

Wisconsin Hospital Association

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

DR. HAROLD MACOMBER COON

Dr. Coon, who at the time of his death on February 28, 1962, was the Administrator of the Milwaukee County General Hospital, had served for 16 years, from 1941-1957, as Superintendent of the University of Wisconsin Hospitals. Born on June 29, 1895, in Milwaukee, Dr. Coon received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1920 and his M.D. Degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1922. He served as an intern at the State of Wisconsin General Hospital from 1922-1923. He was the Associate Medical Director of River Pines Sanitarium, Stevens Point, from 1923-1933, and Medical Director from 1933-1937. He served as Superintendent and Medical Director of the Wisconsin State Sanitarium, Wales, from 1937-1941 when he became Superintendent of the old State of Wisconsin General Hospital. While at the University, he served as a Professor of Hospital Administration at the Medical School and as Executive Secretary of the Medical School. He became a member of the American College of Hospital Administrators in 1943 and served a term as a Delegate to the American Hospital Association. He served as President of the Wisconsin Hospital Association in 1943 and 1944. He was a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He was a member of the American, Wisconsin and Dane County Medical Associations as well as a member of the National Tuberculosis Association and the American Trudeau Society. He was also a member of the Advisory Committee of the State Department of Veterans Affairs and the State Department of Vocational Education. He received the WHA Award of Merit in 1955 and the Tri-State Award of Merit in 1955. He served on numerous Councils, Boards, Committees, etc., of various organizations in the health care field. It would be difficult if not impossible to list completely all of the many achievements and contributions that Dr. Coon made to hospitals and health care institutions during his active years. When Dr. Herman H. Shapiro, Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Wisconsin Medical School, set up the Coon Memorial Award in 1969, he did so as a long time friend and associate of Dr. Coon's and wanted through this award to recognize the achievements of outstanding hospital administrators who conducted themselves in the finest traditions of Dr. Coon. The Wisconsin Hospital Association is pleased to join with the University of Wisconsin Hospitals in recognizing the memory of Dr. Coon through this award.