

James F. Hart

1886—1959

Frederick W. Williams, M.D., New York

James Finlay Hart, M.D., a member of this Association for many years, died on Feb. 24, 1959, after a long illness. He was born on Dec. 19, 1886, in Fordham, New York, the son of Elizabeth Margaret Finlay and Michael Hart.

His early education was obtained in the local public schools, where he showed outstanding ability and received many awards of merit. He worked in his free time while he attended high school, helping to support his widowed mother.

Although he did not have sufficient funds of his own to go to college, he won enough scholarships to obtain a premedical education at Cornell University. He was awarded his medical degree by Syracuse University College of Medicine in 1911.

After becoming assistant to a prominent physician at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Dr. Hart took four months' training at Bellevue Hospital. He also spent four months at Misericordia Hospital and served as Assistant House Surgeon at The Lying-In Hospital.

During his long and busy life, which he devoted to medicine and to humanitarian endeavors, he was appointed Adjunct Professor of Medicine at New York Polytechnic Medical College and Hospital, Attending Physician and Director of Metabolism at Midtown Hospital, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at New York Medical College, president of the Clinical Society of the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital, president of the Bronx Medical Association, a Life Member of the New York Academy of Medicine and chairman of the

Clinical Society of Midtown Hospital.

Devoting himself to the practice of internal medicine, Dr. Hart contributed to medical literature more than fifty articles dealing with clinical and pathological subjects. His interest in diabetes was great.

He was intensely interested in Camp NYDA, sponsored by the New York Diabetes Association, from its very inception, and did much to develop it. Frequently Dr. Hart gave talks on Camp NYDA over the radio, hoping to arouse the interest of potential contributors to the camp fund, to enable diabetic boys and girls of all creeds and races to attend summer camp. In 1955 Dr. Hart was elected president of the New York Diabetes Association.

During the last years of his life he devoted much time to research in youth problems, working to complete a book on juvenile delinquency as it is observed by the physician. Throughout his medical practice, he always held high the ideals of the family doctor, even though he limited his practice to internal medicine—predominantly diabetes and heart disease.

Through his hospital affiliations, his contributions to the medical literature, and his wide and extensive practice in his fields of interest, he will always remain highly regarded by those who have read his works, respected by those of the medical profession who were fortunate enough to know him personally, and revered by the ones who came under his care professionally. Dr. Hart was a man who was truly a patient's doctor, and will long be remembered as a man amongst men.

BOOK REVIEW

NUTRITIONAL DIAGNOSIS. By *Grace A. Goldsmith, M.D.* \$5.50, pp. 164, Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois.

There has been a real need for a text presenting modern concepts of evaluation of the nutritional status of individuals. Dr. Goldsmith has succeeded in writing a clear, concise text from the clinical point of view which should be of immense value to the general practitioner and medical students.

The chapter on "General Observations" is unequalled in any of the currently available texts on the subject. The outline of the physical signs commonly associated with nutritional disturbances is clear, concise and useful. There is a table outlining the signs and symptoms suggestive of deficiencies of certain nutrients. This represents a tremendous amount of work and is unique. The table indicating the laboratory procedures useful in nutritional diagnosis and the limits of the normal will simplify the life of the clinician who wants a quick reference.

The main text of the book is written clearly and in a didactic style that lends itself to efficient utilization.