



Dorothy Hanson Spronck

The previous issue of the Journal reported with deep regret the death of DOROTHY H. SPRONCK, long the Society's administrative secretary. However, since word of Mrs. Spronck's passing had come just as the Journal was on press, there was no opportunity then to include an adequate memoir of her life and the services she rendered to the Society during more than two decades (except as a footnote to her coverage of a workshop trip to Lund, Sweden).

These she performed always with energy and ability, and with unflagging interest in the Society's progress. Years ago, Mrs. Spronck had worked with C. J. LeBel, a founder and prime mover of AES who became its first president and later, from 1951 until his death in 1965, held the office of secretary. She was, therefore, one of the builders of the organization during its formative years, and when Mr. LeBel died she was a natural choice to take charge of the Society's Headquarters Office.

Members of AES saw Mrs. Spronck mainly at the spring and fall Conventions in this country, where she

played her important part in seeing to it that registration and other such arrangements were taken care of smoothly and surely. She gave valued assistance, also, at the recent AES meeting in Copenhagen. However, she was also concerned day in and day out with many other aspects of the Society's activity and growth. All matters pertaining to membership were handled through her office. She carried on the correspondence leading toward development of AES Sections here and abroad, and maintained liaison between the Society and the Sections as they were established. Members and others, many of whom never met her, knew her well through this medium. And, of course, supervision of all the details of Headquarters Office management was her responsibility.

Mrs. Spronck's interest in AES, however, went well beyond the daily requirements of administration. For example, many readers of last month's Journal will have noted the article and pictures telling of a workshop visit by an AES group, during the 47th Convention in Copenhagen, to the Uni-

versity of Lund in Sweden, where the study of acoustical problems has recently had close attention. Mrs. Spronck herself took the pictures shown and the article was based on notes supplied by her and Allan Ballantine, another member of the workshop group. This is but one instance among many of an involvement in AES affairs that went well beyond the call of duty.

Mrs. Spronck lived all her life in New York. She went to high school in Flushing, where she taught Sunday School at the Community Methodist Church of Jackson Heights, and was otherwise active in church affairs. In recent years, she made her home in Jamaica, Queens. Her death, at the age of 56, followed a stroke suffered some days earlier. She leaves two daughters, Mrs. Thomas Henely of New Jersey and Ms. Vicki Valentine of Manhattan; four sisters; seven grandchildren; and an aunt, Miss Stella Peterson.

Dorothy Hanson Spronck served AES ably and with dedication. She will be greatly missed.