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Wor. Bro. SIR CHARLES PERCY BARLEE CLUBBE KBE.

Charles Percy Barlee Clubbe was born on 2 February 1854 in the vicarage of Hughenden, Buckinghamshire, England, son of Reverend Charles Wilshaw Clubbe and his wife, Emily, nee Barlee.

Charles Clubbe spent a happy childhood in the small village of Hughenden and there occasionally met Disraeli, the Prime Minister, who was a friend of his father.

He was educated at Uppingham School and later apprenticed as a doctor to his uncle. During his training he served as a resident medical officer at Pendle Bury Children's Hospital and later trained at St. Bartholomews Hospital, London. Charles Clubbe was admitted as a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, in 1876, and later as a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, London, in 1877.

The next year he was appointed Chief Medical Officer to the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, where his lifelong interest in paediatrics had its beginnings.

On 12 April 1882 at Kiddbrooke, Kent, Charles Clubbe was married by his father to Ethel Marion Harrison. That year, because of a chest complaint, he decided to migrate to Australia. He arrived in Sydney in 1883.

He quickly established a general practice at Randwick.

Charles Clubbe was very fond of horses and dogs, and for years he often made his visits in Randwick, and answered the calls to the hospital, on horseback wearing a tailcoat, top hat and a full beard.

Later Charles Clubbe made visits in a buggy drawn by a beautiful pair of chestnut ponies, sometimes with a driver in livery, but often taking the reins himself. He greatly enjoyed tennis and being ambidextrous, he never played a backhand shot but changed the raquet from hand to hand as he sometimes did with the scalpel.

Within a year he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the Hospital for Sick Children at Glebe Point, later to be known as the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, and five years later he became an Honorary Assistant Surgeon to the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, then Honorary Consulting Surgeon to both hospitals until 1932.

Sir Robert Wade later maintained that Charles Clubbe was adored by his house surgeons for his loveable, equitable nature, and his prompt attendance at hospital in all times of emergency. It was, he thought, the duty of the Honorary Surgeon to teach his house surgeon and in this he was unique in his day.

