



MAURICE CAMPBELL

Maurice Campbell

K. Shirley Smith

With this issue the *British Heart Journal* celebrates its thirty-fourth birthday and at the same time pays homage to its progenitor and formative influence, Maurice Campbell. In the early days of the Journal he virtually produced it himself. Most decisions about papers, the editing, the planning and the size of Figures and the arrangement of Tables, and proof reading were undertaken by him. Of scholarly inclination, he was guided by Gowers and Fowler, Roget and Cruden. Believing his role to be an educator as well as an assessor, he found himself reluctant to discard papers that showed promise even though at that stage they were not acceptable. Methods of amendment, transposition, abbreviation were conveyed in carefully planned commentaries, and great numbers of workers and authors benefited from his guidance. Many also owe to Maurice Campbell their later skill and success in communicating their researches; he showed them, at much expenditure of time and patience, how to achieve the high standard that has always been demanded in the *British Heart Journal*.

In 1926 Campbell joined John Parkinson's 'firm' at the National Heart Hospital. He is recalled as a buoyant man with wavy hair and a dark moustache. Collaborating in the Out-patient Clinic with Parkinson and Bedford, he always had a friendly word for me, the then Resident Medical Officer.

For a few years after the war Campbell jointly edited with Evan Bedford the *Journal* which had been founded in 1939; but from 1949, when I became associate editor, I joined Campbell in this work. Weekly sessions on Sunday evenings were revealing. Campbell was not one who must immerse himself in solitude and silence to do his work. Generally, he would be found at a table completely concentrated in spite of the tide of family life ebbing and flowing in his hospitable home. Here he would discuss policies and papers, always with the bias toward the author but

never allowing slipshod thought, unjustified conclusions, or prolix exposition. Campbell spared no pains to help a promising worker to explain himself clearly and succinctly. He still exercises influence in this way, especially in paediatrics and genetics.

Maurice Campbell concluded his important duties in this country in World War II at an age when many men contemplate retirement. Not so with him, because it was at this time in his career that he developed the celebrated cardiac centre at Guy's Hospital. In 1947 he invited to this country Blalock who had, with Taussig, developed the operation for the relief of Fallot's tetralogy. In those early days of cardiac surgery, vistas of restored comfort and health were suddenly opened for many cardiac invalids with congenital or acquired disease. Conscientious and humanitarian Campbell found it a hard task to select from among the many seriously afflicted patients those most deserving and propitious for operation by his colleague at Guy's, Lord Brock. Many important papers came from his clinic, and largely from his pen, in the following years. These furthered the development of surgery for the relief of cyanotic and congenital heart disease. Subsequent follow-up studies presented the after history and the postoperative course, and demonstrated the advantages to be obtained and also the limitations of surgical methods. During the past decade Campbell has contributed to the *British Heart Journal* a remarkable series of papers on the natural history of congenital heart diseases. These observations make him a forerunner in the science of genetics, and a notable contributor.

Besides the intense industry demanded by these activities Campbell found time to continue the development of the *British Heart Journal* and to encourage the younger cardiologists in their work within the British Cardiac Society. In the British Heart Foundation he was an important and steady influence

in guiding policy and in helping to place research in cardiology on a secure financial basis.

In so full a life Maurice Campbell has yet found time to take a deep interest in ornithology: his observations on a five-day voyage to attend the Washington World Congress in 1954 had the distinction of being published in 'British Birds'. And in his photograph now

published Campbell clutches a volume on British Flora which illustrates his versatile character and abiding interest in every form of life. Physician, thinker, naturalist, and indefatigable worker Maurice Campbell adorns the splendid traditions of British medicine, and in this issue the *British Heart Journal* and the members of the British Cardiac Society pay warm tribute to him.

The contributions to this issue of the British Heart Journal have in many instances been invited by the Editor. In these papers an indication is given of the association then existing, but no attempt is made to detail the author's present status. Other contributions are included on the score of their special or historic quality or their relation to paediatrics and genetics. To all authors the Editor acknowledges the help and warm response of many friends and colleagues of Maurice Campbell.