MEMORIAL

EDWIN ALLEN LOCKE, M. D.

By RICHARD P. STETSON, M. D.

On March 6, 1971, in West Orange, New Jersey, Dr. Edwin Allen Locke, a member of the "Climatological" since 1909, died at the age of 96. He was born in Halifax, Massachusetts, October 15, 1874, the son of Issac H. and Ellen (Clarke) Locke who, soon after his birth moved to neighboring Whitman where he received his early education.

As a student at Brown University, he showed those same qualities of action and leadership that were to characterize his later years. He was active and excelled in athletics as a member of the varsity football team for four years, the track team and his class baseball team. His activities extended beyond athletics. He was a member of the student governing body, an associate editor of *Liber Bruenensis*, and editor of "*Brown University, an Illustrated Historical Souvenir, 1897*". He received the Bachelor of Philosophy degree in 1896 and, the following year a Master of Arts. He was President of the Brown Alumni Association in 1930.

He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1901 and was appointed "house pupil" at the Massachusetts General Hospital. While serving in this capacity, he was awarded the Dalton Scholarship to investigate "Osteitis deformans and allied affections"—subjects in which he maintained active interest expressed in his monograph on "Diseases of the Bones" published in Dr. Christian's "Oxford Medicine" in 1921.

Upon completion of his service at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he entered the private practice of medicine in Boston and began what was to be a long and distinguished association with the Boston City Hospital, initially (1903) as Physician to Outpatients, ultimately (1924) as Physician-in-Chief of the Fourth Medical Service (Harvard). Concurrent with this were his appointments in the Harvard Medical School where he was appointed Assistant in Clinical Medicine in 1903 with successive promotions to Clinical Professor of Medicine in 1923.

Dr. Locke's interests in medicine were broad, but much of his time and efforts, especially early in his career, involved the care and treatment of tuberculosis and pulmonary disease. He served as Assistant, and for many years as Chief of Staff of the Boston Consumptives Hospital, later to be called the Boston Sanatorium. He was visiting physician to the Long Island Hospital, the Pembroke Sanatorium in Concord, New Hampshire, and the Sharon (Mass.) Sanatorium for Tuberculosis.

During the influenza pandemic of 1918, a special ward service for the

study and treatment of influenza and pneumonia was established by Dr. Locke at the Boston City Hospital. A research laboratory for bacteriological studies sponsored by the Department of Hygiene at Harvard was attached to this Service, a combination of facilities which paved the way for the studies of specific type pneumonias and their specific serum therapy carried on and further expanded in the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory by Dr. Maxwell Finland whose outstanding contributions in this field have been so widely recognized.

In 1905, Sir William Osler, instigated the formation of the Interurban Clinical Club shortly before his departure to Oxford. Dr. Locke was one of twenty-four young physicians chosen as founding members. Among this group also was David Edsall, then at the University of Pennsylvania. The two became firm friends, and in him, Dr. Locke recognized the abilities, training and interests necessary for a department head at a time when understanding of disease was limited largely to its clinical manifestations with but little attention being paid to the mechanism of disease. Dr. Frederick Shattuck was retiring as Chief of the Medical Service at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Jackson Professor of Clinical Medicine at Harvard. Dr. Locke, then on the staff of the City Hospital, saw the need for progressive leadership and felt that Dr. Edsall, then Professor of Therapeutics and Pharmacology at Pennsylvania, would be an ideal choice as Dr. Shattuck's successor. It was very largely as a result of his foresightedness, his earnestness, and the respect in which he was held by his friends and associates that he was able to convince the Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital and Dr. Christian, then Dean of the Harvard Medical School, to offer the appointment to Dr. Edsall. He played an equally important part in Dr. Edsall's subsequent selection first as part-time Dean, then as the full-time Dean of the Harvard Medical School. Through it all he was Dr. Edsall's trusted friend, confidant and advisor during what was an interesting, changing, and at times tempestuous period in the evolution of the Medical School and its associated hospitals.

It was Dr. Locke who suggested the establishment of separate teaching services for Tufts and Harvard at the Boston City Hospital and later played an important part in persuading its Trustees to support the first full-time academic department of medicine for teaching, clinical investigation and care of patients in a municipal hospital. He also played a leading role in the action of the Trustees in inviting conference with Tufts and Harvard prior to making appointments on the Third (Tufts) or Fourth (Harvard) Medical Services. The importance of bringing the medical schools into the process of staff appointments at the City Hospital was great at that time when the triad of teaching, research and medical care was neither generally recognized nor accepted.

Dr. Locke had the faculty of gaining the confidence of the young as well as of his peers and seniors. Dr. Francis W. Peabody, shortly after completing his service as house pupil at the Massachusetts General Hospital, sought Dr. Locke's advice as to whether he might be forgotten by the Boston medical hierarchy if he went to Hopkins for further experience. Dr. Locke recognized the advances being made at Hopkins and assured Peabody that such a course could only be beneficial. Peabody's subsequent career attested the value of this advice. In 1921, Dr. Peabody was appointed Director of the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory, which was then being planned and which was dedicated in 1923. At that time, he was appointed also Director of Harvard's Clinical Service of which Dr. Locke was physician-in-chief.

