



JAMES EDGAR PAULLIN, M.D.
Atlanta, Ga.
1881-

*Ninety-seventh President, A. M. A.
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THE ELECTION OF DR. JAMES E. PAULLIN of Atlanta to the presidency of the Association was a merited recognition of a distinguished son of the South, and one of the foremost leaders in American medicine.

He was born in Fort Gaines, Georgia, November 3, 1881. After graduating from Mercer University with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1900, he continued as a graduate student throughout 1901, when he entered Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, from which he received the degree Doctor of Medicine in 1905. He turned briefly to pathology, acting as resident pathologist of the Rhode Island Hospital at Providence from 1905 to 1906 in the Piedmont Hospital in 1906 and 1907, and as pathologist to the Georgia State Board of Health from 1907 to 1911. At the same time he was associate professor of pathology in the Atlanta College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1909 he first became interested in internal medicine, being appointed associate visiting physician to Grady Hospital from 1909 to 1913. Then he was made visiting physician and chief of the Emory University Division, Grady Hospital. Two years later he became professor of clinical medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, which position he has held ever since.

With the outbreak of World War I, Doctor Paullin was commis-

sioned a Major in the Medical Corps, U.S. Army, and served as chief of the medical service at Camp Shelby, Miss.

In the field of medical organization he had come up through all the ranks; first, as president of Fulton County Society in 1913; later as president of the Medical Association of Georgia; chairman of the Medical Section Southern Medical Association in 1920. In the American Medical Association he was chairman of the Section on Practice of Medicine in 1928, and member of the Council on Scientific Assembly from 1933 to 1942, the last five years serving as chairman. He was a member of the House of Delegates for six years from 1936 to 1942 as representative of the Section on Practice of Medicine.

With the beginning of preparations for World War II he became a member of the Committee on Medical Preparedness of the American Medical Association; at the same time he was a member of the Committee on Medical Sciences of the National Research Council. His principal contribution was the classification of specialists in internal medicine, as well as general practitioners specially in that field of practice. The functions of the Committee on Medical Preparedness were gradually taken over by the Procurement and Assignment Service for Physicians, Dentists and Veterinarians, and Doctor Paullin became a member of the Directing Board of this Service.

In his presidential address in 1943, while recognizing the heavy demands on the medical resources of the country, he urged early consideration of planning for postwar medical services, and his recommendation resulted in the creation of such a committee of which Dr. Paullin became one of the active members.

Doctor Paullin became a Fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1928, and served on its Board of Regents from 1932 to 1942, when he was chosen president-elect, and continuing as president to 1944, so that he had the distinct honor of serving at the same time as president of the largest medical association and the leading organization devoted to the special field of internal medicine. He was honored with the presidency of the American Clinical and Climatological Society in 1937, and holds membership in the Southern Medical Association, the Association of American Physicians, and is an alumnus member of Johns Hopkins University Chapter Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.

Early in 1942 Doctor Paullin went to Cuba to aid in the organization of the Finlay Institute of the Americas for the securing of interchange of scientific medicine with the Latin American countries. He was decorated by President Batista with the Order of Carlos Finlay.

During the period of World War II he was Honorary Medical Consultant to the United States Navy. In 1945, by direction of Surgeon General Ross T. McIntire, he made an inspection tour of all naval stations in the Pacific area, covering 25,000 miles by air.

He was called as consultant during the last illness of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and was with him when he died at Warm Springs, Georgia, April 12, 1945.

Doctor Paullin has collected a remarkable medical library, and is a lover of good books.

In addition to his extensive medical activities, he is interested in modern farming and the breeding of thoroughbred cattle.

