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**MARGARET MACSTEVEN HUTTON, MD, FACS, FRCPC
1910-1983**

MARGARET MACSTEVEN HUTTON, MD, FACS, FRCPC 1910-1983

... whose foresight, funded the Alberta Medical Foundation

Dr. Margaret MacSteven Hutton led a quiet but fulfilling life as the first woman Obstetrician and Gynecologist in Edmonton.⁽¹⁾

From Youth to Obstetrician 1910-1951

Margaret Hutton was born in Owen Sound, Ontario, on November 20, 1910. Following in the footsteps of her father, she graduated as a teacher, from the Calgary Normal School circa 1932, with first class honors. She taught school in Springbank just west of Calgary before receiving her permanent teachers certificate.

Her vocational interest lay in medicine, so she went back to school and earned a B.A. from the University of Alberta in 1937. Then she applied to enter medicine at her alma mater. Dr. Hutton graduated from the UofA with her MD in 1942. Following an internship at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria, BC, she moved back to Edmonton to begin her residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology (O&G) under Dr. Ross Vant. She completed her training at the University of Alberta Hospital from 1943-1947, and then took further postgraduate training before passing the difficult Fellowship examinations of the Canadian Royal College in 1950. Specialist certification by the Senate of University of Alberta followed in 1951. In 1953 she became a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and in 1957 a Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

UAH Years 1951-1970

Dr. Hutton's appointment to the Faculty of the University of Alberta and UAH began as an Assistant Clinical Professor in 1951. She joined Drs. Ross Vant and Ron Horner in practice and was the consultant in Obstetrics and Gynecology to women students at the University of Alberta Student Health Services. She provided regular O&G clinics in the University Student Infirmary and for many years taught the obstetrics course in the UofA Nursing Program.

Dr. Hutton held courtesy and consultative appointments at all the other Edmonton hospitals: the Royal Alexandra, the Misericordia and the Edmonton General. In 1962, Dr. Hutton became a member of

the New York Academy of Sciences. From 1962 to 1964 she was the sectional Chairman of District VIII of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She also found time from 1960 to 1963 to be the Secretary-Treasurer of the Alberta Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

AMA Perinatal Mortality Committee 1960-1967

In addition to her academic, administrative and clinical work, Dr. Hutton was on the AMA's Perinatal Mortality Committee from 1960-1967. She chaired it from 1963-1967 and wrote several pertinent papers on her professional observations and committee work:

- "Common Gynecological Disorders Related to Adolescent Development", Alberta Medical Bulletin, February, 1952.
- "A Clinical Review of Primary Ovarian Carcinoma", Canadian Journal of Surgery, April, 1962.
- "A Study of Perinatal Deaths as a Means of Improving Perinatal Mortality and Morbidity", Alberta Medical Bulletin, September, 1964.
- "Toxemia of Pregnancy in Alberta from 1961-1963", Alberta Medical Bulletin, 1965.
- "The Proper Anticipation of Rh Hemolytic Disease", Alberta Medical Bulletin, 1965.
- "A Study of Social Factors Affecting Teen-Age Married Multiparae", Canadian Journal of Public Health, January, 1968.

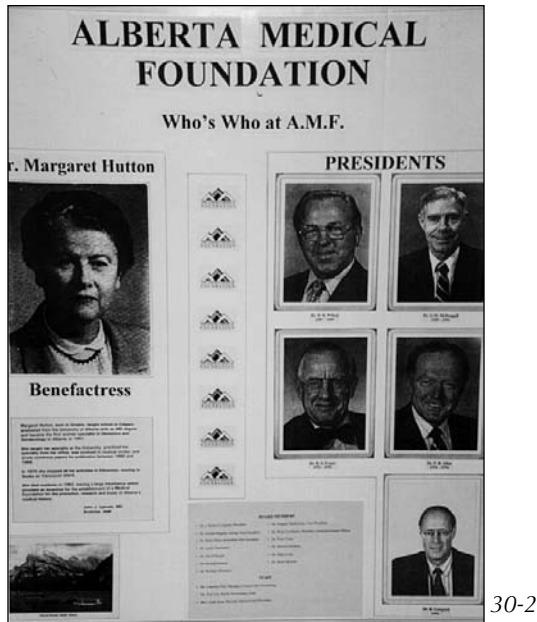
Through her coordination and leadership on the provincial Perinatal Mortality Committee, the rise in the perinatal mortality rate to twenty-nine per 1,000 (1963), was reversed and reduced to twenty-two per 1,000 by 1968.⁽²⁾

Extracurricular and Avocational Interests

Dr. Hutton was a multi-talented physician. While an undergraduate at UofA, she played the piano for the varsity Philharmonic and Literary Societies. The money she earned reduced her university expenses. Twice she was the lead singer in "The Mikado". Before her graduation she was awarded a Literary "A"

1. Lipinski, John L. "The Legacy of Margaret MacSteven Hutton." Benefactress. Eight pages. Presented at the AMA annual meeting, October 13, 1990. Deposited with the AMF. Drs. Lipinski and Lampard were medical students when Dr. Hutton was on the UofA Faculty of Medicine.

