

Cross Section of Ophthalmology

This issue of the MCV/Q is dedicated to Dr. DuPont Guerry, III, to honor his decisive influence on the development of the Department of Ophthalmology of the Medical College of Virginia, Health Sciences Division of Virginia Commonwealth University, during his 20 years as chairman of the department. It is with our deep regret that he has decided to resign from this position, although he will remain actively involved in all phases of the department's programs, and, one hopes, for many years to come.

The content of this issue covers various areas in this specialty and represents contributions by former and present residents trained under Dr. Guerry, and full-time staff members. For this reason the title, "Cross Section of Ophthalmology," was chosen.

My thanks are extended to Dr. Fairfield Goodale, editor of the MCV/Q, and his staff for making it possible to publish these collected papers as a special issue in tribute to Dr. Guerry, on this particular occasion.

Doctor DuPont Guerry, III, was born August 16, 1912, in Greenville, South Carolina. After graduation from Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina, where he received his baccalaureate degree, he attended the University of Virginia, School of Medicine, Charlottesville, Virginia. There he completed his medical training with an M.D. degree in 1938 and subsequently spent one year of internship at the University of Virginia Hospitals. He then enrolled in a residency program in otolaryngology at the Manhattan Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital from 1939 through 1941, followed by a residency in ophthalmology at the Institute of Ophthalmology, Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University, New York, from 1941 until 1944. In 1944, he received his Doctor of Medical Sciences (ophthalmology) degree from the same university. Doctor Guerry is a Diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology as well as the American Board of Ophthalmology. In 1944, he joined the faculty of the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia, where he has remained active ever since. He was appointed Professor and Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology of MCV in 1953 and has remained in this position until his present announcement to resign from his chairmanship.

Doctor Guerry holds memberships in professional and honorable societies too numerous to be listed here and has been author and co-author of many scientific publications.

In 1965, he accepted the responsibility to serve on the editorial staff of the American Journal of Ophthalmology, and he was appointed to the American Board of Ophthalmology in 1969.

One of his greatest contributions in the field of ophthalmology has undoubtedly been his instrumental influence on the development of light coagulation treatment for many ocular diseases and the recognition of its clinical significance. He performed the first treatment of this kind in the United States in 1958. It is a therapy which has progressed to the point where ocular diseases formerly not amenable to any therapy, can now be successfully treated and vision preserved—a goal to which he has dedicated his work and life.

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