

L.H.D. from Brown University. He is survived by his wife, the former Stella Balicer, and their daughter Rosamunde.

Roger E. Stoddard

RUSSELL MURDOCK STOBBS

Russell Murdock Stobbs, lawyer and insurance executive, was born in Thompson, Connecticut, August 7, 1907. His parents were George Russell and Mabel F. (Murdock) Stobbs. He was raised in Worcester, but spent time in Washington, where his father, a Republican, was United States Representative in Congress from the Fourth Massachusetts District from 1925 to 1931. He was sent to Phillips Exeter Academy, graduating in 1925. From there he went on to Williams College (A.B., 1929) and Boston University Law School (LL.B., 1933). He was in the private practice of law in Worcester for a few years after graduation; then in 1938 he joined the Massachusetts Protective Association, Inc., as assistant counsel. He later moved up to associate counsel (1950) and counsel and assistant secretary (1960) of the company now known as the Paul Revere Life Insurance Co. He retired in 1967.

Stobbs served as a communications officer in the Navy during the Second World War. His ships saw action in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Mediterranean theatres of operations, for which service Stobbs received several battle ribbons.

Active in political party affairs like his father, Stobbs was a member of the Republican City Committee from 1936 to 1956 and a city councilman from 1948 to 1950. He also served in numerous charitable and civic organizations.

Historical matters were of great interest to him, especially political history. In Worcester he was long active in the councils of the Worcester Historical Society. Later he became an overseer of Old Sturbridge Village. He was elected to membership in the American Antiquarian Society in April

1971. His father, too, had belonged to the Society from 1945 to 1966. Although Stobbs was not a member long, he thoroughly enjoyed his associations at the Society. He attended most meetings, hosted the cocktail party for members and staff preceding the annual meeting in 1973, and served on the nominating and development committees. He gave generously to the Society and left a handsome bequest in his will. In short, he was, however briefly, one of the coterie of Worcester members who view the Antiquarian Society as an ornament of the community and who serve it accordingly.

Russell Stobbs was not completely well the last few years, but did remain active, traveling to Europe and Africa. He entered a local hospital in late February and died there March 12, 1975. He had never married and a brother, Hamilton T. Stobbs, had died before. Two cousins were his closest kin living when he died.

John B. Hench

RICHARD SAMUEL WORMSER

Richard Samuel Wormser, bookseller of Bethel, Connecticut, was born in New York City on April 5, 1898. Educated in the public schools in New York he served in the United States Navy during the First World War. After the war he was engaged in the importation of olives and in other enterprises before joining his father, Otto D. Wormser, in the pearl business. He became an authority in this field, and in later years he was occasionally called in as an expert in the evaluation of gems.

The examination of pearls must be made under good natural light which in London and Amsterdam during the winter months is of brief duration. It was in the afternoons of days thus shortened that he killed time in the antiquarian book shops of those two ancient towns, and developed an interest in the trade. After his father's death, and the introduction of

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