2. Morrison, S. "Canada achieves lowest perinatal mortality ever." CMAJ 171(9): 1030, October 26, 2004.



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 Alberta Medical Foundation Presidents,
 top to bottom: Drs. D.R. Wilson (1987-1989),
 G.M. McDougall (1989-1991), R.S. Fraser (1991-1992),
 P.B.R. Allen (1992-1994), J.R. Lampard (1994-2006),
 D.B. Hogan (2006-2008) (missing)

pin and a Literary "A" ring, a rarity for co-eds in that era.

After her return to Edmonton in 1951, Dr. Hutton became well known to Edmonton and Calgary musical audiences. She participated in performances of "Iolanthe", "Pirates of Penzance", "The Gondoliers" and "Yeoman of the Guard". She held executive positions in the Arts including secretary of the Literary Society and Vice-President of the Edmonton Philharmonic Society.

Dr. Hutton was also a painter. She made her own silk screened Christmas cards and decorated her office windows for every festive occasion.

Colleagues and classmates spoke highly of her as a considerate, determined person but one with a quiet sense of humor. She always set a high standard personally and professionally and was revered by her patients.⁽³⁾ A former caseroom nurse Beatrice Clough recalled that she was a good teacher and totally devoted to her patients and the medical profession.

The BC Years 1970-1983

In 1970 Dr. Hutton resigned from the University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Hospital med-

ical staff, closed her practice, and moved to Victoria. There she joined the staff of the Royal Jubilee Hospital where she had interned. Although BC-based, she maintained her Alberta registration and visited her former colleagues periodically over the next thirteen years.⁽⁴⁾

From her mountain top home in Sooke, BC Dr. Hutton enjoyed the solitude and nature of her surroundings in the company of her faithful dog. The panoramic view aided by a telescope provided frequent opportunities to observe the coming and going sea vessels. As she became familiar with these ships and the flags they flew, Dr. Hutton would take considerable pleasure in painting them.

Dr. Margaret MacSteven Hutton passed away in Victoria on June 10, 1983. She was predeceased by her parents Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Hutton and one younger brother William Arthur Hutton.

Hutton Bequest to the AMA

The most significant recipient of Dr. Hutton's generosity was the Alberta Medical Association, to whom she bequeathed the residual of her estate, in a codicil to her will dated February 12, 1982. It amounted to \$313,280 including principle and interest. The transfer to the AMA was made on August 31, 1985, with the instructions: "... to use the income and capital for special projects sponsored by a Committee of the Association, subject to the approval of the Associations Board of Directors. The funds shall not be used for salaries of any employee of the Association".⁽⁵⁾ (see Appendix I)

AMA Incorporated the AMF

The bequest presented the AMA Board with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The Board advertised for proposals. In 1981, the Chairman of the AMA Committee on Archives Dr. Hugh Arnold, had been asked to seek a mechanism for receiving donations from philanthropic physicians.⁽⁶⁾ Fortuitously the Hutton gift provided the solution. Dr. Arnold's successor Dr. D.R. Wilson was one of three applicants who made submissions to the AMA Board. His submission requested the bequest be transferred to the Committee on Archives and used to fund medical historical projects and programs. Dr. Wilson's proposal was accepted. After researching the corporate

3. Horner, Ronald H., Taylor, William C. Dr. Margaret Hutton, an appreciation. Two page letter dated February 1997 and Dr. Margaret Hutton, a remembrance, two pages, dated November 1995. Deposited in the AMF archives.
 4. Grisdale, Lloyd C., et al. Recollections of Drs. Lloyd Grisdale, Walter Anderson, Roy LeRiche, Ken Thomson and Charlotte Dafoe, shared with Dr. R. Lampard after a MOANA meeting, May 8, 1996, Edmonton.
 5. Bate, Douglas. Personal Communication, June 12, 2002. Douglas Bate was the executor of Dr. Hutton's estate.
 6. Lampard, Robert. The author initiated this request. Minutes, Committee on Archives, pages 3-4, June 5, 1981.

structure to use, he was advised by the Canadian Center for Philanthropy to have the AMA incorporate the Committee on Archives as a new Foundation, before any monies were transferred to it.

