

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

### LEANDER MILLER HOSKINS (1860 – 1937)

Leander Miller Hoskins, Emeritus Professor of Applied Mathematics, was born in Wisconsin May 10, 1860, and died at his home in Palo Alto September 9, 1937.

From the University of Wisconsin he received the degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, and Bachelor of Science in 1893, Master of Science in 1895, and Civil Engineering in 1897, and finally the honorary degree of Doctor of Science in 1919.

He began his teaching at Wisconsin in 1885 as Instructor in Engineering. He advanced rapidly, and was Professor of Theoretical and Applied Mathematics when he was called to Stanford in 1892. Here he was Professor of Applied Mathematics until his retirement in 1925.

Professor Hoskins wrote three important texts, Theoretical Mechanics, Hydraulics, and Graphic Statics, these books being characterized by careful logic and by extreme clearness in presentation. They were widely used for many years. He was active in research as his many articles bear witness. His pioneer study on the flow of water in large pipes is a point of departure for other studies by other hands, and his work on earthquake oscillations continued up to the time of his death. He was an active member and officer in many engineering and scientific societies.

Professor Hoskins was best known to Stanford students as a teacher. He was careful, courteous, kindly, noted for his thoroughness and patience, intolerant only of sham and disorderly habits of thought. Many students attribute their success in later life to his teaching. At times, he introduced a quaint humor in his classes, which caused him to be affectionately known to his students as Bill Nye.

In the language of today he was a rugged individualist in education. He disliked too rigid requirements or too fixed curricula. He believed requirements should be fitted to the man, not man to the requirements.

In the death of Leander Miller Hoskins, Stanford and the community have lost a friend and a beloved member. Therefore, be it resolved that the Academic Council of Stanford University hereby expresses its sympathy to his surviving relatives, and that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Board of Trustees and this Memorial be spread on the minutes of this Council.

E. P. Lesley  
E. C. Thomas  
H. C. Moreno, Chairman