

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**  
**EDWARD GRAHAM BENNION**  
**(1908 – 1963)**

Edward Graham Bennion was born in Streator, Illinois, on January 23, 1908, and died at the Palo Alto-Stanford Medical Center on Monday, October 28, 1963.

Professor Bennion studied economics and political science at the University of California at Los Angeles from 1926 to 1930, and received his A.B. degree in 1930. After working several years in the field of security sales, he returned to the University of California at Los Angeles to do graduate work, and received his M.A. in economics in 1934. He served as a teaching assistant in economics and statistics at the University of California at Los Angeles from 1934 to 1936, and then spent two years in security analysis. In 1938 he entered Harvard University to undertake additional graduate work in economics, and served as an instructor and tutor in economics. He was awarded the Ph.D. degree in economics in 1942, and continued as an instructor through 1943.

In 1943 Professor Bennion joined the Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) as a Staff Economist, and in 1945 was appointed Head of the General Economics Division of the firm. After serving in that position until 1953, he became Consulting Economist, General, Economics Department, Standard Oil Co., and held this position until appointed Professor of Economics in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford in 1961.

Throughout his business career, Professor Bennion continued to be active in teaching, research and writing, and thus the shift from the business world to Stanford was not a sudden change for him. From 1948 to 1953 he was a lecturer in economics at Columbia University and during the academic year 1953-1954 was Visiting Professor of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1954-1955 he was lecturer in economics at the Columbia Graduate School of Business, and in 1960 served as Visiting Professor of Economics at Yale University. Professor Bennion wrote a number of articles for the leading business and learned journals, and was also author of the book, Elementary Mathematics of Linear Programming and Game Theory. This book made a valuable contribution to clarifying and explaining for the benefit of nonmathematically-trained economists the impact of the quantitative applications to economic and business problems. At the time of his death he was doing research for and writing two additional books. One, almost completed, was to combine a number of economic areas: the business cycle, national income, certain forecasting methods, the use of econometric models, and linear programming and game theory. The second was to be a book in economic forecasting. As a teacher, Professor Bennion's great strength was in bringing to the students in his classes and seminars the benefits of his wealth of experience in the business world and in bridging the gap between theoretical economics and practical business.

During his years in the business world Professor Bennion came to be recognized as a leading economist, well known for his broad knowledge of the theory of economics and for his ability to apply economic principles to the operations and policies of business. He was an effective teacher, capable of transmitting his thoughts clearly, and possessed the ability to tailor difficult material to particular classroom groups, whether undergraduate, graduate or business executives. Although at Stanford only a short time, Professor Bennion was held in esteem and

respect by all of his colleagues, who knew him not only as a conscientious and hard-working teacher, researcher, and author, but also as a courteous, friendly gentleman.

Professor Bennion is survived by his wife, Virginia Bennion, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lisle Bennion, a son, Christopher, and a daughter, Elizabeth, all of Palo Alto.

Arthur Kroeger, Chairman

John Haldi

Edward S. Shaw