

The next occasion was at our New York meeting in 1969 at which we and he enjoyed ourselves, as we did a year later at the meeting at Winterthur, on both occasions avoiding long runs of stairs. He wrote last fall to say that he had just finished an article putting Benjamin Rush in his place, 'his medicine is really inexcusable.' He also reported that 'all year long something has robbed me of all strength and energy' but he hoped the Johns Hopkins doctors would find 'what ails me.'

His heart finally giving out, Richard Harrison Shryock died at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on January 30, 1972, at seventy-eight years of age, while he was vacationing from his home in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. He is survived by his widow, a son and a daughter, and six grandchildren. He is remembered at this Society with great affection, as he also is among his friends in many different places and disciplines.

J. E. M.

#### RAE MACCOLLUM SPENCER

Rae MacCollum Spencer, printer, was born in Milford, Massachusetts, on July 9, 1887, son of Hezekiah Albert, a Baptist minister, and Caroline (Whidden) Spencer. When Rae was three months old, his father died, leaving a widow and three babies. These four soon moved for a time to Worcester, where there were strong family relationships, before returning to family in Atlantic Canada where the mother went back to teaching to keep their bodies and souls together. In 1893 they moved to Charlton, Massachusetts, where he started school at age six with his mother as teacher in the one-room school. In five years the family moved to Worcester, and after a year and a half in the public schools, Rae was chosen to go to Worcester Academy on a full scholarship, but had to leave at the end of his sophomore year at age fifteen to help the family by working full time. One of his school chums was Warren Davis whose father had a printing business to which Rae ap-

prenticed in 1902 at three dollars and fifty cents a week. He spent the next fifty-eight years of his working life at the Davis Press, serving as president for the last twenty-six of them.

Early in those years Spencer came into close contact with this Society when Davis Press became the printer of our *Proceedings* for 1905 and young Rae was a compositor. He kept to his work, moved into the job as plant superintendent, and in 1920 he organized the advertising division and in a short time became president. At about this time he and his boyhood friend and co-worker at the Press, Warren Davis, made a joint and generous gift to the Society, gestures they continued to make in later years. Most of the correspondence between him and us in these years stuck close to printing business, but every so often included material for Spencer's genealogical interests. He had all along in his work life been developing other interests including family, the Baptist church, a lovely little farmhouse he fixed up handsomely, such causes as Community Chest, the Hard of Hearing League, and other civic groups. During the Second World War he was in charge of collecting salvage in Worcester for the war effort. Also at about that time he was elected a trustee of Andover-Newton Theological School, where his father was an early graduate. Back in the shop he continued to serve us well with our work in spite of all the problems that plague printers then and now, and in resolving these problems he depended upon his eminent good sense and long experience together with a keen sense of the importance of this Society's public image.

In October 1953 the Davis Press, as usual, got the copy from which to set type for our ballot for election to membership. As Spencer's name was on it, 'the secret was out.' In his covering letter Clifford Shipton, our then librarian, wrote 'there are few members, however who have contributed more hours and more helpful ideas than Rae Spencer, and the election has been long delayed, because we have had only about a half dozen Worcester vacancies in the past ten years. Brig and I thought

that we might have to explain your name on the nomination list when we presented it to the Council, but to our pleasure the Worcester members gave to the others as glowing a recommendation as I have ever heard offered for any candidate, and I am sure that the most pleased person is myself.' Spencer also was 'most pleased' and as a member continued his close ties even after his retirement from the Press in 1960, an occasion made doubly sad by the death of his wife of fifty years the year before. Spencer moved to live near his daughter in Marblehead, returning weekly until recently to visit old friends and to drop in on us here.

As a member of this Society Spencer was a loyal attender of meetings, a generous donor to our annual appeals, a very, very helpful man to Clifford Shipton, Marcus McCorison, and me, when we in turn became editors of the *Proceedings*. He was in sum a truly valuable friend of this Society.

On March 13, 1972, Rae MacCollum Spencer died at eighty-four years of age in a nursing home in Nahant to which he had recently gone. He is succeeded by a daughter, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. His only son was killed in the Pacific during the Second World War where he served as a Navy lieutenant. Beyond the family there are many others who enjoyed him and miss him.

J. E. M.

### HERBERT JOSEPH SPINDEN

Herbert Joseph Spinden, anthropologist, was born in Huron, South Dakota, on August 16, 1879, son of Eugene Samuel and Mary Rose (Herbert) Spinden. He took his early schooling in the West, graduated from high school at Tacoma, Washington, and then came east to enter Harvard with the class of 1906. At college, Spinden was a member of the Anthropological Club, took his A.B. degree with the Class, moved along to the Graduate School where he was a teaching fellow, and

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