

## HERBERT A. ROBERTS, M. D.

Dr. Herbert A. Roberts of Shelton, Connecticut, for many years one of homœopathy's most outstanding leaders, died on October 13, 1950, at Brattleboro, Vermont, after an extended illness.

Dr. Roberts was born in Riverton, Connecticut, on May 7, 1868. He received his early education in the public schools of Winsted, Connecticut, graduating from Winsted High School in 1886. Determining on a career in medicine, he matriculated at the New York Homœopathic Medical College in 1892, from which institution he was graduated in 1896. In the same year he established his practice in Brattleboro, Vermont. Three years later, in 1899, he moved to Shelton, Connecticut, and opened an office on Elizabeth Street in Derby, Connecticut, just across the Housatonic River from Shelton. Here he was actively engaged in his profession for nearly fifty years.

Soon after being admitted to practice in Connecticut, Dr. Roberts became a member of the Connecticut Homœopathic Medical Society, serving as its president from 1904 to 1906. He was later elected its secretary, an office which he held with distinction for more than thirty years. In 1907, he became a member of the American Institute of Homœopathy and in 1910 was elected to membership in the International Hahnemannian Association, being raised to the presidency of the latter organization in 1923. From 1924 to 1934, he held the office of secretary-treasurer of the I.H.A.

Dr. Roberts was one of the incorporators of the American Foundation for Homœopathy and for a number of years served as chairman of its Board of Trustees. For many years he was a member of the faculty of the post graduate school maintained by the Foundation.

Dr. Roberts served in the U. S. Army Medical Corps during World War I with the rank of first lieutenant.

Space forbids a detailed account of Dr. Roberts' accomplishments in the field of Homœopathy; in any event, they

are too well-known to need repetition here. Over the many years, articles from Dr. Roberts' pen were eagerly read and everywhere accepted for their scholarly exposition of the many facets of homœopathic philosophy and practice. His "Study of Remedies by Comparison" is a classic of *materia medica*. "The Rheumatic Remedies" is an outstanding contribution to the therapeutics of rheumatic fever and allied conditions. But his greatest work is "The Principles and Art of Cure by Homœopathy," first published in 1935, and later revised and extended. No clearer exposition of Hahnemannian philosophy has ever been written. After *The Homœopathic Recorder* was acquired by the International Hahnemannian Association in 1927, Dr. Roberts was its editor-in-chief until 1934.

Teacher, author, philosopher, master prescriber, Dr. Roberts' entire professional life was uncompromisingly devoted to the interests of Homœopathy, to the promulgation of Hahnemannian principles. No task was too great if its accomplishment could be made to redound to the credit of Homœopathy. A completely modest man, no activity was ever undertaken with the thought of personal gain or of self-aggrandizement. Long hours of research, writing and teaching in the midst of a busy practice were cheerfully and unhesitatingly given to the end that Homœopathy might be strengthened and its principles better understood.

In every aspect of life, Dr. Roberts stood as living proof of the principle of giving in order to receive. No homœopath of this generation was more greatly venerated and respected. With the loss of this leader, the need for greater unity of thought and purpose among the rank and file of the profession is brought forcibly to mind. Were all to give the same devotion to the cause as exemplified in Dr. Roberts' life, none need fear for the future of Homœopathy. A great leader is lost, but a great cause is still to be won.

ALLAND D. SUTHERLAND.

—*The Homœopathic Recorder*, November, 1950.