

SUBJECTS

A. ATWATER KENT, RADIO PIONEER, 75

Inventor of Auto Equipment, Philanthropist, Dies — Was Noted for Aid to Singers

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Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PUBLISH DATE

March 5, 1949

PAGE NUMBER

17

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

A. ATWATER KENT, RADIO PIONEER, 75

Inventor of Auto Equipment, Philanthropist, Dies—Was Noted for Aid to Singers

Special to The New York Times.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., March 4 —A. Atwater Kent, inventor, industrialist, philanthropist and a noted Southern California host, died this morning in his home in near-by Bel-Air. He was 75 years old. Death was attributed to complications from a malignant condition.

Mr. Kent's marriage to Mabel Lucus, which took place in 1908, ended in divorce. Three children, A. Atwater Kent Jr., Mrs. Elizabeth Kent van Alen and Mrs. Virginia Kent Gatharwood, and an adopted son, J. Prentiss Kent of New York, survive.

Byword to Early Motorists

After pioneering in the automobile and radio fields, Arthur Atwater Kent retired a wealthy man. His name was a byword with early motorists, particularly in connection with his ignition, starting and lighting system. In the Twenties and Thirties, Atwater Kent and radio were closely linked.

The first Atwater Kent radio set, a five-tube affair, was put out in 1923. Three years later the millionth set was turned out.

He introduced many musical celebrities to radio broadcasting, engaging for the Sunday night Atwater Kent hour over a network of stations the highest priced grand opera and concert performers. He created the Atwater Kent Foundation to conduct nation-wide auditions to discover unknown talent. The winners received liberal money prizes and courses of study in the leading musical schools.

In 1929 he purchased for \$2,500,000 an estate of 750 acres in Delaware County, Pa., and spent \$1,500,000 improving it. It became one of the show places of the Philadelphia suburbs.

Mr. Kent had a genius for invention even as a boy and this instinct resulted in ninety-seven patents, the first being an electric top. While in his teens he made the first outboard motor in existence, a motor driven by a primary bichromatic battery with six cells.

He entered the automotive industry by designing a pocket-size electric meter to test dry-cell batteries then used in automobile ignitions. In 1902 he established the Atwater Kent Manufacturing Works in Philadelphia to make telephones and small voltmeters.

Designed Ignition System

Three years later he began making his revolutionary ignition system which made a single quick hot spark instead of the ordinary stream of sparks. It was used in a dozen makes of automobiles.

Mr. Kent converted his plant to war manufacture during the first



A. ATWATER KENT

Associated Press

DR. F. S. NEWELL, GYNECOLOGIST, 77

Former President of American Society Dies—Had Served Harvard Medical School

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, March 4—Dr. Franklin S. Newell, a former president of the American Gynecological Society, died last night at the age of 77. He was professor emeritus of clinical obstetrics at the Harvard Medical School.

Born in Roxbury, Mass., Dr. Newell was graduated from Harvard in 1892 and its medical school four years later. After graduation he served on the staffs of the Boston Dispensary and Boston City Hospital.

Dr. Newell became visiting obstetrician to the Boston Lying-In Hospital in 1899, a post he held until his retirement in 1931, when he became consulting obstetrician. He also was a consultant to the Massachusetts General and Beth Israel Hospitals.

In 1897 Dr. Newell was appointed assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Harvard. He became Professor of Clinical Obstetrics in 1917, retiring in 1931. With Dr. Edward Reynolds he published a text on "Practical Obstetrics" and was the author of many other works in the field.

Dr. Newell was a member of the American College of Surgeons, the Boston Obstetrical Society, the Boston Surgical Society, the American Medical Association and the Massachusetts Medical Society. Since 1940 he had been secretary of his Harvard College class.

A sister survives.

LEWIS AT O'NEILL RITES

wife, Mrs. Katherine Crumer Woodman Woodman; Woodman;