

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL

corporation which purchased the Philadelphia *Evening Ledger*, of which he became president and publisher.

Although he held numerous positions of responsibility in the fields of business and journalism, his steadfast loyalty to school and college found expression in generous gifts of his time and professional talents to direction of the affairs of the *Alumni Horae*, the Princeton University Press and the Princeton *Alumni Weekly*.

In March, 1943, he re-entered the Armed Forces and was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel, A.U.S. He died of a streptococcus infection on September 10, 1943, in a military hospital in England while on a special mission for the Office of Strategic Services.

Both Cresswell's sons graduated from St. Paul's, Robert Cresswell, Jr., in 1940 and Henry Cresswell in 1943, and both served in the Army.



ANDREW WYLIE

1915

Andrew Wylie entered the First Form in 1909. He played tackle two years on the Isthmian football team and he rowed on the 2nd Halcyon crew. An excellent article of his in the *Horae* of October, 1914, on *The Land Question in Mexico* reveals his interest in foreign countries and peoples, an interest later to play a large part in his life.

He left Yale in April, 1917, was commissioned Second Lieutenant in August, went overseas that autumn in the 12th Field Artillery, and took part, often as forward observer for his battery, in five major offensives: Argonne, Belleau Wood, Soissons, Château Thierry and Saint-Mihiel. Detached from his regiment November 1, 1918, he did liaison work with French and Belgian troops, for which he was awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre with Palm. Throughout 1919 he remained in Europe, serving in Brussels with the U. S. Military Mission, of which he was for a time Acting Head, and later in Lettonia (now Latvia) with the American Relief Administration. He also worked some months in Paris for the *Chicago Daily Tribune*. He returned to the United States in December, visiting Italy and the Azores on the way.

Between the two world wars, Wylie ran a real-estate business in Washington. He also travelled in many countries: Mexico; Central America; Russia, where he spent six months studying the life of the peasants; Germany and France; England; Scandinavia; Poland; Russia again, for another six months; the Holy Land; Egypt; and Iran. He went through the Khyber Pass into India and sailed for China, the only white man in a small fishing boat which was nearly wrecked

in a storm. In Manchuria, he went to the coronation of Pu-Yi, the puppet emperor; then crossed Siberia on the peasants' train and worked for a while in the U. S. Embassy in Moscow. In 1937-38 he again went to the Far East: to Singapore; into Indo-China and Siam with a naturalist collecting zoological specimens; to Borneo, Sumatra, Java, the Philippines, Japan and China.

Commissioned Captain, U.S.M.C.R., in 1937, Wylie was called to active duty in July, 1940. From then until 1945, he served with the Division of Naval Intelligence, in Washington, D. C. During the last three years of the war, he was head of the Eastern European Section. He received two commendations and was awarded the Order of Polonia Restituta in the degree of Officer's Cross.

Promoted Lieutenant Colonel and appointed Naval Attaché to the U. S. Embassy in Warsaw, Wylie went overseas the day after V-J Day, arriving in Poland September 7.

On the night of December 26, 1945, he was travelling by motor, with a Polish chauffeur, ten miles from Stettin. The region had been heavily damaged: Stettin itself still had no telephone or telegraph services. At about ten o'clock they reached a bridge across the Oder. The night was very dark. A light rain was falling and fog was rising from the river, at that point a large stream, and still unfrozen. The approach to the bridge was partly blocked by a tank barrier, and, although Wylie and the chauffeur did not know it, the middle span of the bridge had been blown up. Wylie got out of the car to lead the way; as they reached the middle of the bridge, fifty feet above the water, he suddenly disappeared from view. The chauffeur, having stopped the car, was getting out of it, when he heard a splash, followed by cries for help and the Polish word *predko* (hurry); after returning to the river bank and there seeing no sign of Wylie, he went back one kilometer to a village and returned to the bridge with some Polish soldiers who searched for two hours. An investigation, in which the Assistant U. S. Military Attaché participated, resulted in the acceptance of the chauffeur's account as true, but a thorough search for Wylie's body was unsuccessful. Nearly two years later, a Polish tugboat captain belatedly reported that he had found a body in the Oder near the bridge early in 1946, and that he had buried it. The body was recovered and taken to Belgium, where positive identification was made December 18, 1947.