

was honored with a festschrift entitled, *Archibald Henderson, the New Crichton*.

Henderson's greatest fame came from his biographies of George Bernard Shaw. As the dramatist's official biographer, the mathematician—historian—biographer wrote three books on Shaw which were published in 1911, 1932, and 1956. His extensive Shavian collection went to the University of North Carolina Library.

Personally, Henderson was a fine conversationalist and raconteur. That he was a stimulating companion is amply demonstrated by his friendships with all sorts and conditions of men. In short, he was a remarkable person.

In 1903, he married Minna Curtis Bynum, by whom he had five children. Following her death, Dr. Henderson in 1957 married Lucile Kelling, former dean of the School of Library Science, who survives him.

M. A. McC.

ALBERT WHITE RICE

Albert W. Rice was born in Worcester on January 24, 1883, a son of William Ellis and Lucy Draper (White) Rice. From the Dalzell School he went to Harvard College, where in 1904 he took his B.A. *cum laude* as of 1905, and put in a year taking an M.A. while his classmates caught up to him. Then he entered the Harvard Law School from which he was graduated in 1908. That year he entered the Worcester office of Choate, Hall & Stewart, but in 1909 he moved to Boston and joined the firm of Brandeis, Dunbar and Nutter, with whom he remained for thirteen years.

In June, 1917, Mr. Rice enlisted as a private in the First Motor Corps of the Massachusetts State Guard, but the next year transferred to the Naval Reserve, in which he

served as an Ensign attached to the office of Inspector of Engineering Materiel. After his return he set up his own law office in Boston, in which he practiced actively until 1940, when he began a withdrawal to the various trusteeships with which he had been entrusted. Having moved back to Worcester in 1931, he became more actively involved in the banks of this city, although he kept his Boston office open.

There was hardly in this region an institution of merit which did not enjoy the assistance of Mr. Rice. He was a trustee of many, including the Worcester Art Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, and the Lenox School; he was vice president of the Worcester Natural History Society, president of the Worcester Historical Society, and for twenty-one years a vestryman of All Saints Episcopal Church. Probably his greatest interest was The Memorial Hospital, which during his long service as treasurer, he put on its feet financially. That he was Worcester's most generous philanthropist in this generation has not been realized because his diffidence and modesty led him to conceal his good works. Few knew the extent of his generosity, and few realized his wealth, for his standard of contentment was a good meal and a good cigar. Although inclined to be self-deprecating and self-effacing, he was as firm as a contented rock.

A loyal and generous Episcopalian, his relationship with that church was maintained on his terms, which were hardly sectarian. In politics he was neither radical nor reactionary, but as a sound trustee he saw the weakness of the New Deal and its successors. If he had enthusiasms or strong dislikes, he did not impose them on those around him.

Mr. Rice regarded book collecting and history with the same kind of open-minded and intelligent reserve. As a descendant of the first permanent settler in Worcester, he

could not escape a sense of connection with the past, and he had a strong interest in the history of the institutions which he served. His marriage in 1931 to Mary Hovey Gage threw him directly into the orbit of the American Antiquarian Society, for her father, Thomas Hovey Gage, had been recording secretary since 1921, and was the right hand of Clarence Brigham after the death of Waldo Lincoln in 1927. Besides this, there was the long connection of her grandfather and her aunts with the Society. Still, it was not until 1938 that Albert was elected to membership, but at the next meeting he was elevated to the Council, on which in time he became senior member. Mr. Brigham and I leaned on him as Clarence had on Mr. Gage; once he wrote to Albert: "I wish to Heaven that you were the president of this Society instead of me. You are my most constant help and adviser." While firmly declining the presidency, Albert offered to take over the labors of the treasurership if the office suddenly fell vacant. In times of even monumental financial problems for the Society, he would smile and say gently, "I'd like to take care of that."

When I first came to Worcester, a librarian who had been entertained while briefly visiting the city told me that he was sure I would find Mr. Rice the kindest of friends, and so it has proved. After this, for more than twenty years there was no sign of age in Albert's bearing or manner, and when time finally did catch up with him, he was more discouraged than those who had known sickness in their younger years. A well-deserved L.L.D. from Clark University in 1964 he accepted with his usual diffidence, and with the attitude that this was a formal word of thanks. He died quietly at his home on August 8, 1965; Mrs. Rice survives him. By his will, the American Antiquarian Society and a number of other institutions benefit greatly.

C. K. S.

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