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2 Well-Known Duke Professors Die



Dr. J. E. Markee

The former chairman of the Medical School's Department of Anatomy, Dr. Joseph Eldridge Markee, died here November 27. He was 67.

Dr. Markee was assistant dean for admissions of the school in addition to serving as chairman of anatomy from 1943 to 1966. He was named to the distinguished James B. Duke Professorship in Anatomy in 1953, a post he retained until his death.

A native of Neponset, Ill., Dr. Markee received his B. S. degree from the University of Chicago in 1925 and his Ph. D. in anatomy from the same school in 1929. He joined the staff of the Stanford University Medical School in California the same year and remained there until he was appointed at Duke.

Dr. Markee was a long-time member of the Committee on Continuing Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), serving as its chairman in 1962-63. He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the American Association of Anatomists from 1952 to 1956.

A pioneer in the use of audiovisual materials in medical education, Dr. Markee was a member of the Advisory Committee on Audiovisuals of the AAMC from 1948 to 1964 and was its chairman from 1955 to 1962.

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Dr. E. L. Persons

Dr. Elbert L. Persons, a member of the original Medical Center faculty, died November 24 at the Hospital at the age of 66.

He had been at work the preceding day and shortly before he died expressed concern that he would not be able to see his patients again.

He came to Duke as its first resident in medicine when the hospital opened in 1930 and remained on the staff, being named full professor in the Department of Medicine in 1958. He was director of the Student Health Service from 1946 to 1966 and chief of the Rheumatism Clinic from 1955 to 1965.

During World War II, Dr. Persons was unit director and chief of the medical service of the Duke University Affiliated Medical Unit serving at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and later in England.

He served as president of the American Society of Internal Medicine in 1958-59 and as president of the American Therapeutic Society in 1962-63. From 1950 to 1959, Dr. Persons was governor of the North Carolina chapter of the American College of Physicians.

He was consultant to the U.S. Army Hospital at Ft. Bragg from 1947 to 1963 and consultant to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Fayetteville from 1959 to 1969.

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Medical Wives Donate \$25,000 For Endowment

Describing the gift as "a statement of faith in the school, the medical students, this club and our state," the Duke Medical School Faculty Wives Club has contributed \$25,000 to an endowment for medical student scholarships.

The money was added to a \$10,000 grant the organization made to the scholarship fund last year.

Mrs. Richard Lester, chairman of the group's Fund Disbursement Committee, told the women in making the endowment recommendation that the support of medical talent should be the club's number one priority. She cited the rising costs of medical education, the increasing number of students at Duke, and the reduction of federal assistance to medical students as the prime reasons for allocating the money.

Interest from the fund will be used for deserving North Carolina medical students. Already this fall, money from the first \$10,000 gift is helping to finance the education of a first-year student.

Mrs. Lester added that the club's ultimate goal is "to create a substantial and truly meaningful endowment in the not too distant future."

The contributions came from profits of the group's Nearly New Shoppe, a used merchandise mart at 1801 Erwin Road. The shop, open since April of 1968, sells items that have been donated or consigned with the owner receiving half the sale price.

Announcement of the scholarship gift came at the wives club's annual membership coffee and business meeting recently.

Officers of the organization include Mrs. Ewald W. Busse, president; Mrs. W.K. Joklik, vice-president; Mrs. Madison Spach, recording secretary; Mrs. Maurice Landers, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Edward S. Orgain, treasurer.