



Dr Ferguson MacKenzie TD MB ChB FRFPS FDS * **A Biography**

Dr Ferguson MacKenzie was born in 1872 and was described as a "man of great character" who would have made his mark in any calling; he chose dentistry, commencing his studies at the Glasgow Dental Hospital and School (GDH & S) at St Vincent Place in 1900. He qualified LDS FPS, (Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow) in 1905 and went on to take the MB Ch B of Glasgow University in 1906. He was a research student in the embryological section of the University from 1909 until 1912. In 1910 after gaining the Fellowship of the RFPS(G) (Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow) he was appointed Visiting Dental Surgeon to GDH & S which he held until 1947. In 1911 he became attached to the RAMC maintaining his connection with that body until 1935 when he retired with the rank of Brevet Colonel.

Colonel MacKenzie served with distinction in World War I on the Western Front and at the Dardanelles. At the termination of the war he returned to his busy West End practice and was invited to take up a teaching post at the GDH & S. In 1925 he became lecturer in dental histology and then lecturer in dental anatomy, a post he held until 1949. A year earlier he had been appointed Consultant Dental Surgeon to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, which post he held until 1952. He was examiner to the Faculty in the LDS and the HDD, Glasgow and in 1951 was awarded the Fellowship in Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

In his earlier days he was Professor in Zoology at Anderson's College Medical School and an interesting revelation was, that he was actually appointed Professor in Dental Surgery and Director of Dental Studies at Cairo University, but saw fit to decline the post.

His activities outside teaching included, President of the Glasgow Odontological Society from 1934-35 and President of the West of Scotland Branch of the British Dental Association 1937-38. "Fergie Mac" as he was affectionately called by two generations of students had a "slim grace and good humoured philosophy " with an anecdote suited to any occasion. He had more than a smattering of Victorian elegance and at a testimonial dinner given in his honour, those who attended acknowledged this side of his character by donning high collars and cravats. He was described as a gentleman in the true sense of the term. He died on 13 December 1961.
