

November 1992

IN RE: ABRAMS



ANTHONY J. LANZA

Industrial Hygiene Foundation Trustee 1942-1959

Chairman, Industrial Hygiene Foundation
Medical Committee 1936-1952

It is with deep regret that announcement is made of the passing of Anthony J. "Tony" Lanza on March 23, 1964 in New York at the age of 80.

Although chiefly renowned because of his outstanding accomplishment in identifying the etiology of silicosis (called "Lanza's Disease" by some of his friends as a result) Dr. Lanza made several other very significant contributions to the field of Occupational Health. He organized Australia's Division of Industrial Hygiene in 1921, subsequently serving as its advisor. During World War II, serving as an Army Lieutenant Colonel, he organized the U. S. Army's Occupational Health program, receiving the Legion of Merit and the William S. Knudsen Award for this service in the national interest. He worked within the Medical Department of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company from about 1926-1947, leaving to organize the Institute of Industrial Medicine at New York University. In recognition of this accomplishment, he was honored by being awarded the New York University Presidential Citation in 1960, and in 1964 by the decision to name the newly constructed laboratories near University Valley in Sterling Forest "Anthony J. Lanza Research Laboratories for Environmental Medicine."

Author of many professional papers and books, his most recent text "The Pneumoconioses" resulted in his being chosen for the 1964 meritorious authorship award of the Industrial Medical Association. He had received notice and was planning to attend the meeting in Pittsburgh the week of April 13 to accept the award personally.

Dr. Lanza's reputation as an expert in dust diseases of the lungs was well established when the Industrial Hygiene Foundation was conceived in 1933. It was therefore logical that he should have been chosen chairman of its newly formed Medical Committee in 1936 and, characteristic of Dr. Lanza, the first Medical Bulletin of the Foundation entitled "Silicosis and Allied Disorders" was published within about a year, on April 15, 1937.

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