

IN MEMORIAM

FRANK WORTHINGTON LYNCH  
1871-1945

FRANK W. LYNCH, Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California Medical School, died suddenly of coronary occlusion on the morning of Jan. 12, 1945, at the age of 73 years. Doctor Lynch was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on Nov. 5, 1871. He received his A.B. degree from Western Reserve University, and his M.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1899. He then spent several years as a member of the resident staff in Obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. In 1904 he married Rowena Ting Higginson, of Omaha, Nebraska, and they had one son, Frank W. Lynch, III. Both survive him. At about this time Doctor Lynch moved to Chicago, where he engaged in private practice and served as Assistant Professor of Gynecology and Obstetrics at the Rush Medical School from 1904 to 1915. He studied in Munich and Vienna between 1910 and 1912.

The major part of Doctor Lynch's career was spent in San Francisco, where he was called in 1915 as the first "full-time" Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California Medical School. He remained in this capacity until 1942, when he was made Emeritus Professor. During this time he became an outstanding leader in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology, not only on the Pacific Coast, but in the world. Doctor Lynch's particular interest was cancer, especially cancer of the uterus and cancer of the ovary. He recognized the immense value of a complete follow-up system so that results could be authoritative, and spent much time and energy in building up such a system. During the many years following the introduction of radium, when previous operative methods were largely abandoned, Doctor Lynch remained one of the few American protagonists of the Wertheim operation for cases of early cancer of the cervix. The possible place of heredity in cancer intrigued him greatly, so that he spent many hours attempting to analyze the significance of the family history of cancer. As a teacher, Doctor Lynch was very individualistic; he could rarely bind himself to systematic exposition, but rather picked out a few specific important points and hammered these home by means of homely comparison, humorous anecdote, or historical relation. His imagination and his individual presentation confused some students, but in the main his teaching was very effective; especially was this true for those who had the privilege of undergoing their graduate training under his tutelage. So many times have I heard returning students—even those who had been out in practice for many years—comment upon something which Doctor Lynch had taught them which they had never forgotten. Such vividness is given to few who essay to teach.

Doctor Lynch believed heartily in the free interchange of ideas, and was especially fond of attending the meetings of the American Gynecological Society, of which he became a member in 1916, and its President in 1934. He was a founder and first President of the Pacific Coast Gynecological Society in 1931, and was one of the founders and the second President of the San Francisco Gynecological Society in 1929. He entered into discussions frequently and enthusiastically, and always had something of value to say. He was the author of many medical articles, and he wrote chapters on gynecologic subjects for several systems of surgery. He was also the author of a book on pelvic neoplasms.

Doctor Lynch had no real hobbies. Medicine was his life. It was characteristic of him that after his retirement at age 70 years, he opened an office for the practice of gynecology in downtown San Francisco. He liked people and they liked him. He would not be without some live association with patients and medicine; he would have been miserably unhappy. So, on Jan. 12, 1945, at the age of 73 years, Doctor Lynch died with his boots on, as he would have desired it, after a full and distinguished career.

*Daniel G. Morton.*

## Am Gyn Soc Album of Fellows 1930

FRANK W. LYNCH, A.B., M.D., F.A.C.S.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, November 5, 1871. Son of Colonel Frank W. and Rebecca (Nevin) Lynch. Elected to Society, 1916. Vice-president, 1923, 1927. Active Fellow.

A.B., Western Reserve University, 1895; M.D., Johns Hopkins University, 1899. Assistant, instructor and associate in obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University, and assistant resident and resident obstetrician, chief of obstetrical clinic, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1899-1903; Instructor and assistant professor of gynecology and obstetrics, Rush Medical College; assistant attending and attending gynecologist and obstetrician, Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago, 1904-1915; chief of gynecological and obstetrical staff, St. Joseph's Hospital, Chicago, 1913-1915; professor of obstetrics and gynecology, University of California; Director Woman's Clinic, University of California Hospital, San Francisco, 1915.

Member, American College of Surgeons. National, State and County Societies, Chicago Gynecological Society, Pacific Coast Surgical Society. Honorary member, Seattle Surgical, Los Angeles Obstetrical Societies, Chicago Literary Society, Bohemian Club of San Francisco; San Francisco Golf and Country Club; Alpha Delta Phi and Nu Sigma Nu Societies.

Married, April 20, 1904, Omaha, Nebraska, to Rowena Tyng Higginson. One child, Frank W. Lynch, Jr.

