



RALPH P. HOWARTH, D.D.S.

1898 - 1936

Obituary Notice

Dr. Ralph P. Howarth died March 26th, 1936, at St. Luke's Hospital, Cleveland, after an illness of but six days. Death resulted from a generalized streptococcus infection.

Dr. Howarth was born in Cleveland on December 20th, 1898, educated in the public school system and graduated from the School of Dentistry of Western Reserve University in the Class of 1921. Following his graduation he engaged in the general practice of dentistry for a few years and then devoted himself to the exclusive practice of orthodontia. In 1935 he attended and successfully completed a special course at the Strang Post-graduate School of Orthodontia, in Bridgeport, Conn.

He was an active member of the Cleveland and Ohio State Dental Societies and of the American and Northern Ohio Dental Associations. He was also a member of the Great Lakes and American Societies of Orthodontia, having recently completed a term as Secretary of the former. As president of the Alumni Association of the School of Dentistry of Western Reserve University, he gave freely of his time and thought to the development of that body and constantly labored for the best interests of the Dental School itself. He was equally interested in fraternal affairs, having been a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Delta, of which he was a past grand master of the Cleveland Auxiliary, and last year was made a member of the honorary dental fraternity, Omicron Kappa Upsilon. Dr. Howarth was also a member of the Hermit Club.

Dr. Howarth was most dependable, open hearted and honest in his personal contacts and had an unusual sense of professional and community values. He devoted himself equally to his family and his specialty. With the former he was intensely interested in bringing to fruition the development of a country place in a nearby suburban area. For his specialty he held the highest ideals and constantly sought to improve himself by a really tremendous amount of collateral reading, by attending the business men's art class at the Cleveland School of Art and by continuous and intensive study in his field. He was thoughtful and kind, endearing himself to his patients and associates to a degree that is given to few. In short, he possessed a rare combination of mechanical, artistic and executive abilities and withal, a most lovable personality.

Orthodontia cannot spare such men—men who are conscientious to the last degree, both in their work and in their efforts directed toward spreading the best that there is in the specialty. This tragically short career can, however, serve a portion of its purpose as an inspiration to those who follow.

In 1923, Dr. Howarth married Miss Esther Wells who survives him, together with four children, two sons, Robert and Ralph, Jr.; two daughters, Susan and Janet; his parents; three sisters and a brother. M.R.N.