

IMAGES

...THEN AND NOW

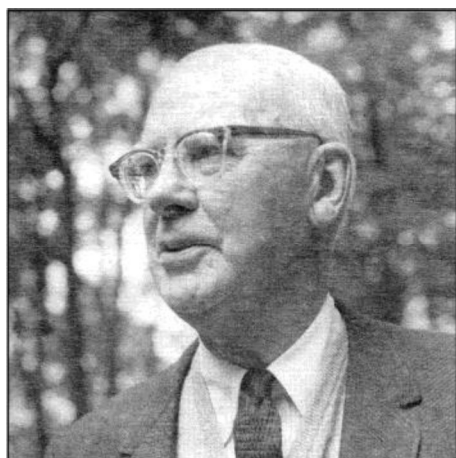
From the Indian Hill Historical Society



**Buckingham Lodge
1861**

Remembering Stanley Rowe – An Icon of Indian Hill, Part I

In From Camargo to Indian Hill (1983), several individuals were designated as Indian Hill institutions for their lasting impact on the community and their valued contributions to the Village. One of these was Stanley M. Rowe, Sr.



Born in a house on Cleinview Avenue (East Walnut Hills) in 1890, he and his family moved to North Crescent Ave. in Avondale six years later. Stanley's father, Caspar Rowe was an orphan and started working at age 14 for Charles Fleischmann, who had just started his yeast business. Caspar eventually became general manager and treasurer of the Fleischmann Co. Stanley and his brother attended Avondale public school, Franklin School (Walnut Hills), Asheville (NC) and Yale (CT). They had a sister, Madeline. Stanley's brother, Gene died in the influenza epidemic after World War I. Stan's draft status was 4-F due to previous tuberculosis, a heart murmur, a hernia, albumin in his system, and being 9 pounds underweight. Not eligible for combat duty, he worked in the Ordnance department in Cincinnati.

In 1915 Stanley married Dorothy Snowden of Memphis, TN, whose family had a summer home in Weekapaug, RI where the Rowses also vacationed. The couple lived on Berry Ave. in Hyde Park for 13 years. Stan's good friend, Robert A. Taft Sr. told him about a very desirable site in Indian Hill. In 1924, the Rowses purchased a 40-acre farm on Muchmore Rd., and later acquired adjacent properties to create a 200-acre holding. They moved into their new southern colonial home designed by Tietig and Lee in 1928. It was named Annesdale, after Mrs. Rowe's grandparents' place in Tennessee. Here they raised two sons (Stanley Jr. and Snowden) and pursued a lifelong avocation of collecting horticulture.

Stanley's first job was with the Cincinnati Rubber Co. in Norwood. In 1921 Oscar Shepard and he started the Shepard Elevator Company, and as co-founder, he worked there until it was sold to the Dover Corporation in 1958. The elevator plant was located on Brotherton Rd. Dover is currently ranked number 3 in the U.S. elevator business.

In 1917 Rowe's first charitable effort was becoming a trustee of the Better Housing League. He later was its president, which led to being chairman of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (a group that built public housing for local families) for 10 years. He was a charter member of the Cincinnati Association, an organization that promoted a better quality of life for citizens of the Greater Cincinnati region. Stanley worked with his friend Bob Taft on the 1949 legislation that made public housing a national priority: the Taft-Ellender-Wagner Act. He was a board member of the National Audubon Society and Spring Grove Cemetery. Also, he was a founder of Cincinnati's independent Charter Committee. His memberships included the Commercial Club, Commonwealth Club, Camargo Club, and Queen City Club. Rowe served on Indian Hill's Planning Commission, City Council, and was a founder of the Green Areas Trust and the Indian Hill Church. Besides all these civic activities, he was devoted to Nature.



Annesdale

To be continued ...