Obituary

Leonard Ellinwood

Leonard Webster Ellinwood, musicologist, hymnologist, librarian, chorister, and assistant minister, died July 8, 1994, of cancer at his home near the Washington National Cathedral. He was 89.

He grew up in Littleton, N.H., received a B.A. in 1926 at Aurora College (Illinois). He married Lera Slayback. After teaching at Mt. Hermon School, he received M.Mus. and Ph.D. degrees from the Eastman School of Music. After four years at Michigan State University, he came to the Library of Congress Music Division in 1940. In 1948 he was ordained a Deacon at the Cathedral, where he assisted with services and wrote the choral program notes.

He edited The Hymnal 1940 Companion (1949) and wrote The History of American Church Music (1953), as well as numerous monographs on medieval music, Anglican composers, and American church music. In 1955, he began work on The Dictionary of American Hymnology, to which he gave unstintingly of his energies for three decades. Active in the Hymn Society, he was made a Fellow in 1962. He retired in 1975 as Head of Humanities Section of the Library of Congress Subject Cataloguing Division. Aurora University awarded him an honorary D.Mus. in 1982.

Ellinwood’s wife, Lera, died in 1991. He is survived by sons John, a retired aerospace scientist in Los Angeles, and Robert, a Professor of Music at Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va., and seven grand-

Contributions to the Ellinwood Memorial Music Fund may be made to the Music Department, Washington National Cathedral, Mt. St. Alban, Washington, DC 20016.