

## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

### HENRY WISE NEWMAN (1907 - 1959)

Dr. Henry Wise Newman, Professor of Medicine (Neurology) was born in Fresno, California on April 6, 1907, and died in Belvedere, California on September 19, 1959. He received his A.B. degree from Stanford in 1927 and his M.D. degree in 1931. He began his post graduate training as a resident in neuropsychiatry at the Stanford University Hospitals, San Francisco, in 1931. In 1932 he joined the Stanford faculty in neuropsychiatry, and in 1934 he was appointed Instructor in Medicine (Neuropsychiatry). In 1937-38 he took leave of absence as a Rockefeller Fellow at the National Hospital for Neurological Diseases, Queen's Square, London, where he earned the lasting friendship and respect of the staff at the institution which has trained some of the world's greatest neurologists. On his return to Stanford, he was promoted to Assistant Professor, and in 1946 to Associate Professor. In 1956 Dr. Newman became Professor of Medicine (Neurology) and Chief of the Division of Neurology.

Throughout these years he was engaged in research which encompassed nearly every aspect of neurology and clinical neurophysiology with the main emphasis on studies of the metabolism, pharmacology and physiology of alcohol; his monograph, Acute Alcoholic Intoxication, was published in 1941. From 1942 to 1946 he served in the Medical Corps, United States Navy, and attained the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In 1946 he was invited by the Columbia Broadcasting System to participate in a series of discussions on Alcohol and the Human Body. In the same year he was appointed neurophysiologist to serve with the U. S. Naval Hospital Staff, Oakland, California, in the investigation of war injuries to nerves. Here he received the highest praise for the ingenuity with which he carried out these investigations and for the intellectual contributions he made to all who served with him. In 1951 he was appointed to the World Health Organization Expert Advisory Panel on Drugs Liable to Produce Addiction. In addition to the research activities which led to the publication of nearly one hundred significant papers and a revision of the 1941 edition of his monograph, Dr. Newman continued his role as a clinician and teacher commanding the admiration and respect of all who knew him. His work with the California Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation did much to help the morale of patients suffering with chronic neurological disorders. He was appointed as consultant to the U. S. Naval Hospital, Oakland, the Veteran's Administration Hospital, San Francisco, and the San Francisco City and County Hospital. In each of these institutions he organized teaching and training activities which served greatly to augment the prestige of Stanford University School of Medicine. He was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Omega Alpha, Sigma Xi, The Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the California and American Medical Associations, the American Neurological Association, the American Academy of Neurology, the Harvey Cushing Society, the Western Neurological and Neurosurgical Society and other organizations, not the least of which was the Classic Car Club of America. He held presidential and similar offices in some of these organizations.

Dr. Newman was married in 1928 and is survived by his widow, Mrs. Edith M. Newman, his son, Charles, and his daughter, Edith. His brother, Dr. William W. Newman, Clinical Professor of Medicine at Stanford University, also survives.

Few men have shown the soundness of judgment for which Henry Newman became famous to his colleagues and students; and even fewer have maintained these high intellectual standards while enjoying at the same time the gratifications of the manual arts and the pleasures of the world away from medicine and science. While his wit and incisiveness became legendary to students and peers, and while his intellectual honesty in all matters was of inestimable value to the University, Dr. Newman was at the same time skilled in a variety of other areas so often neglected by one who achieves such dignity and rank. He was thoroughly competent at the lathe, at all metal and woodwork, in all areas of engine mechanics, at electrical and electronic application and design, and at sailing. He could and did enjoy working with his hands, and here he was often able to improve on others' designs and specifications just as he did at medical rounds, administrative conferences and academic exercises. His inquisitiveness reached to every corner of medicine and biology and, at the same time, he knew and savored the practical world as only a master artisan can.

As a teacher of the neurologic disciplines he was without peer, not because of expansiveness, dogmatism or a tendency to over-simplify, but rather because of his ability to humble himself before some of the yet insoluble problems of illness and his willingness to point out that man cannot understand all the ways of nature. If Henry Newman did not know, he said so, but no one ever felt that such a statement was easy for him. When he dealt with a problem, be it clinical or in the laboratory, no portion of it remained unprobed. This same attitude was directed to his patients, leaving him with an intensely loyal following.

Conversation with Henry Newman, or the reading of his notes, was a rare treat, as his penetrating analysis of every topic was succinct and direct. Overt tenderness or warmth was rarely evident to those who failed to recognize the tremendous humanistic instinct beneath the surface. These qualities, seldom combined in one individual, have enriched the University which he served for almost thirty years.

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