

ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

Noel Gillespie's Diaries



Born Christmas Day of 1904 in Sydenham, England, Noel A. Rieder would change his name as a teenager to Noel A. Gillespie (1904–1955). Successfully advised by T. E. Lawrence, the future “Lawrence of Arabia,” young Noel matriculated at Oxford. Gillespie interrupted his studies to steam aboard the S.S. *Orestes* as “professor of English” to Albert Schweitzer on the medical missionary’s return trip to Africa. Gillespie resumed studies at Oxford, where he earned five academic degrees and then his Diploma in Anaesthetics. In 1939 he forsook England for the University of Wisconsin, where, under the watchful eye of Professor Ralph Waters, Gillespie finished an anesthesia residency, earned a second medical doctorate, and authored his text *Endotracheal Anaesthesia*. Fifty years after his sudden death in 1955, Gillespie’s handwritten diaries (from 1917–1933) were curatorially purchased at auction. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the *Anesthesiology Reflections* online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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