

Obituaries

RICHARD HOFSTADTER

Richard Hofstadter, historian, was born on August 6, 1916, in Buffalo, son of Emil, a Polish-born furrier, and Katherine (Hill) Hofstadter. He grew up there and, majoring in philosophy and history, and having his historical interest kindled by the Beards's *Rise of American Civilization*, he graduated from the University of Buffalo in 1937. Narrowly escaping being sent to law school, he then went downstate to New York City and Columbia University where he took an M.A. in 1938 and a Ph.D. in 1942. He won the AHA Beveridge Award that year, after having been an instructor in history at Brooklyn College for a year, another year at City College, and some time on a traveling fellowship.

Between 1941 and 1946 he spent teaching at the University of Maryland, published a work on Social Darwinism, and shortly after the Second World War he published another of his major works, the extremely popular *American Political Tradition*. Staying on at Columbia and becoming totally urbanized, he continued his work combining scholarship with readability and in 1955 his *Age of Reform* won him the Pulitzer for history. In 1959 he was advanced to the DeWitt Clinton chair recently vacated by Allan Nevins. In 1964 he again took the Pulitzer Prize for his study of anti-intellectualism in American life and just a couple of years ago he issued his study of the paranoid style in American politics and just last year his work, *The Idea of a Party System*. Scattered in among these works were studies on higher education, the progressive historians, academic freedom, and the like.

In a recent study of Hofstadter, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., wrote that "in his forays into the domain of the social sciences,

Hofstadter always took care to civilize his captives and teach them English,' rather than their usual 'dismal patois.' With his books, Hofstadter made forays into the minds of ordinary adult readers and taught them history.

He was elected to this Society in April 1970 and apologized for his tardiness in replying to his notice of membership saying 'I have been in the hospital a good deal.' A few months later on October 24, 1970, while fifty-four years old, Richard Hofstadter died in Mount Sinai Hospital in New York after a long but very brave battle against the ravages of leukemia. He is survived by his widow, Beatrice Kevitt; his first wife, Felice Swados, had died in 1945. He has also left a daughter, a son, and sister in the family. Beyond the family he has left students, colleagues, critics, readers, and friends who feel very much cheated by his having died so young.

J. E. M.

DANIEL WALDO LINCOLN

When Daniel Waldo Lincoln died on March 16, 1971, his survivors in the American Antiquarian Society lost a dear friend. Although the Lincoln family is still represented in the Society's membership through his niece, Miss Louisa Dresser, we look upon his passing as a distinct break with the past.

Dan Lincoln was elected to the Society in October 1924. At the time of his death there were only two others who had been members longer. He followed his great-great-grandfather, his great-grandfather (both founders of the Society and both named Levi), and his father [Daniel] Waldo Lincoln, into the Society.

Daniel Lincoln's father, Waldo, was president of the Society from 1907 until 1927. It was he who took the quiescent New England institution and shook the dust out of it. He brought Clarence Brigham to Worcester in 1908 and it was he who for twenty years visited the library almost daily, so concerned was he for its affairs. Daniel Lincoln's father-in-law,

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.