

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

WALTER H. BROWN (1876 – 1962)

Doctor Walter Henry Brown was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 24, 1876. From his earliest years the Quaker religion became a way of life with him and he followed many concepts of this faith in both his personal and professional life.

He received the Doctor of Medicine degree from Jefferson Medical College in 1906 and for seven years engaged in the private practice of medicine in Bucks County, Pennsylvania as a country doctor who used a horse and buggy to make his house calls. He then became interested in public health and gave up his practice to study in this field at Harvard and the M.I.T. School for Public Health Officers. After receiving his Certificate of Public Health, Doctor Brown was employed in the Massachusetts State Department of Public Health and then became the Health Officer of Bridgeport, Connecticut. At this time he became interested in university teaching and served as an Instructor of Hygiene at Yale University during the years 1916-19.

During the year 1919-20 he served as an Associate Director of the American Red Cross in Washington, D. C. In 1921 he was sent by the Rockefeller Commission to France to establish a model health department in a selected province. This experience opened to him a new field of opportunities and during the next six years he organized and directed demonstration projects in child health in Ohio and Oregon.

Doctor Brown came to Stanford University in 1927 as Director of the Division of Informational Hygiene of the School of Hygiene and Physical Education. He twice retired from University teaching and administration, first from Stanford University in 1942, when he reached the compulsory retirement age of 65 years, and later from the University of California at the age of 70 years. His high standing in the field of public health was attested when he was asked by the University of California regents to accept the position of Dean of the newly organized School of Public Health at that institution on the occasion of his retirement from Stanford University.

Doctor Brown was extremely active throughout his life in professional and community affairs. He served as President of the American Public Health Association on a national basis and on the local scene was active in the San Francisco Community Chest, the Santa Clara and California Tuberculosis Associations and many other organizations.

Throughout his lifetime Doctor Brown had a zestful, enthusiastic approach to classroom teaching. He was the inspiration of many a student because of his devotion to learning and the stimulation of intellectual curiosity in the field of health education. He was a strong supporter of student activities and was in regular attendance at both the training sessions and competitive sports events that are a part of the undergraduate life at Stanford University. He counseled wisely many a student and his office door was ever open to anyone who might seek his advice and assistance.

His survivors are his wife, Ella Mood Brown, his son, Philip Brown and his two grandsons, Robin Kevin Brown and Jed Brown. To them, we of the Academic Council extend our deepest sympathy.

Oliver E. Byrd, Chairman
Paul R. Hanna
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