

In Memoriam

RICHARD B. SEALOCK

Richard B. Sealock, 77, of 1118 E. Wayne Avenue, Wooster, Ohio, died Saturday morning, November 3, 1984, at Wooster Community Hospital following a brief illness. A memorial service was held at McGaw Chapel on the College of Wooster campus Friday afternoon, November 9, 1984.

He was born in Lexington, Illinois, June 15, 1907, to the Reverend Burl Hamilton and Irene Ridgely Sealock. He married Mary Margaret Morrow, who survives, on September 20, 1932.

In 1930 he received both his A.B. from Eureka College and B.S. from the University of Illinois. He received an M.S. from Columbia University in 1935, and an honorary doctorate was conferred upon him by Eureka College in 1967.

During his professional career, he served in the libraries of Eureka College, the University of Illinois, Queens Borough and Enoch Pratt of Baltimore, Maryland. After two years as assistant librarian of the Gary (Indiana) Public Library he was appointed head librarian in 1945. Appointed head librarian of the Kansas City, Missouri, public library system in 1950, he remained there for nineteen years. At Kansas City he was instrumental in planning, designing and building a new central public library and a major branch library.

After leaving Kansas City, he was for nine years Executive Director of Forest Press, publisher of the Dewey Decimal Classification System, in Lake Placid and Albany, New York. During that period he completed and published the eighteenth American edition and the first French edition of the classification and celebrated the centennial of the Dewey Decimal System.

Following his retirement and move to Wooster, he served for nearly a year as Interim Director of Andrews Library at the College of Wooster. He also acted as consultant to the Wayne County Public Library in their current renovation project.

He was active in several national and state professional organizations. Among other assignments, he served as treasurer and second vice-president of the American Library Association. He served as

vice-chairman, chairman, and president of the Council of the Denver Bibliographical Center. At different times he was president of both the Indiana and Missouri state library associations. He was recently named a vice-president of the American Names Society.

Internationally known for his work in place-name literature, his major bibliography in the field has had three editions and several separately published supplements. In addition, he contributed extensively to bibliographic and professional library literature.

Sealock is survived by his wife, three children (Margaret Powell of Wooster, David of Kansas City, Missouri, and Sarah Amos of St. Anthony, Minnesota), five grandchildren, and two brothers.

Margaret Sealock Powell