

# Wortley Fuller Rudd: 1876-1950

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**W**ORTLEY FULLER RUDD, dean emeritus of the School of Pharmacy of the Medical College of Virginia, died at Richmond, Virginia, on July 26, 1950.

Dean Rudd was born at Skinquarter in Chesterfield County, Virginia, on October 6, 1876, the son of the late Alfred A. and Indie Cauthorne Rudd. There he received his early education, moving on later to the University of Richmond, which awarded him the A.B. degree in 1898.

Following a period of high-school teaching at Brookneal Institute, and in the public schools of Manchester and Richmond, Dean Rudd entered the Medical College of Virginia and received the Bachelor of Pharmacy degree in 1902. In 1911 he was awarded the degree of Master of Arts in chemistry by Columbia University.

From the day he entered the Medical College of Virginia, where as a student he was named quiz master in chemistry, Dean Rudd's life was dedicated to the college, its schools, and, above all, its students. Seldom does a man give himself to a cause to the extent to which Dean Rudd gave himself to education—and particularly, but not exclusively—to pharmaceutical education. For years he taught with little assistance all the chemistry given in the schools of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and nursing. His appointment as instructor in pharmacy came in 1906, as professor of chemistry in 1910. In 1920 he succeeded Albert Bolenbaugh as dean of the School of Pharmacy, which post he held until his retirement on July 1, 1947.

During his period of service, Dean Rudd's interests were wide and varied, and the recognition that came to him testifies to his effectiveness in the organizations to which he gave his efforts. He served as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the Southern Association of Science and Industry, the Virginia Academy of Science, and the Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society. He also served on the governing boards of the Richmond Professional Institute of the College of William and Mary and the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce. For many years he stood high in the councils of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

His work in creating, and his term as president of, the Southern Association of Science and Industry gave impetus in its beginning to an organization now grown

strong in its task of bringing about closer coordination among Southern educators, scientists, and industrialists. His terms as head of the Virginia Section of the American Chemical Society brought new vigor, which the section has never lost. He was honored with its Distinguished Service Award in 1948. His presidency of the Virginia Academy of Science was prosecuted with such effectiveness that in 1941 he was named Virginia's Man of the Year in Science, and in 1950 an honorary member of the Academy. His service as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy advanced appreciably the continuing task of raising the standards of pharmaceutical education. Ample evidence is the citation that accompanied the honorary doctorate of science conferred upon him by the University of Maryland in 1941, which praised him for "doing as much, it not more, than any one person as teacher, writer, editor and association worker, to advance the standards of pharmaceutical education, to elevate the practice of pharmacy and to enlist the support of pharmacists for the advancement of science in general."

His contributions were also recognized by the University of Tampa, which conferred upon him an honorary doctorate of humane letters, and by the Medical College of Virginia, which conferred upon him his second honorary doctorate of science. One of his most cherished possessions was the Herty Medal, awarded him by the Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society for his outstanding contributions to chemistry in the Southeast.

This partial recitation of his achievements tells but little of the man who was loved and respected by several generations of students for his high character and personal traits. Few know the many students who are today successful practitioners of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy because Dean Rudd held out a helping hand when financial or academic problems seemed too difficult to overcome. Many had the delightful experience of being guests in the home he made with his beloved wife, the former Kate P. Vaden, who survives him. Here they welcomed their friends, young and old, and it was an unusual evening that did not find them entertaining informally those who dropped in at 1614 Park Avenue. Those who knew the warmth of his friendship and hospitality will never forget him.

