

HENRY HOUGHTON, EDUCATOR, IS DEAD

Trained Doctors in China for Rockefeller Group

Dr. Henry Spencer Houghton, long identified with medical education in China sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, died Friday in Nashville. He would have been 95 years old on Thursday.

Dr. Houghton served as dean of the infant Harvard Medical School of China in Shanghai from 1912 to 1917 while teaching courses in tropical medicine and parasitology. During World War I, when the Rockefeller Foundation turned its attention to the stimulation of modern medical education in Asia, he became connected with that enterprise.

In China, Dr. Houghton represented the medical board of the foundation in planning and constructing the new teaching hospital that in 1921 was dedicated as the Peking Union Medical College. He headed the college during its years of growth from 1921 to 1928.

Resumed Directorship

After two decades in China, Dr. Houghton returned to the United States and was dean and director of clinical services at the College of Medicine of the State University of Iowa from 1928 to 1934. In 1931-32 he returned to Asia as a member of a commission, headed by William Ernest Hocking of Harvard, to conduct a laymen's inquiry into Protestant Christian missions.

Dr. Houghton was associate dean of biological sciences and director of clinics of the University of Chicago from 1932 to 1934. That year John D. Rockefeller Jr. invited him to return to the foundation.

From 1935 to 1937, therefore, Dr. Houghton was again in Peking as special representative of the foundation's medical board. He resumed directorship of Peking Union Medical College in 1937.

In December, 1941, the Japanese Army made Dr. Houghton a political prisoner and held him incommunicado for almost four years. He was released at the war's end and retired in 1946.

Of Quaker heritage, Dr. Houghton was born in Toledo, Ohio, served briefly in the Spanish-American War, graduated from Ohio State University in 1901 and received his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins University in 1905. He then moved here for a graduate year as assistant to Dr. Simon Flexner, then director of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research.

In 1906, Dr. Houghton made his first voyage to China, where he served as physician at the Wuhu General (Methodist) Hospital. He held several decorations from the Republic of China.

Surviving are 2 sons, Dr. Benjamin C. Houghton of Seattle and Albert C. Houghton of Hollister, Calif.; twin daughters, Mrs. Joseph L. Miller Jr. of Portland, Ore., and Mrs. Howard L. Boorman of Nashville; 10 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

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