George Woolsey

May 2, 1861 — July 1, 1950

Dr. George Woolsey, Professor of Clinical Surgery (Emeritus) at Cornell University Medical College, was born in 1861, the son of Theodore Dwight Woolsey, President of Yale from 1846 to 1871, and Sarah Sears Prichard Woolsey. Dr. Woolsey graduated from Yale in 1881 and the following year did graduate work at the Sheffield Scientific School. He received an M. D. degree from the College of Physicians & Surgeons, Columbia University in 1885. His subsequent training for clinical surgery is not completely evident in available accounts of his life, but one year was spent at the Roosevelt Hospital. Between 1885 and 1890 he spent two years in France and Germany, presumably in pathology and anatomy. Following his return to this country, he was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Surgery at New York University Medical College in 1890. He served in this capacity until 1897 when he became Professor of Anatomy and Clinical Surgery at Cornell University Medical College. In 1908 his title became Professor of Clinical Surgery, a post that he held until he retired in 1926 as Professor of Clinical Surgery (Emeritus).

Dr. Woolsey's hospital appointments included that of Attending Surgeon at Bellevue Hospital from 1890 to 1921 and Consulting Surgeon thereafter. From 1900 to 1914 he was an Associate Surgeon at Presbyterian Hospital. He also held appointments as Consulting Surgeon at Memorial Hospital from about 1914, at the New York Infirmary for Women and Children from 1925, at the Peekskill Hospital from about 1897, and at St. John's Riverside Hospital in Yonkers from about 1914.

He was a member of the American Surgical Association, International Society of Surgery, Society of Clinical Surgery, American College of Surgeons, New York Surgical Society, New York Clinical Society, New York Gastroenterological Society, and the New York Academy of Medicine, as well as the American Medical Association and numerous state and local societies. He was the author of numerous articles on the surgical subjects of current interest, including several on genito-urinary surgery. He was also a contributor to Keen's "Surgery", the outstanding text of that era.

Dr. Woolsey died on July 1, 1950 at New Haven, Connecticut. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Jean Paul Ellenwood Woolsey, two daughters, Miss Laura Woolsey of New Haven and Mrs. John C. Kittle of Ross, California, and by a sister, Miss Edith Woolsey of New Haven.