

Career Ends For Physician



DR. W. J. QUINN

Dr. William James Quinn, widely known Eureka physician, died suddenly at a local hospital last night from a heart attack suffered in his office earlier in the afternoon.

Dr. Quinn had carried on a successful medical practice in Eureka since 1906.

The doctor was prominent in local affairs, having been both city and county health officer for many years, and recently acting as health officer for the bi-county health department. He was a member of the Eureka chamber of commerce.

He was also a member of the Eureka Rotary club and served a term as president. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Elks lodge, the Humboldt county medical association, and was a past surgeon of the Eureka aerie of Eagles.

Dr. Quinn was born on Table Bluff hill on October 11, 1876 of the pioneer Quinn family. Having attended local schools, when a young man he entered the Cooper Medical college in San Francisco, now known as the Stanford medical college. He graduated in 1905, practiced medicine at St. Mary's hospital in San Francisco until 1906, when he returned to Eureka to establish his practice in the Carson building. A short time later he was engaged as surgeon at the Union Labor hospital.

Dr. Quinn was an ardent gardener, having one of the finest rose gardens in the backyard of his home at 231 Brett street. "I should have been a rancher," he would say.

The doctor is survived by his wife, Norma; a daughter, Mrs. John Bauriedel of Eureka; a son, Dr. Robert W. Quinn, a member of the Yale Medical school staff, New Haven, Conn.; four brothers, Fred and Irwin of Eureka and Albert and Owen of Loleta; two sisters, Mrs. Alice Cloney of Eureka and Mrs. Jack McMillan of San Francisco; two grandchildren. William

Dr. W. J. Quinn of Pioneer Family Dies in Eureka

Dr. William James Quinn, 72, known to all who loved him so much as "Billy" Quinn, succumbed Tuesday night from a stroke suffered in his Eureka office. After a busy afternoon he had just prepared to leave when stricken.

An hour or more passed and after continuous telephone calls Mrs. Quinn and daughter, Mrs. John Bauriedel, went to the office where they found the doctor still alive but unconscious. He died later in a hospital.

Funeral services were being held up pending the arrival of a son, Dr. Robert Quinn of Yale University Medical School, and the return of a brother, former Senator Irwin T. Quinn, who was traveling in the northwest on a business trip and could not be located immediately. Tentatively, a high mass is now scheduled for Monday with Cooper Mortuary in charge.

Dr. Quinn was born on Table Bluff, October 11, 1876, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Quinn. He went on from local schools to Cooper Medical College and returned to Eureka in 1906 to enter medical practice and a long civic career. He served as both city and county health officer, was a past president of Rotary and affiliated with the Elks, Knights of Columbus and the Eagles.

Besides the widow, the deceased leaves his daughter, Mrs. Bauriedel, son, Dr. Robert; four brothers, Fred and Irwin of Eureka, Albert and Owen of Table Bluff; two sisters, Mrs. Alice ~~Millan~~ of Eureka and Mrs. Jack ~~Millan~~, San Francisco; numerous grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dr. Quinn was one of the kindest men, of a gentle, calm nature, who was loved and respected by thousands who had known him through his long career.

HIS WORK LIVES ON

Death came this week, as it must to all people, to Dr. William J. Quinn of Eureka, who for nearly half a century has been one of the leading physicians of this area. As we would expect, death came while at work administering and alleviating the suffering of others.

Dr. Quinn was a member of one of Humboldt's oldest pioneer families, one which has distinguished itself in the development of Eureka and Humboldt County, not only in the field of medicine, but in public service.

While Dr. Quinn belonged to all the people, we, in Organized Labor, first came to know him when he became associated with the Union Labor Hospital at its inception in 1906. As a member of the staff of that institution, he carries a record of devotion to duty and a great share of the responsibility for the excellent medical and hospital services that we enjoy today. In rendering medical aid to the citizens of this community, Dr. Quinn was not only recognized by his fellow professional men, but also by the thousands who benefitted by him as a truly great practitioner who combined kindness and understanding that has endowed him in the hearts of the people of this community.

Not content with the service he was rendering as a member of the General Hospital staff and his own private practice, Dr. Quinn was one of the pioneers in the development of the modern County Health Department which we enjoy today. He served as Health Officer for the City of Eureka and Humboldt County and his guiding influence can be seen in the development of the present day health department serving Humboldt and Del Norte Counties and is so vital in the protection of the health and welfare of the people.

The people of Eureka and Humboldt County have suffered a great loss in the passing of Dr. W. J. Quinn, an outstanding member of the medical profession, a civic leader and a friend. However, he has left a great legacy with us, health and happiness to those once ill; courage, understanding and a true devotion to duty. Truly, "His Work Lives On."

In Memoriam: Dr. W. J. Quinn.

To Eureka of at least two, and in some cases three, generations, the late Dr. William J. Quinn was a familiar and well-beloved figure as he practiced the art of medicine and along with it the art of friendship.

Few figures who have been closely identified with the community's professional life, indeed, have so endeared themselves to so great a number of people, and at the same time won distinction in their chosen field.

Member of a prominent pioneer Humboldt family, Dr. Quinn embodied and exemplified those qualities we have come to associate with these pioneers and their descendants, qualities of integrity, neighborliness, courage, vision and unusual perception and ability. His is a family, indeed, that has contributed to the life and the development of the city of Eureka and the county of Humboldt in general, and which is distinguished by the achievements of its members in the fields of medicine, the law and public service.

Dr. Quinn's practice of medicine spanned his entire adult lifetime, and, except for brief absences, his years were spent in his native community. In this practice, he was known to his fellow citizens as a practitioner who combined deep understanding and the sympathetic touch with the healing art which brought him distinction and honor. Among his fellow professional men, he was known as one of the ablest practitioners not alone in the local field but in all northern California. And it is symbolic of his lifelong interest in his art that he continued in active practice long after the age when a great many men have retired to enjoy, in leisure, the honors they have earned.

Aside from his private practice, Dr. Quinn was likewise distinguished for his long association with public health work. In that field, in fact, he was a real pioneer and a leader in the development of policies and procedures that nowadays serve to protect the health, the welfare and the well-being of the citizenry. In that capacity he served both the city of Eureka and the county, at various times. During late years he was largely responsible for the program which has resulted in the establishment of the splendid county health department that serves both Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

In the field of public medicine, also, Dr. Quinn's name and work is closely identified with the development of modern hospital facilities in Eureka. Associated with the staff of the General Hospital since the early days of that excellent institution, he also has consistently lent his efforts and his support to hospital service in general.

For Dr. Quinn, each of the many, many years he spent in giving service, comfort and medical aid to his fellow citizens must have been, in truth, a golden year. And certainly they were golden years to those who benefited from or otherwise had occasion to share in the practice of his skill and talent.

In his passing, the medical profession of northern California has lost one of its outstanding leaders, one who has done much to advance the work of medicine and surgery in the field in which he labored. To the general citizenry of Eureka and Humboldt, his death means the loss of a valued friend and fellow citizen - - a good citizen in every sense of the term.