

OBITUARY

LEROY UPSON GARDNER

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Leroy Upson Gardner at Saranac Lake on October 24, 1946, at the comparatively early age of 57. He was born in New Britain, Connecticut, and began his medical career at Yale, where he took his B.A. in 1912 and his M.D. in 1914. He then went to Boston and worked in the Harvard Medical School at the Boston City Hospital, and during 1916-17 he was instructor in pathology. He joined the U.S. Army Medical Corps in 1917 as a lieutenant, but in 1918 he became assistant professor of pathology at Yale. Then in 1919 he was appointed pathologist to the Trudeau Foundation at Saranac Lake, and subsequently and successively director of the Saranac Laboratory in 1927 and director of the foundation and Trudeau School in 1938. He was a member of the corresponding committee on silicosis of the International

Labour Office at Geneva, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the American Association of Pathologists, a director of the National Tuberculosis Association, and a member of the Council on Industrial Health of the American Medical Association. He received the Trudeau Medal in 1935 for his work on the pathology of tuberculosis and the relationship between tuberculosis and silicosis. In 1940 he received an honorary M.S. degree from Yale, and in the same year won the William S. Knudsen Award for his research on the control of silicosis.

To the many Englishmen who have visited Saranac Lake, he will always be remembered for his great hospitality, courtesy, and kindness. The picture which we reproduce is characteristic of him with his pipe and was taken shortly before his death. He is most famous

for his work on silicosis, which started when he was a medical student. He sought an answer to the question: 'Why are some stone cutters in the Barre, Vermont granite quarries highly susceptible to tuberculosis; while in the near-by Proctor, Vermont marble quarries the cutters are not similarly affected?' He began his investigations in 1922, and in the next year published (*Amer. Rev. Tuberc.*, 1923, 7, 344) the results of his classic experiment with the finely divided powder of carborundum (silicon carbide), which failed to produce silicosis despite the sharp-edged nature of its particles. He soon became an international authority on the subject. He reported unequivocally that the inhalation of metallic aluminium and hydrated aluminium oxide—XH 1010—protects animals against the development of silicosis (*J. industr. Hyg.*, 1944, 26, 211). This finding necessitates a therapeutic trial in man.

At the time of his death, Dr. Gardner was engaged on an expansion scheme for his laboratory and the development of a million dollar medical centre at Saranac Lake; he had already raised more than a hundred thousand dollars for the project. He was also interested in the expansion programme planned for the Trudeau Sanatorium. He will be sadly missed in the fields both of silicosis and tuberculosis.

Dr. Gardner leaves a widow, Carabel McKenzie, whom he married in June, 1915, and two daughters, Mrs. Benjamin Downs of Washington, D.C., and Mrs. F. Levering Neely of Atlanta, Georgia.

K. M. A. P.





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