THE EVENING BULLETIN 3-12-86

OBITUARIES

Dr. George Meissner, 70; noted pathologist, teacher

WARWICK — Dr. George F. Meissner, 70, of 563 Quisset Court, pathologist-in-chief at the Rhode Island Hospital for four years, died today at the hospital after a month's illness. He was the husband of Betty (Shief) Meissner.

Born in Vienna, Austria, he immigrated to Canada after the German occupation of Austria, and received his medical degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario in 1943. Following his internship in St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario, he served until 1946 in the Royal Canadian Medical Corps.

Dr. Meissner served his residency in pathology at the Mallory Institute, now Boston City Hospital, and was research assistant at McGill Univesity, Montreal, for a year. After two years as pathologist at the Jewish Memorial Hospital in Roxbury, Mass., he accepted the position of associate pathologist at Rhode Island Hospital in 1952. For several years he also served on the faculty of Tufts University School of Medicine as assistant professor of pathology.

He was appointed associate director of pathology at the Rhode Island Hospital in 1966 and directed the sections of coagulation and autopsy pathology for many years. Dr. Meissner also was a consultant in pathology to the Butler Health Center, Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital and the Women and Infants Hospital.

Dr. Meissner participated in the development of the Brown University program in medicine, serving first as associate professor of biomedical sciences and as professor of pathology since 1980. He was the author of many articles on cancer, hemotology and coagulation.

Teaching was a big part of Dr. Meissner's life and he devoted considerable time to developing the pathology department's curriculum at the Brown Medical School, according to Levi Adams, associate vice president for biology and medicine.

Dr. Meissner was an expert particularly in blood coagulation, said Dr. Nelson Fausto, chairman of the Brown department of pathology and laboratory medicine, and was an outstanding teacher in the residency training program at Rhode Island Hospital. The hospital pathology department is a unit of the Brown University department that Fausto heads.

An associate said Dr. Meissner had a special gift for teaching, which he loved, and endeared himself to students of medicine, pathology and medical technology with his humor and talent for clear expression.

He was a member of several national pathology associations, and served twice in 1957 and 1967 as president of the R.I. Society of Pathologists and in 1969 as president of the New England Society of Pathologists. In 1969 he received the physician of the year award from the R.I. Hemophilia Guild for which he had chaired the medical advisory committee. From 1972 he served on the board of the R.I. School of Medical Technology, including one year as chairman, and since 1971 had been a member of the executive committee of the section of pathology at Brown University.

During his 34 years at Rhode Island Hospital, he was a member of the medical education committee, the credentials committee, and the patient protection and research committee.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, 70 Orchard Ave. Burial will be in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Mass.

MEISSNER, DR. GEORGE