

THE
TWENTY MEN
OF
1891

WAKE FOREST COLLEGE



R. L. PASCHAL
FT. WORTH, TEXAS

HUBERT ASHLEY ROYSTER

HUBERT ASHLEY ROYSTER was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, November 19, 1871.

A. B. degree from

in his native

marriage, was Miss

Young Royster

son and Captain J.

proprietors, three

other class, in 1888

oners and soon won

joined the Ensign

senior year.

Right from the

He was on the faculty

Association football

of Charlotte, was

living who enjoyed the

the team of the University

5 to 4 at the State Fair

the team of 1889, for the first

but, being of light weight

He received two or three injuries in the

games of that season.

1891, and was an



H. A. Royster.

HUBERT ASHLEY ROYSTER

HUBERT ASHLEY ROYSTER was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, November 19, 1871. His father, W. I. Royster, received his M. D. degree from Bellevue in 1868, and practiced his profession in his native city of Raleigh. His mother, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Wills Finch.

Young Royster attended the Raleigh Male Academy, Hugh Morrison and Captain J. J. Fray, and later Captain C. B. Denson, proprietors, three of the best teachers of that time or any other time. In 1888 he entered Wake Forest College as a sophomore and soon won recognition as an outstanding athlete. He joined the Euzelian Society, of which he was president in his senior year.

Right from the start he took an interest in athletics. He was on the football team in the fall of 1888, his first year. Association football, or "soccer," was then played. W. C. Dowd, of Charlotte, was captain of this team. There are many still living who enjoyed the thrill of seeing this team win over the team of the University of North Carolina by the score of 6 to 4 at the State Fair in the fall of 1888. He was also on the team of 1889, for the first time playing the regular game, but, being of light weight (145 pounds), he was only a "sub." He received two or three injuries in the intercollegiate games of that season. He made the baseball team in 1890 and 1891, and was an outfielder in every game played by the team

in the spring of these years. He was also on the tennis team, and played la crosse. When the College opened in the fall of 1889, it had re-equipped the gymnasium with as good and complete apparatus as could be found anywhere, and provided an instructor. Royster rarely, or never, missed a class in this gymnasium.

His interest in athletics has never waned. In 1910, he established at the College an athletic-scholarship medal, to be given annually in perpetuity. His object can best be described by quoting from an article by him in the News and Observer of October 4, 1914:

There is no reason why an athlete should not become a good scholar and a scholar become proficient in some form of athletics.... The thing needed is for the student and the faculty to recognize that sport and learning are not only not inimical, but friendly and miscible and mutually helpful. Examples are not wanting. To many there will occur scores of instances of the student-athlete, men who not only excelled in both studies and sports during their college days, but who have met the even severer test by succeeding in life, becoming great forces for good in their several communities. They have, besides, laid up a tremendous capital of health and strength. Without disparaging for a moment the midnight_oil men, the real students who work with zeal and constant application, it is enough to say that, unless fortified during their growing period with physical exercise, many of them fall by the wayside on the thresholds of very promising careers.

So profoundly have I felt the profitable interrelation of scholarship and athletics, that four years ago I established at my alma mater a medal to be awarded each year to the athlete who makes the highest scholastic average over all other athletes in the class. The arrangements are in the hands of the faculty, who require that the winner shall earn a degree demanding at least four years of study; that he shall have represented the institution in a certain number of contests. ...

When once it can be shown that excellence in athletic games and in class work may exist in the person of the same student; when once ~~is~~ dispelled the narrow conception that a bookworm or a classical scholar cannot take time to develop his body, or that a football player is always a rough fellow of the baser sort, who has no taste or capacity or occasion for learning — then shall be brought about a true regard for the double standard of brain and brawn, upon the adjustment of which our very life depends.

Many of our distinguished graduates are among the Royster Medal Alumni, now doing the world's work in many fields of endeavor in many parts of the country.

He still retains his membership in the Monogram ("W") Club. In 1913, he was chairman of a committee of faculty and alumni which raised the first payment on the property purchased for the present athletic field and golf course, contributing a generous share himself. He raised \$2,100 in Wake county to seal the bargain on the whole 80 acres (the old Walters property). When World War No. I began, the committee was disbanded. With the assistance of G. W. Paschal, he picked out the original Gore Field, a natural amphitheatre, near the former's home. The recent expansion, the new stadium, is part of the same tract.

Young Royster throughout his academic career was in the habit of winning honors or having them conferred upon him. At Wake Forest he was Chief Marshall at Commencement, ¹⁸⁹⁰ President of Debate at the Anniversary of the literary societies, President of the Euzelian Society, a Commencement speaker (chosen by the faculty), and a member of the Kappa Alpha Fraternity. At the Univer-

sity of Pennsylvania, which conferred upon him the M. D. degree in 1894, he was President of the Senior Class, the first Southerner after the War between the States to win this distinction. He was a member of the Glee Club. He received the Alumni medal for highest honor (95.2) average. In 1894 he received the highest average so far made before the North Carolina Medical Examiners, (98 13/14), winning the Appleton Prize.

