

Dr. Patterson's Death

(Continued from page one)

"Nobody has ever heard a student say an unkind word about him," Dr. Charlie Mangum, his classmate, who knew him better perhaps than any of his colleagues, said the other day. "When any question concerning the students arose in a faculty meeting Dr. Patterson always had something to say. His attitude was sane and sensible. He wanted to give the students the benefit of every doubt. He never lost the ability to see the students' point of view."

Tall and handsome, regular in his features, and always correct and immaculate in his dress, Dr. Patterson was a striking, commanding figure. He possessed poise and grace to the last degree, and in his manners he was a Chesterfieldian of the old school. Dr. Chase evidently had some of these qualities in mind when he said of him: "The thing that to me will always set him apart was his wide and friendly human interest. It was evident in every region he touched. Students and their life fascinated him. He kept himself young by such contacts. His was one of the finest spirits I ever knew. He was, in the finest sense of the old words, a gentleman and a friend."

Rich Family Heritage

Andrew Henry Patterson came into the world with a rich family heritage.

Born in Winston-Salem on September 28, 1870, he was the son of Colonel Rufus Lenoir Patterson and Mary Elizabeth Fries Patterson. Colonel Patterson, who was the son of General Samuel Finley Patterson, of Caldwell county, served with the rank of colonel on Governor Vance's staff. He was graduated from the University with the A.B. degree in the class of 1851 and was chief marshal at the commencement of 1850. Colonel Patterson's first wife was a native of Winston Salem and was educated at the Salem Academy.

"Drew Patterson, as young Patterson soon came to be known by his friends, was one of a family of eight. There were six brothers, one, Jesse Lindsay Patterson, a Winston-Salem lawyer, who died six years ago, being a half-brother. Mrs. Coble of Statesville is a half-sister. Sam Patterson, one of the other brothers, who was a cotton manufacturer, of Roanoke Rapids, died several years ago. Four brothers survive. They are Rufus Lenoir Patterson, formerly of the American Tobacco Company and now president of the American Machinery and Foundry Company, manufacturers of tobacco industry; Frank Fries Patterson, editor of the Baltimore Sun; Edmund Vogler Patterson, purchasing agent for several New York chemical concerns; and John Legerwood Patterson, retired cotton manufacturer and banker, of Richmond. All of the brothers attended the University, as did their father, two uncles, and numerous cousins.

Was Student Leader

After attending the Winston-Salem High School, Andrew Patterson entered the University in 1897 and was graduated four years later with the degrees of Ph.B. and B.E. The versatility that characterized his career as a teacher was forcefully demonstrated during his college days. He was one of the most prominent student leaders of his generation. The president of the University Y.M.C.A., of the Di Society, of his class, and of the Tennis Club were some of the honors heaped upon him. In scholarship he ranked next to the highest man in his class, and because of this rating he was automatically selected for the Philosophical Oration. He was voted the most popular man in his class, at the same time that Dr. Charlie Mangum, his close friend and classmate, was voted the best athlete. He played tackle on the football team for two years, 1889 and 1890, and managed the baseball team of 1891. He was a member of the S. A. E. fraternity and one of the charter members of the Junior Order of Gimghouls, in the building of whose new castle he and T. F. Hickerson were the moving spirits.

Although amply provided with funds from home, young Patterson earned half of his board while in college by teaching the daughters of his landlady. While a student he also took an active interest in church affairs. He was originally a Moravian, but when he decided to make his home here he joined the Episcopal church. He first met his wife through his activity in the local parish.

While in college his room-mates were J. K. Norfleet and W. F. Shaffner, of Winston-Salem; Rufus L. Patterson, his brother, and Howard Rondthaler, of Winston-Salem.

Married Chapel Hill Girl

Six years after being graduated from the University Dr. Patterson married the girl he had wooed and won as a student. She was Miss Eleanor Spurrier Alexander, daughter of the late Eben Alexander, professor of Greek here and later Minister to Greece, Roumania, and Serbia during Cleveland's second administration. She was educated by private tutors and in Athens, Greece. Mrs. Patterson survives her husband. A daughter and a son also survive. They are Mrs. Sam Fisher, of Asheville, who was Miss Mary Fries Patterson, and Dr. Howard Patterson, of New York, who was graduated from the University in 1921.

