

'Tom C-E'

Dr Tudor Jones

Criccieth

Tom Carey-Evans was born the second son of a respected general Practitioner whose practice was in the rural quarrying town of Blaenau Ffestiniog in the heart of Snowdonia. Thomas Carey was born on 6th June 1884. He was educated locally and was a monoglot Welsh boy. He was sent to Brighton College to replace his elder brother who absconded. His lack of English caused considerable difficulties, but he overcame this and turned out to be a bright pupil. He proceeded to Cardiff University then Glasgow and Brussels where he gained his qualification. He successfully sat his MD at the age of 24. He spent the next three years assisting his father in practice at Blaenau Ffestiniog.

He joined the British army in 1910, but 2 years later he transferred to the Indian Medical Service and volunteered to join an expedition to northern India. In 1914 he and his Field Ambulance, attached to 7th Mountain Brigade were sent to the Suez canal. By 1915 they formed part of the Indian contribution to the attack on Gallipoli in June and they remained there until January 1916. Carey Evans was mentioned in Dispatches on two occasions and won the Military Cross.

His Field Ambulance was transferred to Mesopotamia. Whilst on leave in UK he met and married Olwen, the daughter of David Lloyd George who within months became Prime Minister.

Post-war the young family returned to India and he became Senior Surgeon to the Indian Medical Service. He changed his name to Carey-Evans in 1921 and soon afterwards was appointed Surgeon to Lord Reading, the Viceroy of India. He was knighted.

He and Lady Olwen returned to the UK and established a successful surgical practice in London. However he was head-hunted in 1930 and was appointed Superintendent of Hammersmith Hospital. He remained in this post until 1945, when he resigned due to ill health and retired to his Grandfather's old home in Criccieth. He died in 1947 at the age of 63.

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