Vol. 57, No. 6

## Dr. Kenneth W. Clement Distinguished Service Medalist for 1965

R. KENNETH WITCHER CLEMENT of Cleveland, Ohio, president of the National Medical Association in 1963-64, was awarded its 20th Distinguished Service Medal by vote of the House of Delegates at the Public Meeting of the 70th Annual Convention on August 10, 1965. The presentation was made by Dr. Whittier C. Atkinson, chairman of the Council on Distinguished Service Award.

During 1964-65 Dr. Clement served on a distinguished 13 member Advisory Council to the Social Security Administration whose report to the President in January of this year had national impact. Subsequently Dr. Clement was appointed to the Advisory Council on Disability of the Social Security Administration. In August 1965 he was named by President Johnson to the three man Appeals Board of the National Selective Service. Dr. Clement is the current president of the Howard University Medical Alumni Association.

Dr. Clement was born in Pittsylvania County, Virginia in 1920. His family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, when he was a small child. There he attended the public schools where he graduated from Central High School in 1938 as valedictorian and president of his class. He was awarded a four year Amos Miller scholarship to Oberlin College, which conferred upon him the A.B. in 1942. As the recipient of a W. K. Kellogg scholarship, he entered the Howard University College of Medicine, where he was elected to the Kappa Pi honor society and from which he received the M.D. in 1945. After an internship at Harlem Hospital, New York City, he served a residency in general surgery at Cleveland City Hospital from 1946 to 1951.

He then entered upon two years of duty in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Air Force, earning his wings as a Flight Surgeon, and serving as a Deputy Commanding Officer and Chief of Professional Services. He attained the rank of Major and served as president of the Medical Board of the Lockbourne AFB Hospital. He returned to Cleveland in 1953 and entered private practice.



DR. KENNETH W. CLEMENT

Dr. Clement became a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons in 1952. He is a clinical instructor in surgery at Western Reserve University School of Medicine and a guest lecturer on intergroup relations in the Social Science Department of Western Reserve. He is also an assisting visiting surgeon at St. Luke's and Metropolitan Hospitals and clinical assistant in surgery at Marymont and Forest City Hospitals and has appointments on the courtesy staffs of other hospitals in the Cleveland

Dr. Clement has contributed a number of articles to medical and lay periodicals.

He is a member of the Cleveland Academy of Medicine, the A.M.A., the Aero Medical Society, the Association of Military Surgeons and the Cleveland Medical Association. He is a member of the Cleveland Mayor's Committee for Employing the Physically Handicapped, the Committee on Community Resources for Nursing Education of the Cleveland Hospital Council, and a consultant to the Regional Board of Review of the Industrial Commission of the State of Ohio. He is

president of the Cleveland Urban League and vice president of the Cleveland Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. He is also a deacon of the Mt. Haven Baptist Church and has served as president of the Cleveland Baptist Association. In the latter post he was the first of his race in the 129 years of the Association. On several occasions he has occupied the pulpit as a layman.

Dr. Clement is a member of the Board of Directors and executive committees of a number of civic organizations. He also belongs to the City Club of Cleveland. In 1962 as member of the Cleveland Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. he participated with representatives of that body in a picketing of the famed Cleveland Clinic because it had never had Negro physicians on its staff. Afterward an appointment was made. In the following July. Dr. Clement, along with the editor of the Journal and three other N.M.A. physicians, was among a group of delegates to the N.A.A.C.P. Convention in Chicago at that time, which picketed the A.M.A. headquarters on discriminatory practices in American medicine.

He served the National Medical Association as a member of the Council on Scientific Assembly, secretary of the Surgical Section, chairman of the Committee on Health Care for the Aged, the NMA-AMA Liaison Committee and the Committee on Revision of the Constitution and By-Laws. He was most recently a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Publication Committee.

Now a Democrat, Dr. Clement was formerly a member of the executive committee of Republican Associates of Cuyahoga County. Dr. Clement is married to the former Ruth Doss of Cleveland. They have one son, Michael, a junior at Oberlin College, and twin daughters, Lea and Leslie.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL OF THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION\*

- 1. 1944 WALTER GILBERT ALEXANDER, Orange, N. J. (No award made-World War II) 1945
- 2. 1946 JOHN PATRICK TURNER, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 3. 1947 JOHN EDWARD PERRY, Kansas City, Mo.
- 1948 (No award made)
- 4. 1949 ULYSSES GRANT DAILEY, Chicago, Ill.
- 5. 1950 CHARLES RICHARD DREW, Washington, D.C.\*
- 6. 1951 RIVERS FREDERICK, New Orleans, La.
- MILES VANDAHURST LYNK, Memphis, Tenn. 7. 1952
- 8. 1953 GROSSI HAMILTON FRANCIS, Norfolk, Va.
- 9. 1954 PETER MARSHALL MURRAY. New York, N. Y.
- 10. 1955 WILLIAM MONTAGUE COBB, Washington, D.C.
- 11. 1956 DANIEL THOMAS ROLFE, Nashville, Tenn.
- 12. 1957 JOHN TALMAGE GIVENS, Norfolk, Va.
- 13. 1958 LEONIDAS HARRIS BERRY, Chicago, Ill.
- 14. 1959 MATTHEW WALKER, Nashville, Tenn.
- 15. 1960 JOHN BEAUREGARD JOHNSON, Washington, D.C.
- 16. 1961 THOMAS MANUEL SMITH, Chicago, Ill.
- 17. 1962 EUGENE HERIOT DIBBLE, Jr., Tuskegee, Ala.
- 18. 1963 ROBERT LEE JACKSON, Baltimore, Md.
- 19. 1964 HILDRUS AUGUSTUS POINDEXTER, Washington, D.C.
- 20. 1965 KENNETH WITCHER CLEMENT, Cleveland, Ohio

## GRANT FOR NEW BROWN UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL

Federal grants totaling \$3,257,641 are being awarded to Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, for the construction of medical education and research facilities, the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare announced on September 18, 1965.

One grant, made under the provisions of the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act of 1963, provides \$2,147,141 to aid in the construction of new teaching facilities for a proposed medical education program combining premedical and basic medical science courses. Concurrently, a grant of \$1,110,500 for constructing and equipping a health research area is being awarded under the health research facilities construction program. The programs are administered by the Public Health Service.

For the history of this award, see this Journal, v. 47, pp.

<sup>†</sup> Posthumous.