

THE HICKMAN MEDAL

Word has been received that Arthur E. Guedel, M.D., of Los Angeles, Calif., a past director and present member of the American Society of Anesthetists, has been singularly honored by the award of this medal for 1941. The letter of notification to Dr. Guedel from Geoffrey R. Edwards, Secretary of the Royal Society of Medicine, is herewith quoted in part:

"I have the very greatest pleasure in informing you that the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine, on the recommendation of the Council of the Section of Anesthetics of this Society, has unanimously awarded to you the Henry Hill Hickman Medal for your work in the science of anesthetics.

"It is much regretted that circumstances are such that it would be quite impossible for you to receive this Medal at the hands of the President of our Society. We are therefore entrusting the Medal to His Excellency the American Ambassador to Great Britain with the request that he will transmit it to you.

"May I add my personal congratulations to you on this honor which this Society has conferred upon you."

On November 17, 1931, the Royal Society of Medicine accepted from the Henry Hill Hickman Memorial Committee a sum of £200 to establish a bronze medal to commemorate the work of Henry Hill Hickman in Anesthesia.

The medal is awarded by the Council of the Royal Society of Medicine on the recommendation of the Council on the Section of Anesthetics. The award is made not oftener than tri-annually for the original work of outstanding merit in Anesthesia or in subjects directly connected therewith. The award is open to any person of any nationality and need not necessarily be made to medical men or women.

The Secretary of the Royal Society of Medicine describes the Medal as being carried out in bronze, being designed by Mr. T. H. Paget, and was struck at the Royal Mint. On the one side of the medal is a portrait of Henry Hill Hickman and on the other side is an allegorical representation of Pain being banished by Anesthesia. For this purpose Anesthesia has been personified as a beautiful woman; Pain as a kind of devil who has held the patient by his chain. Anesthesia has broken the chain binding the patient to Pain and is banishing him with an imperious gesture. He scowls at her holding his broken chain and his now useless scourge. The Medal is two inches in diameter and one-eighth inch in thickness.

This is the third award of this Medal. Wesley Bourne, M.Sc., M.D., of Montreal, Canada, was the recipient of the first award of this Medal on May 31, 1935. The second award was made to I. W. Magill, M.B., D.A., London, England.