Gained Rapid Promotion

After graduating from the University, Dr. Patterson spent two years at Harvard, where he received the degrees of A. B. and A. M. Then he worked for a short while with the Westinghouse Company. In 1894 he went to the University of Georgia as instructor in physics and electrical engineering. He gained promotion rapidly, and when he left Georgia in 1898 to become professor of physics in the University of North Carolina he held the post of professor of physics and astronomy. While on the Georgia faculty he spent one year abroad, studying at the University of Berlin, at Charlottenburg Technical Institute, and at Cambridge. The University of Georgia last year conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

The School of Applied Science in the University was established in 1904, the result of the rapid development of courses in applied science to meet the expanding demands of the new era in the progress of the State. Joshua W. Gore, professor of physics, was the first dean. He died in 1908 and was succeeded by Dr. Charles H. Herty. Owing to his heavy duties in connection with the Department of Chemistry Dr. Herty resigned in 1911, and Dr. Patterson was immediately appointed as the new Dean. The evolution of the school went on with constantly increasing numbers until in 1922 it was deemed best to divide the School by creating a School of Engineering, of which Prof. G. M. Braune was elected Dean. At present three degrees are offered by the School of Applied Science—in chemistry, medicine, and geology—and such has been the solidity of the work done that the students have continued to increase. A brighter day has dawned in the way of financial support, and the erection of Phillips Hall, and Venable Hall, and the renovation of New East have gone far toward solving the question of needed space in the way of classrooms and laboratories.

Greatest Growth under Him

The success attained by the graduates of the School justifies the belief that its aim is being steadily realized. Under the leadership of Dean Patterson the School enjoyed the period of its present growth.

Dr. Patterson took an active interest in the learned societies in science. At different times he was president of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society, the North Carolina Academy of Science and the North Carolina Association of Physics Teachers. He was a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and in the American Physical Society. He was a member of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education and of the American Meteorological Society. Papers by him on subjects involving physics and astronomy had appeared in a number of the scientific journals, including the American Journal of Science, Popular Astronomy, Scientific American, and Science.

Helped in Evolution Fight

During the recent controversy in the state over evolution he played a quiet and unostentatious but very effective role. He contributed several articles to the newspapers and explained the relation between science and religion in lectures here in Chapel Hill. He holds that there was no conflict between science and religion, and that a bigoted attitude concerning either would get people nowhere. He believed in "rendering unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's."

Dr. Patterson tried to get into the service when the United States entered the world war, but was refused on account of his age. For one year he was chief inspector for the International Arms and Fuse Company, of New York, and later, when Captain J. Stuart Allen organized and drilled University students, prior to the establishment of the S.A.T.C., Dr. Patterson assisted him for a year and a half, going through the drills himself every day with the students.

Leader in Church Work

From his student days on Dr. Patterson was always one of the most active members of the Episcopal Church in Chapel Hill. He was senior warden at the time of his death. He was the moving spirit in the erection recently of the new church, which W. A. Erwin built.

Dr. Patterson had been chief faculty marshal for a number of years, and he was the first to organize University commencements so they would run smoothly. He was a master of detail.

Stressed Athletic Excellence

His influence was perhaps as great as that of any other in building up a high standard of athletic excellence in the Southern States. While at Georgia he had been chairman of the faculty athletic committee, and for many years he had been a member of the Athletic Council of the University of North Carolina. He was one of the moving spirits in the organization of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Association, and he was the University's representative at the meeting in Gainesville, Fla., when the Southern Conference was organized. When Dr. Mangum was chairman of the faculty athletic committee, he said he considered Dr. Patterson one of the most useful members of that committee. Charles T. Woollen, his next door neighbor and Graduate Manager of Athletics, said that in the meetings of the Athletic Council Dr. Patterson always fought for the highest ideals of sportsmanship.

Appraisal of His Colleagues

"He was one of the ablest members of the Council," said Mr. Woollen, "and he was so close to the students that his judgment carried great weight. He always showed a sympathetic and helpful attitude in assisting the students in their problems, and they manifested toward him a deep loyalty and devotion."

Dean G. M. Braune, of the School of Engineering, one of Dr. Patterson's closest associates on the faculty, said of him: "I always placed the greatest confidence in his judgment, so balanced and well poised was he at all times. He was a tremendous influence for good in the student body and in the community. He was not one of those who believed that the younger generation is going to the boy-woos."

"The University has lost one of its most loyal and effective sons and teachers," President Chase said. "We

shall miss him more than I can say."

Quiet and Unostentatious

Dr. Charlie Mangum, his classmate and close friend said of him: "The biggest thing about the man was his personality. He was sane, dependable, honest, clean, trusted. He was a leader in a quiet and effective way. He did the drab and routine things that nobody else wanted to do. Unselfish loyalty was his strongest characteristic. He never let anything that was going to affect him govern the position he would take. His colleagues and students had for him an affection and a profound attitude abiding respect. It takes a big man to embody those qualities."

And so there has passed from the scene of his earthly labors a man who devoted his time and efforts to the up-building of the University on the inside, without thought of his own advancement or preferment. When the late President Kidder Graham died in 1918, the name of Dr. Patterson was prominent among those recommended as his successor, but it is known that he never sought the office. He was one of the "wheelhorses" of the University—an institution that he served well and effectively and quietly and unostentatiously for twenty of the most productive years of his life.

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