2505 Broadway, San Francisco, Calif.



Grant W Lynch

**DR. FRANK W. LYNCH, OBSTETRICIAN, WAS 73**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

*New York Times (1857-Current file); Jan 13, 1945; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The*  
pg. 11

## **DR. FRANK W. LYNCH, OBSTETRICIAN, WAS 73**

Special o THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12—Dr. Frank W. Lynch, Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California College of Medicine, died today of a heart attack. He was 73 years old.

Dr. Lynch was a member of the university medical staff from 1915 until 1942. Born in Cleveland, he attended Western Reserve University and took his doctor's degree at Johns Hopkins, where he later became an assistant instructor. Sometime after that he went to Rush Medical School at the University of Chicago, then spent two years in graduate study in Vienna.

He had served as president of both the San Francisco and Pacific Coast Obstetrics and Gynecology Societies and he was the author of several medical works.

He leaves a widow; a son, Frank W. Lynch Jr., and a sister, Mrs. Mabel Leonhardt of New York.

FRANK WORTHINGTON LYNCH, M.D., obstetrician and gynecologist of San Francisco, Calif., died Jan. 12, 1945, of a heart attack at the age of 73 years. Dr. Lynch was born in Cleveland, Ohio, 1871, a graduate of Johns Hopkins, 1899, where he then served as resident, instructor, and associated obstetrician before settling in California. He became Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the California University and after his retirement was made an Emeritus. He was a Diplomat of the American Board, a former President of the American Gynecological Society and the Pacific Coast Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and member of several leading specialist societies as well as a Governor of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Lynch was the author and co-author of various medical works, a frequent contributor to the literature, and a member of the Advisory Editorial Board of the JOURNAL since its inception.

\$2.00 A Year in Advance

Single Copies 20 Cents

# The CHICAGO MEDICAL RECORDER

and  
JOURNAL OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY  
NEW SERIES

PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
PULLMAN BUILDING, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

### Editorial Board

DR. W. H. ALLPORT  
DR. E. W. ANDREWS  
DR. FRANK T. ANDREWS  
DR. WALTER S. BARNES  
DR. W. L. BAUM  
DR. CHARLES C. BEERY  
DR. R. W. BISHOP  
DR. JAMES BURRY  
DR. HENRY T. BYFORD  
DR. FRANK CARY

DR. A. CHURCH  
DR. A. M. CORWIN  
DR. E. J. DOERING  
DR. H. H. FROTHINGHAM  
DR. L. A. GREENSFELDER  
DR. JUNIUS C. HOAG  
DR. FRANK S. JOHNSON  
DR. JAMES A. HARVEY  
DR. FRANKLIN H. MARTIN  
DR. JOSEPH MATTESON  
DR. FREDERICK MENGE

DR. CHAS. H. PARKES  
DR. SAMUEL C. PLUMMER  
DR. ARTHUR R. REYNOLDS  
DR. LOUIS E. SCHMIDT  
DR. OTTO L. SCHMIDT  
Dr. MEYER SOLOMON  
DR. D. A. K. STEELE  
DR. HOMER M. THOMAS  
DR. THOS. J. WATKINS  
DR. RALPH W. WEBSTER

DR. P. C. E. TRIBE  
4 Harley Street, London

DR. ODO BETZ  
Heilbronn, Germany

### Committee on Publication

E. J. DOERING      HENRY T. BYFORD      A. R. REYNOLDS

Volume XXXVII.

CHICAGO, ILL., AUGUST 15, 1915

Number EIGHT



### FRANK W. LYNCH

It is with great regret that we have to announce to the profession that our esteemed friend and colleague, Dr. Frank W. Lynch, has accepted a call to San Francisco to take the chair of Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Head of the Department in the University of California.

It is not many years ago since Dr. Lynch came here from Johns Hopkins University, but in this comparatively short time he has not only endeared himself to the profession generally, making a host of friends everywhere, having a large practice and an assured income, but he also rapidly attained great eminence as a teacher, a skillful operator, a most interesting writer, and an untiring worker in his chosen field. We need for instance only refer to the great service he has rendered the profession in demonstrating and popularizing the use of nitrous oxide gas in labor—the only sane and safe “twilight sleep.”

Among the numerous positions he now holds we will only mention that he is an Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Rush Medical College, Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist at the Presbyterian, St. Joseph's and other hospitals, ex-president of the Chicago Gynecological Society, Councillor of the Medical Reserve Corps, Illinois Division, U. S. Army, etc., etc.

San Francisco's gain is our loss, but we sincerely hope it is only temporary, and that before long Dr. Lynch will receive a call from our great universities and return to this community, where he will always find a most royal welcome awaiting him. We simply can not afford to lose Frank W. Lynch.

---