

William James Stuart

(1873-1958)

Sportsman and President



Reference and contact details: GB779 RCSEd GD/8

Location: RS R5

Title: Papers of William James Stuart

Dates of Creation: 1938-1958

Held at: The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

Extent: 1 file

Name of Creator: William James Stuart

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Administrative/Biographical History:

William James Stuart, CBE MA MD ChB FRCSEd (1873-1958), surgeon, was the son of the Rev John Stuart, minister of St Andrew's Parish Church, Edinburgh, and the daughter of James Duncan, MD. He was educated at Edinburgh Academy and Edinburgh University.

After graduating in 1899, he held a series of resident appointments at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1903.

In 1906 Stuart was elected an honorary assistant surgeon to the Deaconess Hospital, and in 1908, to a similar position at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary. He was associated with these two hospitals for most of his career until his retirement in 1938. Stuart served as a major in the RAMC during the First World War, 1914-1918.

He was President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh 1937-1939.

'Pussy' Stuart also had sporting prowess in cricket and, in 1901, he was a reserve for the Scottish International Rugby Team. At the outbreak of the Second World War, at the age of 66, he returned to the Royal Infirmary to take charge of the surgical wards for three years. In 1944 Stuart was elected president of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh. He also did work for the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society and the YMCA. He was a senior member of the Kirk-

session of St Andrew's Parish Church, and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Association. Stuart was awarded the CBE in 1952.

GD8/1-10

Dates of Creation: 1938-1958

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GD8/1

1938, July 20th

Letter to Sister Isabel Sibbald from W.J.Stuart, written after his retirement from the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, thanking her for the happy atmosphere of Wards 17 and 18 for which she was responsible.

GD8/2

1951, July 5th

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J. Stuart thanking her for a gift of duck eggs and tea and alluding to a visit to the Royal Infirmary and a conversation with the Resident. **GD8/3**

GD8/3

1954, October 9th

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J.Stuart, written after her retirement from the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

GD8/4

1958, March 26th

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J.Stuart with an account of his ill health, his hopes of recovery in time for his holiday in Tobermory and the observation that he is second only to A.H.Sinclair who is the oldest fellow of the RCSEdinburgh.

GD8/5

1958, April 8

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J.Stuart complaining of osteoarthritis, but expressing his intention of continuing fishing despite his ailments.

GD8/6

1958, September 17th

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J.Stuart, written after a visit to her in Biggar.

GD8/7

1958, October 27th

Letter to Sister Sibbald from W.J.Stuart commenting on his health and his bad osteoarthritis and looking back on "a long life of hard work mingled with first-class sport".

GD8/8

1958

Obituary of W.J.Stuart [in the Scotsman?]

GD8/9

1959

Obituary notice in the Edinburgh Academy Chronicle

GD8/10

[N.D.]

History of the Aesculapian Club

All pages digitised

