

well. The present generation well may be grateful for his leadership.

Besides AAS, numerous other cultural institutions claimed Richmond's allegiance: the Walpole Society, Boston Athenæum, Bostonian Society, Grolier Club, Massachusetts Historical Society, Newcomen Society, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, and the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Among his equally numerous business connections was membership on the board of directors of the Chattahoochee Valley Railway.

Richmond's involvement in the affairs of the Society flagged in recent years because of failing memory and the need to care for his wife whose own health was frail. On December 13, 1975, aged eighty-eight and widowed, Carleton Richmond died, survived by two daughters and two sons, eleven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. He lies buried in a cemetery in Little Compton, Rhode Island, where, for many years, he and his wife maintained a summer farm.

John B. Hench

BRADFORD FULLER SWAN

Bradford Fuller Swan always claimed that his record of attendance at the meetings of the American Antiquarian Society was one of the best. From his election in October 1953 to his death on February 20, 1976, he was absent only three times. On two occasions he was sick and on the third he was camped at the base of Mount Everest. Indeed, he liked to say that he attended his first meetings before most of the present members were elected, because in the years before 1937 he reported on the activities of the Society for the *Worcester Telegram*. The pride he took in being a member was expressed in many ways, one of which was at one time to point out that five members of the Society lived within a block of each

other in Providence, perhaps the densest concentration outside Worcester.

Born in New Bedford on October 27, 1907, son of Rodolphus Swan and Anna Nye (Fuller) Swan, he was a descendant on his father's side from fourteen Mayflower passengers and on his mother's side from Capt. Miles Standish, John Alden, and Gov. William Bradford. He frequently said that the travels of the manuscript of Bradford's history of the Plymouth Plantations would not be complete until it had been returned to the appropriate member of the family—himself.

After attending public schools in New Bedford, he went to Yale University from which he graduated *magna cum laude* in 1929. Throughout the rest of his life he remained a loyal and active alumnus, for which he was awarded a citation only a few weeks after his death. Following his graduation he had an opportunity, on the recommendation of Bob Kiphuth, to become the swimming coach at Harvard University. Ill health made this impossible and he spent a year teaching at Milton Academy. Brad was destined to be a newspaperman and the next year he went to work in New Bedford for the *Mercury*, moved to the *New Bedford Standard-Times*, then to the *Worcester Telegram*, and in 1937 to the *Providence Journal*, where he remained for the rest of his life in a number of capacities but principally as the art, theatre, and literary critic.

His marriage to Lila Locher (McVay) Ward took place in New York in the City Hall. The ceremony was performed by Mayor LaGuardia, who happened to appear on one of his periodic forays into the day-to-day operations of city government. His wife predeceased him. There were no children.

Brad's most notable characteristic was the enormous range of his interests and activities, to each of which he brought a high degree of competence and skill. Everything he did he did thoroughly. His newspaper work gave him a wide knowledge of art. While fundamentally a conservative New England

Yankee, in the best sense, he had an appreciation for contemporary art and always gave encouragement to younger artists whose work he liked. His views on the current art scene in Providence carried weight, even with those who disagreed with him. As the theatre, movie, and dance critic he occupied a similar place and enthusiastically supported Trinity Square, the local repertory theatre. Trips to New York and Boston to review plays led him to good restaurants and stimulated a highly developed love of good food and drink for which he also became a recognized authority, and a notable cook in his own right.

An entirely different side of Brad Swan was his passionate love of the outdoors. Long a member of the Appalachian Mountain Club, he was editor of *Appalachia*. He was also active on many of the club's committees, particularly the ones dealing with mountain safety and the huts and the trails in the White Mountains, where he became a prominent figure among those concerned with preservation in the wilderness. His knowledge of botany made him a popular guide. This interest extended beyond New England. About 1950 he read Apsley Cherry-Garrard's *The Worst Journey in the World, Antarctic 1910-1913*, which in turn led to a collection on the Antarctic. He spent six weeks at McMurdo Sound as a representative of the *Providence Journal*. While there he visited the South Pole and discovered that he was the resident authority on the history of the continent. As a result he was called upon to give talks to the military and scientific personnel who had only the vaguest knowledge of the background of the country in which they were working. He presented his Antarctica collection to the John Carter Brown Library in 1967. The achievement of Sir Edmund Hillary touched off an interest in the Himalayas; the collection of a modest library on the subject followed an expedition to the base of Mount Everest. Still later he climbed in Scotland and in the Selkirks in Canada, where he participated in some first ascents. A notable feature

