

Book Review

Quest In Medicine

By Dr. Gordon Murray, 185pp., The Ryerson Press, Toronto, 1963

The little world which revolves around Dr. Gordon Murray in Toronto is a fascinating one that has had far-reaching influences. Frustrating failures, triumphant successes, and the medical ideas, experiments, and battles behind both are recounted in this colorful first-hand story of a man who exemplifies the place held by many Canadians in the fields of science.

Quest in Medicine is the second volume of an autobiography of an outstanding Canadian surgeon and research worker. In the past thirty years Dr. Murray has written over seventy-five articles for leading medical journals and has received an award of honour from the American Medical Writers' Association. With this recommendation he is certainly qualified as an author in his own right as well as an authority in many fields of medicine.

Dr. Murray is particularly noted for his work on heparin, the development of the artificial kidney, and contributions to cardiovascular surgery. The book begins with a vivid personal description of how the "first artificial kidney in the Americas" was devised and built, and of its first successful application clinically. Various types of his advances in heart surgery are presented, particularly those dealing with congenital and rheumatic defects. And a man who has earned such world-wide recognition as Dr. Murray describes to us, would not finish his book without relating his own views and research on controversial subjects such as cancer immunity.

In 185 pages much of the work and energy involved in these and other diversified accomplishments is described in a non-technical but informative manner, such that for laymen *Quest in Medicine* is easy and interesting reading, and for medical personnel it is both absorbing and instructive. For greater detail in those topics which particularly stimulate personal interest, a complete list of Dr. Murray's seventy-seven articles (to the time of printing) is provided. Although this book is in no way meant to be a text, it will most certainly prove to be thought-provoking in the diverse fields of medicine with which it deals.

As well as recommending *Quest in Medicine* I would equally commend to you *Medicine in the Making*, the first volume of Dr. Murray's autobiography.

Russell D. Webster, '66

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