He has been associated with several hospitals: in 1894-1895 he was an interne in Mercy Hospital, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; Surgeon, Rex Hospital, since 1897; Surgeon-in-Chief, St. Agnes Hospital, since 1899; Surgeon to Southern Railway, since 1900; Consulting Surgeon to Seaboard Railway and Norfolk and Southern Railroad; Consulting Surgeon to Dix Hill State Hospital, since 1921. In 1935, the Royster Building at that institution was named in his honor.

That Dr. Royster appreciates the value to a physician in associating with his fellows and that the members of his profession hold him in high esteem are indicated by the following list of Medical Societies in which he has held membership, and the offices he has held in them: Raleigh Academy of Medicine (Secretary, 1895-1900; President, 1903); Wake County Medical Society (President, 1910); Medical Society of the State of North Carolina (Councilor, 1903-1910; Board of Examiners, ^{Secretary} 1914-1920); President, 1921-1922); Tri-State Medical Association (President, 1906); Southern Medical

Association; Southern Surgical Association (Secretary, 1916-1925; President, 1926); American Medical Association (Chairman, Surgical Section, 1932); American College of Surgeons (Founder); American Surgical Association; American Board of Surgery (Founders Group); International Society of Surgery.

Beginning in ¹⁸⁹⁵~~1896~~, the date he joined the Medical Society of the State of North Carolina, he has been a regular attendant, missing only four annual meetings, and has always contributed papers, discussions or reports to the transactions. He served in the House of Delegates off and on for several years and as Chairman of the Committee on Legislation for ten years. Of late years he has also served on the Editorial Board of the North Carolina Medical Journal.

For ten years Dr. Royster did general practice in Raleigh in association with his father, his "inspired teacher and yet severest critic" then and later.

On March 1, 1906, he announced the restriction of his practice to surgery -- the first North Carolina physician to do so. This practice ended only in 1938, when he retired from active professional work.

Dr. Royster's services as teacher in medical schools have been much in demand: he was Assistant in Surgery, Leonard Medical School, 1897-1902; Dean and Professor of Gynecology, the University of North Carolina, at Raleigh, 1902-1910; and Professor of Surgery, Wake Forest College, 1935.

He has not neglected his obligations as a citizen of his community: he was President of the Chamber of Commerce (Raleigh), 1909-1910, two years; Director of the Y. M. C. A., 1911-1935; Trustee of Olivia Raney Library, 1934 -- .

He is the author of more than 250 professional papers and pamphlets and of three books: Syllabus of Therapeutics, 1899, privately printed); Appendicitis, (1927, D. Appleton & Co.); Medical Morals and Manners, (1937, University of North Carolina Press).

Dr. Royster was married November 6, 1901, to Miss Louise Page, in Princess Anne, Maryland. They have three children: Mrs. Thomas Oxnard, Savannah, Georgia; Hubert Ashley Royster, Jr., and Henry Page Royster, both physicians - the former a Pediatricist at Bryn Mawr, Philadelphia, and the latter Instructor in Surgery and Fellow in Surgical Research, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

His earliest⁺ ambition was to be an editor; he began to write for the papers at the early age of fourteen and continued to do so until the close of his college days. Many will remember the articles in the Raleigh papers, signed "Incoctum Ostreum," the Latin of a pun on his own surname. In 1891 he decided to study medicine, and entered the University of Pennsylvania in October of that year. His first article on a medical subject (report of a surgical clinic) was written while he was a student, in the fall of 1893, and published in the January, ¹⁸⁹⁴~~1893~~, issue of the North Carolina Medical Journal.

In 1930 his alma mater, Wake Forest, conferred on Dr. Royster the honorary degree of Sc. D. One of his greatest honors came on January 13, 1941. On that day he was initiated as a foundation member of the Delta Chapter, Phi Beta Kappa, of North Carolina at Wake Forest, being one of the comparatively few alumni on whom this honor was bestowed and the only physician to be so honored.

He lives with his wife in Raleigh, 2318 Beechridge Road, where he has a pleasant home set in grounds of eleven acres, which - thanks largely to Mrs. Royster - have been beautifully landscaped. There are virgin trees, evergreens, gardens, and graveled walks bordered with flowers, box and other shrubbery, "enfolding sunny spots of greenery."

The above is a condensation of information from several sources - a sketch in a medical journal, the account of him in Who's Who in America?, other books, magazines and papers, my own knowledge, supplemented by that of others.

R. L. Paschal.