

OBITUARY

ANTHONY FRANCIS BARTHOLOMAY

August 11, 1919—March 21, 1975

It is very sad indeed that Anthony F(rancis) Bartholomay, Chairman of the Founding Committee of the Society for Mathematical Biology, died March 21. Though I had learned last March 10, when I called him once again to obtain his valuable advice, that he was on the critical list since having two strokes last February 28, I had still hoped that he might recover. Last year he had a mild heart attack from which he did recover. He told me the last time we talked over the phone that he had recently had a recurrence of fibrillation. In his last days, he was very much concerned about circumstances which might have interfered with his efforts to develop mathematical medicine at Rutgers Medical School in the way he had planned.

Dr. Bartholomay was born on August 11, 1919 in Utica, New York. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Hamilton College in 1940 and his Master of Arts degree in Mathematics from Syracuse University in 1942 after having studied algebraic topology. He obtained the Doctor of Science (S.D.) degree in Biostatistics from Harvard University in 1957. His S.D. thesis: "A Stochastic Approach to Chemical Reaction Kinetics" has become a classic. He became an Instructor in Mathematics at Syracuse University in 1940. He went to Brown University at the same rank and field in 1942. In 1945 he became an Assistant Professor in Mathematics and Physics at Keuka College for one year. In 1946 he was an Instructor in Mathematics at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He held the same position for four years at Rutgers University. In 1951 he worked as a mathematician in the theory group of the Research Laboratory of Electronics at M.I.T. A year later he joined the radar research group at the Lincoln Laboratory, also at M.I.T. In 1954 he became a staff member of the Biophysical Research Laboratory at Harvard Medical School, a position which he held for eight years. In 1957 he became in addition for three years an Assistant Professor of Biomathematics in the School of Public Health at Harvard, after which he held the same position for seven years in that Medical School. In 1962 he became the Director of the Division of Mathematical Biology and Biomathematics Laboratory, in which position he remained for five years. At the opening ceremonies of that Division, Dr. Nicolas Rashevsky referred to Dr. Bartholomay as "a spontaneously developed mathematical biologist." The Division was successful in attracting a program project grant from the Public Health Service. In 1967 he became Professor of Biomathematics in the School of Medicine of the University of North Carolina. In 1969 he fulfilled a prediction made by Dr. Rashevsky several years before that some day a Department of Mathematical Medicine would be opened. He became the first Professor of Mathematical Medicine in the world and Chairman of the Department of Mathematical Medicine in the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo. Three years later, he accepted a

position as Professor of Mathematical Medicine in the Department of Community Medicine of Rutgers Medical School in Piscataway, New Jersey.

Dr. Bartholomay received many awards and honors: the Rutgers Faculty Research Council grant in 1949; Rockefeller Foundation and National Heart Institute fellowships from 1954 to 1957; training and research grants in biomathematics from the National Institutes of Health from 1962 to 1967; an I.B.M. grant in 1964-1965; he was from 1954 to 1967 an associated member of the medical staff at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital; he was an investigator in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute from 1957 to 1967; he was a summer lecturer in the International School of Physics in Italy in 1960; he was Secretary of the Faculty at Rutgers at the time of his death. Dr. Bartholomay was a member of the American Mathematical Society, Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Biophysical Society, Biometric Society, American Statistical Association, Association of American Medical Colleges. He had widespread scientific interests in: theoretical biology, mathematical medicine, biochemical kinetics, biological growth and stochastic processes, algebraic topology, probability and communication theories, electrocardiography, medical and biological applications of computers, sequential analysis.

Bart, as he was called by his many friends, was always willing to give advice when requested. He had a very warm personality and a great sense of humor. If it had not been for circumstances beyond his control, which led to his withdrawal from the candidacy for President of the Society for Mathematical Biology, he would undoubtedly have been elected. I am also sure that he would have made an excellent President. He had carried out the fruitful negotiations with Pergamon Press which provided a financial basis for Drs. Anthony F. Bartholomay, Herbert D. Landahl and myself to found the Society for Mathematical Biology on March 10, 1973. Hence the Society for Mathematical Biology owes a tremendous debt to Dr. Bartholomay.

The forthcoming Central Regional Conference of the Society for Mathematical Biology, organized by Dr. Torcum Chorbajian of the University of Bowling Green, Ohio, scheduled for May 23 and 24 1975, will be dedicated to the memory of Anthony F. Bartholomay.

GEORGE KARREMAN