of his outdoor activities was the style with which he conducted them. Concern for food and wine was often a part of the planning of his trips. He was an active member of the Mount Madison Volunteer Ski Patrol, whose members were expected not to be sure where Mount Madison was, never having volunteered and unable to ski. Its principal activity, created by Brad, was the Grand Traverse and Alpine Picnic.

During his years at Yale, where he majored in English, he became interested in American literature, which in turn resulted in the formation of one of the first collections on H. L. Mencken. His profession as a newspaperman became the basis of a friendship with the author, who gave Brad a substantial number of manuscripts and copies of his books. These were later presented to Yale University. He became a member of the Yale Library Associates in 1946 and served seven terms on the council from 1949 to 1975.

In 1941 he joined the Rhode Island Historical Society. For a time he edited *Rhode Island History* and went on to serve in many other capacities, becoming president of the society in 1968 and 1969. Brad soon developed into an authority on a number of aspects of the colonial history of the state but his particular interest was in the history of printing in the eighteenth century. In 1949 he published a biography of Gregory Dexter, the London printer who published Roger Williams's writings and later followed him to Rhode Island. At his death Brad was preparing for publication an edition of Roger Williams's letters. The year he was elected to the American Antiquarian Society he read a paper on 'Eighteenth-Century Printing on the Island of Antigua' and in 1956 published in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* a checklist of Antigua imprints which is still the authoritative work on the subject. He also formed for himself a collection of eighteenth-century West Indian imprints. His survey of West Indian printing, *The Caribbean Area* (1970), is a pioneer work on the subject.

As a charter member of the Associates of the John Carter Brown Library his interest in history developed a wider scope exemplified by his definitive study of the Ruysch map of 1507, the third printed world map to show America. In *An Indian's an Indian or Several Sources of Paul Revere's Engraved Portrait of King Philip* (1959) he combined his knowledge of art and history which led to 'Prints of American Indians,' a contribution to *Boston Prints and Printmakers, 1670-1775* (1973).

In 1946 Brad was involved in the celebrated sale of the *Bay Psalm Book*. As a newspaperman he rode with John Fleming in a taxicab from Parke-Bernet to the Rosenbach shop with the book and then with Dr. Rosenbach back to the hotel where the Yale group had gathered. As a Yale man he was called upon to write an account of the book for the *Yale Library Gazette*.

His interest in book collecting led to what was perhaps the first American newspaper review of John Carter and Graham Pollard's *An Enquiry into the Nature of Certain Nineteenth Century Pamphlets* (1934), and from this developed a lifelong friendship with John Carter. During World War II Carter, as an aid to the British Ambassador, was visiting offices of the publishers of the *Providence Journal* and asked to meet Brad, assuming him to be one of the principal officers of the company. Publisher, ambassador, and the whole retinue trooped down to the newsroom to find Brad with his hands covered with ink helping a secretary change her typewriter ribbon.

Without in any way being pretentious Brad Swan always gave the impression of being a man of substance and affairs. Those who knew him in the book world outside of Providence often at first assumed that he was a wealthy newspaperman who occupied a prominent position in city affairs. To a large extent this was due to the skill, knowledge, and cultivation he brought to his collecting—characteristics often associated only with those with the money and time to indulge them. Brad had the modest salary of a reporter but he knew how to

use it to the best effect. In almost every case he collected in areas before they became popular. He was able to do so because he always made himself the master of any subject which he undertook.

Brad Swan was a warm, witty, friendly but reserved human being. The quiet intensity with which he went about things led him to divide his life into segments so that his interests in one area did not get blurred with those in another. It was not so much a matter of excluding one group of friends from another, but rather a desire to extract as much pleasure as possible from each of his interests. All who knew him were surprised to discover the large number of people who suffered a deep sense of loss at his death. It was in a very real sense the end of an era in the lives of those who had the privilege to be his friend.

Thomas R. Adams

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