IN MEMORIAM

JOSEPH BARNETT SPROWS

Dean Joseph B. Sprows died Sunday, January 10, 1971 in Austin. His life and productive career ended prematurely because of cancer.

He is survived by his wife, the former Rosalee P. Davy, four children, Joseph B. Sprows, III, of Baton, N. M., Mrs. Charles Chang of Fairview Village, Pa., Mrs. Tony Kochel of Austin, California, and Mrs. Philip Koester of Dallas, and four grandchildren.

EARLY DAYS. - Joseph Barnett Sprows was born in LaJunta, Colorado on January 26, 1912. This town, founded in 1875, was originally called Otero for Miguel Otero who was a Spanish settler. Since LaJunta is Spanish for "the junction" the designation was appropriate since LaJunta had been a shipping point for wagon trains to the markets of New Mexico. Later, LaJunta became a rail center at the junction of the main line and the Denver branch of the Santa Fe system. The days of the youth of Joe Sprows were spent in this community in the manner of most boys who grew up in the western area during the early 1920's. There was some work and some play and some education. His secondary education was at the Lamar Union High School in Lamar, Colorado.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO. - Joseph Sprows moved from Lamar to Boulder to enter the University of Colorado to study pharmacy and chemistry. He received the Ph.C. and B.S. degrees in pharmacy in 1936; the M.S. degree in 1938; and the Ph.D. in 1941. His major studies were in foods, drugs, and bacteriological chemistry. He achieved Pharmacy Registration in Colorado in 1936.

Dr. Elmer Piel, now of the University of Washington, recalled that Joseph Sprows was an outstanding student and was usually at the top of his class. He was very friendly and was well liked by his fellow students. He was athletic, and not only participated in intramural sports, but accomplished what few Coloradans do -- he climbed the "Flatirons". The huge red rocks which resemble flatirons lean against the mountains above Boulder, and at some points on the third Flatiron, there are sheer drops of some 1300 feet.

While working in a pharmacy as an undergraduate, he injured his leg severely on a cabinet and suffered a capillary fracture. The bone became infected and he acquired tuberculosis of the bone, which kept him out of school for a year or two and led to a fusion of a hip joint and a physical handicap. During this period of illness, he studied at home and took courses by correspondence through the aid of Bonfils Scholarships.

He returned to the University and ultimately completed all the requirements for the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees.

Dr. Sprows remained in postdoctoral teaching responsibilities at the University of Colorado from 1941 to 1945, and was assistant professor of Materia Medica when he left this University.
The talents and exceptional capabilities of Joseph Sprows to handle administrative responsibilities were apparently recognized by his superiors since he once remarked that he was continually asked to serve in administrative capacities following the completion of his doctoral work.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY. - In 1936, the year he received his B.S. degree in Pharmacy, Joseph Sprows married Rosalee Davy whom he knew in his home community. They had four children: a son, Joseph, Jr., and three daughters, Jeannie, Carol, and Marjorie.

UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO. - Joseph Sprows taught Pharmacy during 1945-1948 at the University of Buffalo as Professor of Pharmacy.

He was a consultant pharmacologist to the Meyer Memorial Hospital in Buffalo, New York during 1945-46.

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY. - Joseph Sprows served as Professor of Pharmacy at Temple University during 1948-1950 and became Dean of the School of Pharmacy in 1950, and remained in this post at Temple University for 17 years.

The years at Temple University and in Philadelphia were important and successful ones for the Sprows, the University, the Faculty and students, and alumni. Dean Sprows proved to be a model administrator. He was discreet, discerning, precise, and infinitely patient. Outwardly, he was charming, obliging, and serene. Behind this countenance was a tenacity and perseverance which was tempered by fairness and understanding which was respected by the faculty, students and alumni. With these traits, was a wit and sense of humor.

Dr. Fred Gable relates the aura of the Sprows' years at Temple University as follows:

Joe Sprows is so easy to relate to, and he is always extending himself to help others. Joe never missed meetings and the alumni of Temple were fully aware of how interested he was in their organization and activities. In addition, he was always attending numerous church meetings, fraternity meetings, and community meetings in addition to the many professional organization meetings he attended regularly.

The Sprows' home was one place I enjoyed visiting particularly at Christmastime when Joe and Rosalee would do much entertaining.

His work with the Philadelphia Division of the American Cancer Society was exemplary.

From 1958-1967, Dr. Sprows represented Pharmacy on the Professional Education Committee. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Division in 1960. His contributions to the education program of the Division were far reaching and long lasting.

Dr. Sprows was a member of the Drug Device and Cosmetic Board in Pennsylvania from the time it was instituted in 1961 until 1967. Hospital pharmacy groups in the Delaware Valley area and elsewhere were recipients of his time, talent, and energy.

In 1967, the Delaware Valley Hospital Pharmacists Association presented its annual achievement award to Dr. Sprows, which was the first time a nonhospital pharmacist had been so honored.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN. The decision to leave Temple University and his friends in the Eastern part of the United States was one of great concern for Joseph Sprows. However, he accepted the invitation to serve the University of Texas at Austin as Dean of the College of Pharmacy in 1967. His arrival inaugurated a new era for Pharmacy on the campus.

Dr. William Sheffield, Acting Dean and Professor of Pharmacy, said of Dean Sprows' actions when he joined the University:
One of the first recommendations of the Dean was for the faculty, through the Curriculum Committee, to go over the curriculum of the college and to come up with changes more in line with current thinking of pharmacy's role in the future. He gave us guidelines to work with and spent many hours with us in planning changes in the curriculum. I think his quiet confidence and his calm, clear thinking were instrumental in bringing about agreement on changes to be made.

