

Obituary

FRANK ALTON SHAILER

1888 Frank Alton Shailer 1971

Frank Alton Shailer, a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, died April 19, 1971, in New Rochelle, New York, at the age of eighty-three, after a lengthy illness.

Born March 18, 1888, in Haddam, Connecticut, Mr. Shailer attended Wesleyan University, from which he was graduated in 1909 as a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Upon graduation, Mr. Shailer began his business career with the Travelers Insurance Company. He worked there and, successively, at the Hartford Life Insurance Company and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company until 1912. Leaving the United States to accept a post as secretary and actuary of the Insular Life Insurance Company in Manila, he arrived to find a bankrupt company. Five years later he left a prosperous and growing firm after serving there as manager and actuary.

Reasons of health as well as family obligations suggested a return to the United States, where he joined the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States in June, 1917. He spent the remainder of his active business career there except for a brief time with Lincoln National Life Insurance Company from 1918 to 1920.

In 1923 Mr. Shailer became a Fellow of The Actuarial Society of America. The next year his paper "Approximate Methods of Valuation" was favorably received. Mr. Shailer was made assistant actuary at the Equitable in 1929, and in 1933 he was appointed auditor. In 1935 he was elected vice-president. He was chosen to head the newly formed Securities Investment Department, which grew and flourished under his able management. He was made executive vice-president in 1950 and retired from the Equitable in 1952.

Frank Shailer was not an emotional man, and his words were few, but straightforward and to the point. In retirement he kept his fondness for bowling and was an avid bridge player.

Mr. Shailer is survived by a sister, a niece, and a nephew. His wife predeceased him in 1970.