The Alberta Medical Foundation

In 1986 the AMA Board incorporated the Alberta Medical Foundation (AMF) and became its “shareholder”. All of the Hutton bequest (\$313,280) was transferred to the new foundation. The founding AMF Board members were Drs. D.R. Wilson (Chairman), P.B. Allen, N.J. Kuzyk, G.M. McDougall, R.W. Winter, and F.D. Semaka.⁽⁷⁾

On October 31, 1987 the AMF Board held its first meeting. The terms of reference of the Foundation directed it to support the research, study, preservation, publication, and education of Alberta's medical history and in particular:

- to promote, establish and fund one or more chairs in the history of medicine in Alberta
- to collect, store and display medical historical artifacts
- to promote archival libraries for the history of medicine
- to conduct and fund symposia and conferences on medical history
- to enhance medical archives in Alberta

- to enter into agreements to further the objectives of the AMF

From 1987 onward, the AMF made grants to the UofA and UofC medical libraries. Since 1993 it has supported the UofC History of Medicine Days, funded medical historical publications; and in partnership with the UofC Faculty of Medicine and the AMS/Hannah Foundation, contributed almost \$900,000 to a chair for medical history at the UofC. By 2007, total AMF disbursements and matching grants exceeded \$1,500,000.⁽⁸⁾

The Alberta Medical Foundation represented a fitting tribute to the memory of Dr. Margaret MacSteven Hutton: a teacher, contributor to the arts, physician, colleague, and benefactress. Her generous contribution was further perpetuated through the inauguration of the Hutton Lectures in 1992. They are medical history presentations made at the AMA annual general meeting by History of Medicine students from the UofC and since 2005 the UofA Faculties of Medicine.

Related Profiles: D.R. Wilson, Mackenzie

Key Words: Obstetrician and Gynecologist, AMA Perinatal Mortality Committee, Alberta Medical Foundation



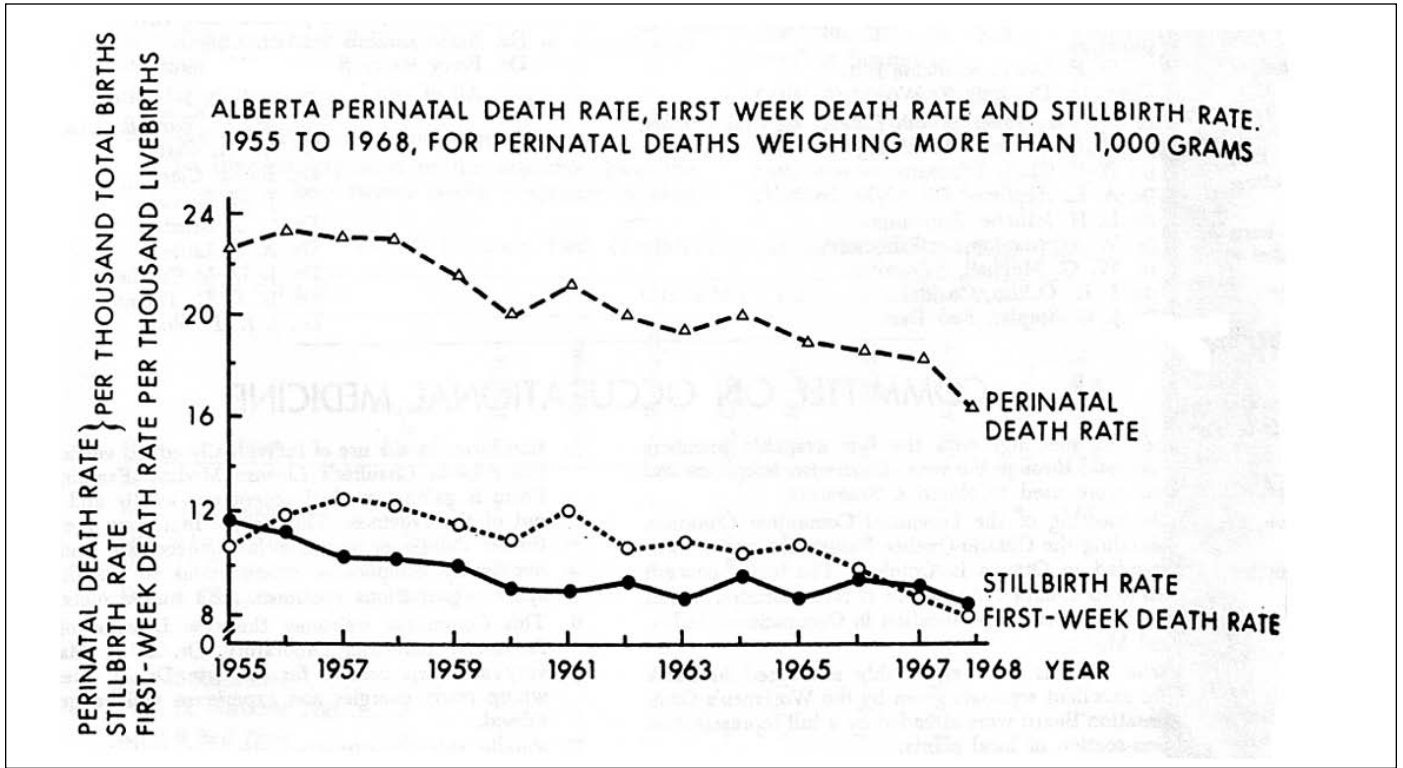
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Alberta Medical Foundation Board, 2003

