

**OSWALD GAYER MORGAN (1889-1981). M.A., M.B., M.Ch. (Cantab.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) – Distinguished Ophthalmic Surgeon who was President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom.**

*“Courteous to all, never rushed, always ready to give advice and encouragement, tolerant even when things went wrong, slow to blame and quick to forgive.”*

*Sir John Conybeare, British Journal of Ophthalmology (1981).*

Oswald Gayer Morgan (1889-1981) [Epsom College 1902-1907] was the son of Dr W. P. Morgan of Seaford, Sussex. At Epsom College he was a member of both the Cricket and Hockey XIs. He received his medical education at Clare College, Cambridge and Guy's Hospital. From 1914 to 1918 he served in the R.A.M.C. with the rank of Captain, as the surgeon in charge of the Duchess of Sutherland's Ambulance Unit in France. The unit was captured at Namur and he was taken prisoner, but he escaped and returned to England. After reorganisation he reopened the unit in France. In 1920 he obtained his Master of Surgery (M.S.) and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (F.R.C.S.). In 1924 he was appointed Ophthalmic Surgeon at Guy's Hospital and soon became the Senior Ophthalmic Surgeon. He was Chairman of the Ophthalmic Group Committee of the British Medical Association for 24 years, and Vice-Chairman of the National Ophthalmic Treatment Board Association for 30 years. He was also Vice-President of the British Medical Association, President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom, and Doyne Memorial Lecturer and medallist at the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress (1958).



Gayer Morgan was a patently selfless individual whose professional interest apart from his work, in which he was remarkably proficient, was the body politic. His chairmanship of the Ophthalmic Group Committee, and his support for the opticians and their claims at a time when unenforceable lines of demarcation were under contemplation, were a measure of his belief that the balance of group interests was a major factor in maintaining the health of the ophthalmic community - and how right he proved to be. It was said of Oswald Gayer Morgan that “With the death of Sir Stewart Duke-Elder he became the doyen of the ophthalmic profession in the United Kingdom.”