870, 1940 (correspondence)
- Acute suppurative parotitis, treatment by deep X-ray therapy.  
Lancet 1, 1940, 497 (jointly).
- Plan of a tented field operating theatre.  
J.R.A.M.C., 77, 201, 1941.
- Aneurysm of the tibial artery.  
Lancet 2, 476, 1941 (jointly).
- Spontaneous reno-inguinal fistula in calculous tuberculous pyonephrosis.  
B.J.S., 29, 256, 1941.
- Ano-rectal disorders in the army.  
J.R.A.M.C., 81, 269, 1943.
- Neoplasms of the testis.  
J.R.A.M.C., 82, 232, 1944.
- Abdominal injuries in battle casualties.  
University of Leeds Medical Society Magazine, 1945.

## REFEREES

- E. R. FLINT, Esq., M.B., F.R.C.S.,  
30, Park Square, Leeds 1.
- P. J. MOIR, Esq., M.C., M.B., F.R.C.S.,  
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