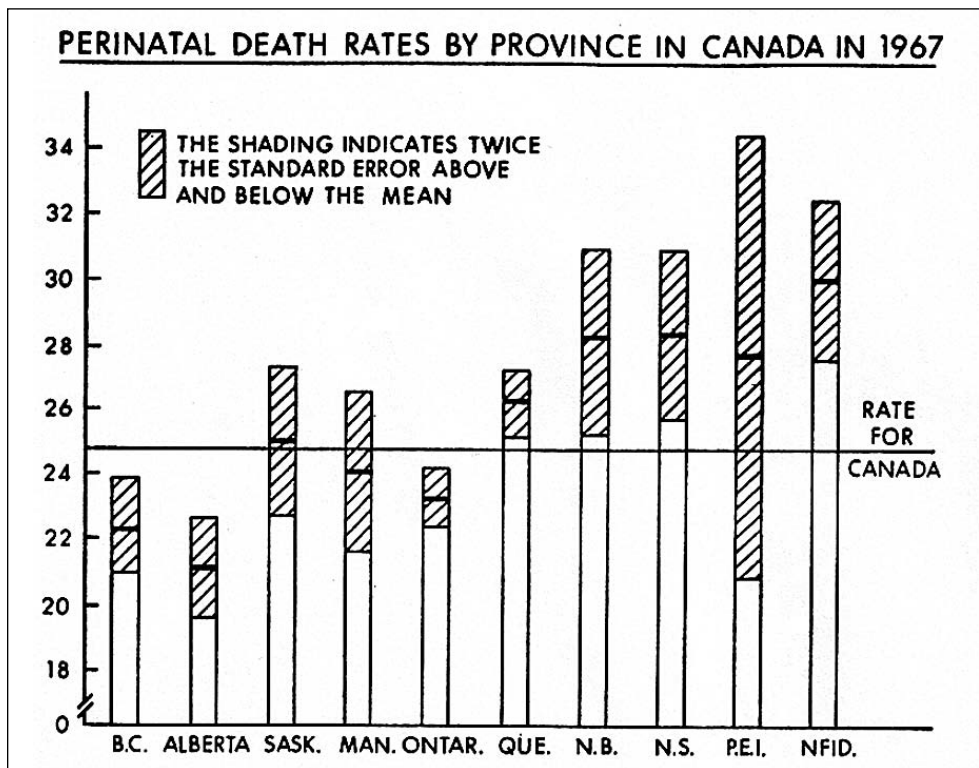
Drs. Steve Chambers (AMA President), Leslie Dushinski, Gerald Higgins, Brian Sproule, Dawna Gilchrist, Brian Loosemore (Sec.-Treas.), Harry Letts (VP), Robert Lampard (sitting)(Pres.)

- (Wilson, Donald R.) Minutes of the first AMF Board meeting of August 11, 1987. The outgoing members of the Committee on Archives were Dr. D.R. Wilson (Chairman), D.F. Cameron, R.S. Fraser, L.H. Franciscutti, P.J. Cruse and R. Lampard. They held their last meeting December 3, 1986. The AMF was legally incorporated by October 31, 1987. The AMA Committee on Archives, whose activities date from at least 1912, was formally disbanded by a motion of the AMF Board in October 1989.
- Lampard, Robert The AMF's major accomplishment has been to fund the AMF/AMS (or Hannah)/UofC chair in Medical History, occupied by the original (UofC) History of Medicine course Director Dr. Peter Cruse, from 1995-1998 and his successor Dr. William Whitelaw from 1999-2007. The chair was valued at \$1.3 million (2005). The idea for funding the UofC chair arose in a conversation between Drs. Peter Allen and Robert Lampard, after an AMF Boardmeeting in 1993. Dr. Allen secured the approval of Dr. D.R. Wilson's, the Chairman of the AMS/Hannah Board, to match the AMF offer of \$150,000 in funding for a chair in Calgary. Dr. Wilson (no relation to Dr. D.R. Wilson of the UofA) agreed, then convinced the UofC Dean of Medicine Dr. Eldon Smith to make it a triple match. The triple match was repeated, once.

Appendix I



Perinatal Mortality Rate in Alberta, 1955-1968. Alberta Medical Bulletin, 1969



Perinatal Death Rate by Province in Canada, 1967. Alberta Medical Bulletin, 1969