New faculty members were brought in to help expedite changes. Arrangements were made for senior students to have clinical experience in the student health center of the University and in local hospitals.

Dean Sprowls earned the respect of the Deans of the University of Texas medical schools in San Antonio, Galveston, and Dallas, and because of this confidence all three schools offered cooperation.

He established a Student Council to bring recommendations from the students to the Dean. The Student Council was instrumental in developing and conducting teacher and course evaluation procedures. Joseph and Rosalee Sprowls endeavored to accept all invitations to student social functions.

The Longhorn Pharmaceutical Association, representing the student sections of the A.Pha. and of the Texas Pharmaceutical Association, presented Dean Sprowls in 1970 with its annual Merit Award for outstanding contributions to pharmaceutical education in Texas.

Dean Sprowls reciprocated into Texas as a licensed pharmacist soon after joining the University, and was active in local and state pharmaceutical associations and earned the great respect of all the pharmacists in the state.

He remained active in support of the American Cancer Society and was recognized in 1970 by an award from the Travis County Cancer Society.

Nowhere can one find goodness and truth and love expressed more clearly than in Joseph B. Sprowls.

C. Boyd Granberg

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY.** - Chairman, Committee of Pharmacy Teachers, Committee on Predictive Tests, Committee for Evaluation of Teachers Seminars. Member, Planning Committee of Teachers Seminars; Executive Committee Chairman, Executive Committee, 1963-1966.

**AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.** - Had served as second Vice President, Chairman of Section on Practical Pharmacy, Chairman of Committee on Public Health, President of Buffalo and Philadelphia Chapters, Advisor to four student branches (Buffalo, Colorado, Temple and Texas), and delegate to House of Delegates.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY.** - Member of Board of Directors, Travis County Unit; formerly Member, Board of Directors and Chairman of Cancer Advisory Committee, Philadelphia Division.

**AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION.** - Director since 1963.

**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF APOTHECARIES.** - Fellow.

**SIGMA XI.** - Past President of Temple University Chapter; Counselor, 1961-63.

**TEXAS PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.** - Member.

**UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.** - Elder, Austin.

**HONORARY PRESIDENT JOSEPH B. SPROWLS AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY.** - The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy took an action in April 1970, which was unprecedented in its 71-year history. At its annual meeting in Washington, D. C., the assembled delegates of 77 schools and colleges of pharmacy, representing nearly 1,000 individual faculty and staff members, paid homage to a colleague and a friend, a supporter and an advocate of the best in pharmaceutical education for more than three decades, by conferring upon Joseph B. Sprowls the title of honorary president.
Dean Jack Orr, Chairman of the Executive Committee, made this appraisal:

Perhaps the thing that has always impressed me about Joe Sprowls is his ability to analyze a situation or problem and to come up with a wise and logical appraisal or solution. His keen insight results from thorough and dedicated study of the arguments on either side of the question which enables him to see through the verbiage which might mislead or confuse others. His ability to sift the wheat from the chaff is exceptional. Joe's capacity for work as chairman of the Executive Committee (1963-1967) was most impressive. He gave fully of himself and his time to whatever task he dedicated his energies. He was a stickler for adherence to establish rules and regulations, as witness his reaction to the news of his being named honorary president.

When Executive Secretary-Treasurer Charles Bliven of the AACP telephoned Dean Sprowls to inform him of the action, his first response was that it couldn’t be done, because there was no provision for the office in the constitution and bylaws.

CITATIONS.

He will be long remembered for his dedication to the betterment of pharmaceutical education. This has resulted in a futuristic look with a practical application for those of us who have been touched with his zeal -- Dean Sprowls was a great man. Not just because of recognition on a national level. Not just because he had been dean of a great College of Pharmacy. Not just because of so many big things, but because he was a man; kind, sincere, polite, and in earnest in dealing with fellow pharmacists no matter what their educational attainments might have been.

Lonnie J. Yarbrough, R. Ph.
Denton, Texas

The mere listing of his assignments and activities would not of itself reveal the full measure of his contribution to American pharmacy. However, the fact that he was asked year after year to accept assignments of increasing significance is an indication of the importance of his contribution to each assignment and thus to American pharmacy.

Charles W. Bliven, Executive Secretary
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

Remarks at a Testimonial Dinner in honor of Dean Sprowls
At the Temple University School of Pharmacy Alumni Association:

Nowhere can one find goodness and truth and love expressed more clearly than in Honorary President Joseph B. Sprowls.

Dr. C. Boyd Granberg, Editor
American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education

Dedication is one of the words to describe Dean Sprowls. He was dedicated to pharmacy and to the education of future pharmacists -- while he was Dean of the University of Texas College of Pharmacy, he inaugurated many worthwhile changes.

Dr. William J. Sheffield
Acting Dean, College of Pharmacy
The University of Texas at Austin

THE JOSEPH B. SPROWLS FELLOWSHIP FUND. - A Fund was established in January, 1971 in honor of Dean Joseph B. Sprowls and dedicated to continue his work in the area of pharmaceutical education.

The Joseph B. Sprowls Fellow is to be selected by the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education annually from applicants across the United States. This is to be a permanent award using the interest from the fund.

Contributions to the Fund will be collected in a bank in Austin, Texas and turned over to the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education for administration. Correspondence concerning the Fund may be sent to Box 6, College of Pharmacy, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712.

Dr. Karl Folkers, Chairman
Dean Wayne Danielson
Dr. Wallace L. Guess
Mr. Gordon H. Jensen
Dr. Jean Scholler