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### Medical Anniversary

#### (Lord) THOMAS HORDER, 7 JANUARY 1871

(Lord) Thomas Horder (1871-1955) was born at Shaftesbury, Dorset, where his father was a draper. He qualified at St Bartholomew's Hospital (1898) and became a consultant physician there (1912-1936) and at the Royal Northern Hospital (1899-1914). He was known as the man who brought the laboratory to the bedside because of his book entitled *Clinical pathology in practices*, published in 1910. In the same year he was called into consultation because of King Edward VII's glycosuria. He showed that the reduction of Fehling's solution, which had been attributed to glycosuria, was due to salicylates in a gargle which had been prescribed to the King (Medvei and Thornton 1974, The Royal Hospital of St Bartholomew). He was also physician to Edward, Prince of Wales, George VI, and Elizabeth II.

He died on 13 August 1955. A *British Medical Journal* obituary said "The death of Lord Horder removes the most outstanding clinician of his time... He was more than a physician at the head of his profession, he was an interpreter of medicine... a dispassionate thinker, never afraid of the truth, and able to employ language in such a way that... none could mistake his meaning... a good doctor, jealous for the honour of his profession and its freedom to serve the community".

— D G James