

ROBERT STERN LANDAUER
1897-1966

All associated with the medical use of radiation in the midwest, have lost an outstanding teacher, investigator, consultant and friend with the death of Robert Stern Landauer on July 9, 1966. His influence will be felt for many decades to come, due to his unique ability in instructing the physicians in the field of physics. His lessons during the 40's and 50's, sometimes numbering over 100 attendees, were noted for their organization, delivery and exchange of knowledge, from professor to student. He had the rare skill of being able to impart his teaching material in a very palatable form without frightening or demeaning his students. Oftentimes, he would question, needle and cajole his residents in order to induce them to think more profoundly about the subject.

At the Radiation Center, Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois, he was instrumental in initiating many of the nuclear medical techniques which are commonplace today. He was a charter member of the Central Society of Nuclear Medicine and helped to create the Society of Nuclear Medicine.

He was a consultant to most of the medical institutions in the midwest, in the area of radiation calibration and safety. It was through his efforts that the State of Illinois has such an enviable history of radiation safety and regulation.

Robert Stern Landauer was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1897, and received his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1921. He was Chief Physicist at a local X-ray manufacturer until 1932, when he entered private practice of radiation consultation. He was associated with Northwestern University Medical School as an Assoc. Professor, from 1952 until his retirement in 1965, and was the Radiation Physicist at Radiation Center, Cook County Hospital, Chicago, Illinois since 1954.

Dr. Landauer was a Diplomate of the American Board of Radiology, Certified Health Physicist, American Board of Health Physics, and a member of numerous scientific and professional organizations, including Soc. Nuc. Med., RSNA, A.A. Health Physics and Sigma Xi. He was on the Governors Radiation Protection Advisory Council, State of Illinois, and helped write the Illinois radiation code. He was a contributor to numerous clinical technical journals, as well as, texts on the clinical use of radioisotopes.

He leaves his devoted wife, Ruth, and sons, Robert, Jr., Joseph and Thomas.

He will be mourned by all of us who knew him personally and missed by the entire medical radiation community.

Marion F. Magalotti, M.D.
Director