Sir Sydney A SMITH

b. Roxburgh 4 Aug 1883

d. Edinburgh 8 May 1969

Educated at Roxburgh School

Qualified as a pharmacist in Dunedin in 1906 (aged 23) Part-time student at Victoria University College 1907 Dispenser at Wellington Hospital 1906-1907



Edinburgh University & Medical School 1908 MB ChB (Edin) 1912 1st class honours

Married one week after graduation

Dip Pub Health 1913

MD (Edin) 1914

Gold medal and Alison Prize

In 1914 the Egyptian Government advertised for an assistant to the Principal medico-Legal expert, Dr Hamilton. Smith applied but there was a delay in getting a reply. Meantime a job opportunity in NZ emerged.

Appointed MOH Otago 1914

After the beginning of WW1 he moved up to Trentham Military Camp. In 1917 Dr Hamilton died creating a vacancy for a principal medico-legal expert in Cairo. Smith was appointed, sailed as MO on a NZ troop ship in 1917 and commenced work in Cairo in 1918. He stayed there until 1928.

He was appointed Regius Professor of Forensic Medicine, Edinburgh in 1928.

MRCP (Edin) 1929, FRCP (Edin) 1933 Dean, Faculty of Medicine Edinburgh 1931 – 1953 CBE 1944

MD University of Louvain 1949

Knighted in 1949

Elected Rector of Edinburgh University in 1954

Made Hon Member Royal Society of NZ in 1956

