Throughout his career, Louttit showed a keen sense of responsibility to his profession and to science in general. It was typical of him that he accepted so willingly the unsalaried editorship of *Psychological Abstracts* and spent his energies so freely in further expanding and developing this important resource in the behavioral sciences. He was never so occupied that he neglected his editorial and other such duties; his responsibilities as a consultant in psychology to the National Institute of Mental Health, the Library of Congress, and other such organizations; or colleagues and students who requested counsel and advice on scientific, professional, or personal problems.

He was curious about many things. He had the energy and the courage to pursue wherever his curiosity led and also the ability and creativeness to be productive in whatever situation he found himself. Above all, he had a capacity for enjoying his work which was the envy of those who knew him.

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H. B. Williams, Physician and Physiologist

Horatio Burt Williams, emeritus professor of physiology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, died at Harkness Pavilion on 1 November 1955 at the age of 78 years.

Born in Utica, New York, 17 September 1877, the son of Horatio Olin and Julia Pierce Williams, he spent his early life in northern New York State where he attended Syracuse University, receiving an A.B. degree in 1900 and the M.D. degree 5 years later.

In 1905 Dr. Williams moved to New York City and in that year married Abbie Prentiss Schermerhorn. The Schermerhorn name is prominent in both the early history of New York and of Columbia University. Mrs. Williams died in 1944.

Dr. Williams interned at New York Hospital in 1905–06, after which he practiced medicine and acted as assistant in physiology at Cornell University Medical School (1907–11). He was called to Columbia University in the spring of 1911 as associate professor of physiology and, with the exception of his Army service in World War I, served continuously in that department until he retired as Dalton professor of physiology in 1942.

Dr. William's name is associated with the early history and development of electrocardiography in the United States. His paper, written with Walter B. James, "The electrocardiogram in clinical medicine," which appeared in 1910 in the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, is, we believe, the first publication on electrocardiography in this country.

Williams spent most of the summer of 1911 in the laboratory of William Einthoven in Leyden. On his return he duplicated the Einthoven string galvanometer. This apparatus was costly, complicated to operate, and completely filled a moderate-sized room. In 1914, Williams designed and supervised the construction of the first American Einthoven string galvanometer for the use of Alfred Cohn at the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. This instrument is now on permanent exhibition in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Williams' intensive theoretical and experimental study of the Einthoven string galvanometer resulted in successive reductions in size and weight of the electrocardiograph. He was one of the founders of, and a director and technical adviser to, the Cambridge Instrument Company, Inc., from 1922 until the time of his death.

Perhaps the most interesting investigation carried out by Dr. Williams and his associates was on the effect of electric shock on the heart. This showed that fibrillation produced in the hearts of experimental animals by the passage of an electric current could be abolished in most instances by an electric countershock of high intensity and short duration. Williams' interest in this field led to his appointment as chairman of the Resuscitation Review Board of the Edison Electric Institute. He served also as a member of the Committee on Safety of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (1943–44 and 1945–51).

Although a doctor of medicine, Dr. Williams held a captain's commission in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. During World War I, he was an instructor in the Army Engineers School at Fort Belvoir. Many of the graduates of this school later attained positions of high rank. Professor Williams was concerned also with the development and construction of sound-ranging instruments used for locating enemy guns.

Dr. Williams was an outdoor sportsman. For several years he was camp director of a boy's camp in the Adirondack Mountains. He was an expert rifle and pistol marksman and held many cups for marksmanship. This interest led him to acquire an extensive collection of early American firearms. Early in life Williams became an enthusiastic yachtsman; later he became a skilled horseman and took great pride in his thoroughbred Thunderclap, a former race horse. Professor Williams spent most of his summers at his home Whispering Woods in Woodstock, N.Y., where he enjoyed his association with the art colony.

Williams' wide range of interests is shown by the many organizations and societies of which he was a member and by the titles of the volumes in his extensive library. In this, classical volumes mingled with scientific monographs. Although he read most of the modern foreign languages as well as Greek and Latin, he perhaps took greater pride in his ability to speak the dialects of several northern New York Indian tribes.

Williams received a number of honors. He was awarded an Sc.D. degree by Syracuse University in 1925 and delivered the fourth Josiah Willard Gibbs lecture before a joint session of the American Mathematical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1926. He was made an honorary member of the American Society of Anesthetists. In October 1953, he received a gold medal for distinguished service at the celebration commemorating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center.

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