

OBITUARY



DR. JOHN SILAS LUNDY of Seattle Washington died on April 26, 1973. Dr. Lundy was internationally known as an anaesthetist, and was an Honorary Member of the Canadian Anaesthetists' Society. He was awarded the Canadian Anaesthetists' Society medal in 1968.

John Silas Lundy was born in Inkster, North Dakota on July 6, 1894, the son of Lila Woods Lundy and Dr. Fred G. Lundy. He determined to become a doctor at an early age. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1917 from the University of North Dakota, and the doctor of Medicine from the Rush Medical College of the University of Chicago in 1919. In 1919 and 1920 he was an intern in the Harper Hospital in Detroit, Michigan and from 1920 to 1924 was engaged in the private practise of medicine in Seattle.

On April 1, 1924, Dr. Lundy moved to Rochester, Minnesota, to found the section of Anesthesiology at the Mayo Clinic; he remained head of this department until 1952, when he became a senior consultant. He retired from the Mayo clinic in October 1959, and removed to Chicago, Illinois, where he continued to practise his specialty. In 1964 he moved back to Seattle where he resided until his death.

Dr. Lundy was appointed an instructor in anaesthesia in the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine at the University of Minnesota at Rochester in 1925; assistant professor in 1928; associate professor in 1931 and professor in 1934.

Dr. Lundy was a pioneer in the graduate training of young physicians in anaesthesia at the Mayo Clinic, and he was one of the founders of the American Board of Anesthesiology, serving as president in 1942.

In 1923 Dr. Lundy developed the specifications for, and caused to be built a four-control anaesthetic gas machine. Between 1922 and 1932 he developed apparatus for artificial respiration for surgical patients. In 1925 he devised a special syringe and equipment for regional anaesthesia. In 1934 he contributed considerably to the advance of intravenous anaesthesia by demonstrating the advantages of several new barbiturates and on June 18, 1934 he introduced the use of pentothal sodium to the practise of anaesthesia. In 1935 he established the first blood bank in the United States of America, and in 1942 he opened the first post-anaesthesia recovery room in the world at St. Mary's Hospital, in Rochester.

The many honours bestowed on Dr. Lundy indicated his pre-eminence in his chosen field. He was a recipient of honorary degrees from Hahnemann Medical College and the University of North Dakota and of the distinguished Service Medal of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

Dr. Lundy organized the Anesthesia Travel Club in 1929, an organization which at that time brought together on a regular basis virtually all the recognized specialists in Anesthesia of the United States and Canada. In 1952 at his instigation this Travel Club became the Academy of Anaesthesiology. He served as president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists in 1946. He was chairman and secretary of the Section of Anesthesiology of the American Medical Association. He was a member of the Société française d'anesthésie et analgésie and a corresponding fellow of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland. He was a member of many of the learned medical and scientific societies of the United States. He served as a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the American National Red Cross and as a consultant to the Army and Navy of the United States of America.

Dr. Lundy was the author of a textbook, *Clinical Anaesthesia*, published in 1942, and contributed more than 600 papers on his specialty and related subjects to the Medical literature.

Dr. Lundy was pre-deceased by his wife, Lenore Mittelsteadt in 1965. He is survived by three children, Richard Allan, Joan Lenore (Mrs. Donald Robinson), and John Charles.