

DR. A. G. ROOT ✓ DIES AT HOME

1890
Nose, Throat Specialist,
Tuberculosis Control
Advocate Succumbs

Dr. Arthur G. Root, for years one of Albany's leading nose and throat specialists and the man who played the key part in getting the state to take up tuberculosis-control work, died yesterday from a heart attack at his home, 218 State. He was 75.

Dr. Root had been in virtual retirement for about 10 years due to advancing age and the condition of his heart but he prided himself on his "young outlook" and only last August traveled to San Francisco to be the chief speaker of the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity.

Dr. Root was born in Greenfield, Mass. He received his secondary education at the Fort Edward Collegiate Institution. He then was graduated from Union College at Schenectady and entered Albany Medical College, obtaining his M. D. in 1890.

Studied at Vienna

He spent the following years in study at Vienna and London, becoming "private assistant" to Sir Morell McKenzie, one of the world's most prominent ear, nose and throat specialists.

One of his prized possessions was a letter of recommendation written by the famous English physician. His office also included numerous other mementos of his days in London, where he met many famous persons.

One of these was the Kaiser's mother. Of that interview, which took place in a London hospital, Dr. Root said:

"The empress spoke in English, with a marked German accent. She asked me: 'You are an American?' I answered that I was and she asked me why I came to London. I told her 'to study' and she said: 'Ach—to study! You Americans will do anything!'"

Legislative Group Head

For 14 years Dr. Root was a member of the New York State Medical Society's legislative committee—and part of the time was chairman. He and Gov. Theodore Roosevelt were close friends, and it was through this friendship that Dr. Root got "Teddy" to sign the legislative bill creating Raybrook Sanatorium—the state's first venture into tuberculosis control.

Roosevelt appointed him chairman of the executive board of the State Agricultural and Industrial School and in this capacity Dr. Root played the determining part in having the school built at Industry.

Dr. Root was a former president of the New York State Medical Society and was a founder of the American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otological Society.

Coroner Harry J. Wands said Dr. Root apparently had been reading the paper yesterday morning, felt ill and lay down. Time of death was fixed at between 9 and 11 a. m., when the body was discovered by Mrs. Sigrid Hansen, 154 State, Dr. Root's housekeeper.

Surviving Dr. Root are two nieces, Miss Mary M. Thompson, Philadelphia, and Mrs. Harry B. Packard. Funeral arrangements will be made after their arrival in Albany today.

2/25/39
SUCCUMBS



DR. ARTHUR G. ROOT