

Will H. Irwin

After a long illness, Mr. W. H. Irwin died Saturday, June 12, thus ending a career of 38 years of active service. He was 59 years old. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Ida Irwin; a daughter, Mrs. Ernest Simmons; a son, Richard; and four grandchildren.

It was in 1899, shortly after his graduation from the University of Kansas, that Mr. Irwin joined Swift & Company at Kansas City. He was there only for a short time, going later to the Chicago Plant and, after a few months, moving on to St Joseph, where he remained in charge of the Chemical Laboratory until 1912. He was then transferred to the Chicago Laboratory. During all these years, he accumulated a vast store of knowledge of the packing business which was not only of great value to Swift & Company, but which also placed him in the foremost ranks of the country's industrial chemists.

Mr. Irwin will be remembered for the very active part he took in the affairs of The American Oil Chemists' Society. He was a charter member of our group and a prime mover in its organization. He served as its president in 1931-32, and for a number of years and at the time of his death was Managing Editor of the Society's official journal OIL AND SOAP. He was also chairman of the Fat Analysis Committee which is a joint committee of The American Chemical Society and The American Oil Chemists' Society. His other committee memberships in the society were: Revision of Methods, Sulfonated Oil and Stability Committees.

One of Mr. Irwin's outstanding characteristics was his determination to succeed at whatever he undertook. He had no patience with half-way measures and regardless of the job at hand—whether a tough business problem or a favorite sport—he could always be found putting every ounce of his make-up into it.

Another strong virtue was his loyalty. He was loyal to his country, to his employers and to his friends. He will be missed. Mr. E. R. Barrow writes as follows of Mr. Irwin:



The memory of W. H. Irwin will always be tenderly cherished by all who knew him. Will, the name by which he was affectionately known by his friends, was a man of sterling character, sunny, genial disposition, and unfailing in his devotion to a code of high ideals and noble purposes. In his associations and committee assignments he was always fair and honest. In the performance of his duties he was never influenced by selfish motives.

His influence and ability in developing the interests of The American Oil Chemists' Society amounted to a devotion which will be sorely missed by reason of his untimely passing. During the trying days of the depression, his unfailing and determined efforts on behalf of the Society's Journal is responsible more than any other factor for its continued existence. Never impatient with others, never faltering in his position of trust and responsibility, he forged ahead in the face of obstacles with a firm determination to keep the Journal alive. Its position and success today is a tribute to his energy and perseverance in the face of difficulties.

Efficient and trustworthy in any responsibility, he was equally sincere and earnest at play. No one enjoyed a game of golf, or bridge, or a round of bowling more than he. The same quality of fairness and consideration towards a competitor evidenced in his business relations manifested itself in his friendly competition.

Will Irwin has given up the cares of life in the midst of his days of usefulness. His passing is hard to bear. May every one who has resolved on a truer life find encouragement in his example and fellowship. May his soul rest in peace.

E. R. BARROW.

FALL MEETING

The Chicago local committee has decided that the fall convention of the society will be held at the Hotel LaSalle, Chicago. The dates are October 14 and 15. The LaSalle has reserved a meeting hall of sufficient size, which has good acoustics and decorations. More space for exhibits will be available than at previous conventions.

The annual banquet will be held at Old Heidelberg Inn. This famous Chicago restaurant originated during the Century of Progress Exposition, and will be an interesting as well as entertaining place for dinner.

Efforts are being made to furnish an attractive technical and scientific program, with one or two speakers of national prominence.