The association between the two was uniquely fortunate for medicine at the Boston City Hospital. A quotation from Dr. Perin H. Long recounting his experience as a resident in the Thorndike and an intern on the Fourth Medical Service perhaps best describes the teaching rounds of Dr. Peabody and Dr. Locke:

"One of the major attractions of the Fourth Medical Service in the mid-twenties was the morning visit three times a week by Dr. Peabody, three times by Dr. Locke. Two entirely different approaches to medicine were presented to the students and house staff by these two men. In retrospect, they never held divergent of clashing opinions. In Dr. Peabody the house officer had the nigh-perfect example of the philosophical, well-rounded, kindly physician who was well trained and deeply steeped in the scientific tradition and approach of his day, but whose paramount interest was always in the welfare of his patients. Dr. Locke, on the other hand, was the finished Beacon Street clinician, very well versed in the natural history of disease, although without great interest in the experimental approach to individual medical problems. At the same time, he had a very real respect for the scientific basis of clinical medicine."

He was one of the early members of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis (later the National Tuberculosis Association) and contributed greatly to the methods of treatment and prevention of tuberculosis as practiced in Boston. He was active in many national and international societies in addition to those mentioned previously: the American Society of Arts and Sciences, the International Tuberculosis Association, the Association of American Physicians, the American Society for the Advancement of Clinical Research, the Massachusetts Medical Society and the American Medical Association. Between the years 1934-37, he was president of the Harvard Medical School Alumni Association.

He was a prolific writer on medical topics especially relating to tuberculosis and other pulmonary diseases. But his contributions included many case studies, reviews and original observations on a wide variety of subjects. Dr. Locke wrote well and published something over forty articles, of all but a few of which he was the sole author. In 1911, he published an exhaus-

tive book of food values which was extensively used as a reference for years. His works on bone and joint diseases have been mentioned. Soon after going to Williams, there was an outbreak of epidemic pleurodynia among the students which he reported in 1936.

Dr. Locke had an extremely large and active practice in Boston with an office at 311 Beacon Street. The work-up and management of his private patients was thorough and skillful; his reputation as an authority on diseases of the chest was widespread and over the years, he developed a considerable consulting practice. In 1921, he invited Dr. George Minot and Dr. Gerald Blake to join with him in what I believe to be the first organized group practice in Boston. Formal articles of agreement were drawn up, there was a common laboratory, a unified system of medical records, journals were shared, and the practice of one member was covered by another when absent for medical meetings or otherwise. An important benefit to the group's members was the opportunity to exchange ideas and consult together on interesting or perplexing problems. The group at "311 Beacon" was joined later by a series of young internists starting practice. Dr. Donald King was an associate for several years. Dr. John Graham and myself were privileged to be associates at a later date.

In 1935, Dr. Locke resigned his Harvard and Boston City Hospital appointments and retired from the private practice of medicine to become full-time Professor of Hygiene and Director of Health and Athletics at Williams College. He chose as his assistant Dr. Dana L. Farnsworth who had impressed Dr. Locke when he was a resident at the Boston Sanatorium. Scholarly, intensely interested in medical history and literature, but especially he was concerned with understanding and helping those who came under his care for personal as well as health problems. Dr. Farnsworth complimented Dr. Locke at Williams even as Dr. Locke had complimented Dr. Peabody at the Boston City Hospital. In 1942, Dr. Locke retired from Williams and moved to Wilton, New Hampshire.

For years, he had owned the beautiful old house in the Manadnock region to which he retired. He had spent as much of his summers there as his busy life had permitted and during those years, he had been an enthusiastic and discerning collector of medical classics, old prints and engravings, and early American furniture. A visit to "Duckon", his Wilton home, was comparable to visiting a museum collection of early Americana—each piece of which he knew the history, many of which he had "done over" with consummate skill and artistry.

For approximately twenty years, he and his beloved Bessie lived in Wilton summers, spending much of their winters in North Carolina. It was a happy period in his life to be broken suddenly by Mrs. Locke's suffering a severe hemiplegia with aphasia. He was constantly at her side helping in

her nursing care with a devotion that never flagged during the two years of her illness. After her death, he moved to New York to live with his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd. His health, in general, was excellent up to a few weeks before his death. His death was quiet and peaceful as befitted his gracious and dignified life.

Dr. Locke's contribution to medicine were many, but probably his greatest role was that of a trusted and respected advisor to those who were moulding Harvard medicine during the early third of this century. Always self effacing, kindly and modest; powerful in persuasion and keen in recognizing talent in his peers and younger associates, he was truly a great medical statesman whose interests and efforts were energetically applied to the improvement of education, clinical research and patient care at Harvard and the Boston City Hospital. He was a source of great inspiration to students and associates alike— it is doubtful if his counterpart can be found in any medical community today.

Dr. Locke is survived by a son, Edwin A., Jr. of New York City; two daughters, Mrs. Vanderpoel Adriance, Jr., of Bermuda, and Mrs. Elizabeth Boyd of New York. There are fifteen grandchildren.