

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**  
**LEON BENEDICT REYNOLDS**  
**(1884 – 1955)**

Leon Benedict Reynolds, Professor Emeritus of Hydraulic and Sanitary Engineering passed away suddenly on September 26, 1955.

Professor Reynolds was born in Hillsdale, Michigan, on December 29, 1884. In 1906 he received an A.B. degree from Hillsdale College, and at once enrolled at Stanford, where he gained an A.B. degree in Civil Engineering in 1909. Following graduate work at Cornell, he joined Burns and McDonnell, Consulting Engineers of Kansas City, and became a member of that firm in 1920. In 1923 he returned to Stanford, and was Professor of Hydraulic and Sanitary Engineering until his retirement in 1950. In 1932, he was awarded an honorary Sc.D. degree by Hillsdale College. He is survived by his wife, Frances Northrop Reynolds, three children, and four grandchildren.

Professor Reynolds taught hydraulic and sanitary engineering in the Civil Engineering Department for 27 years, and was lecturer on environmental hygiene for the Stanford Medical School for much of that time. In all of his classes a primary objective was to teach high professional and ethical standards. He made students and former students his life work both inside and outside the classroom. He was faculty adviser of the Stanford Student Chapter, American Society of Civil Engineers, for nine years (1929-36 and 1941-44), and was always an active and enthusiastic supporter of the group, even in his emeritus years. He maintained an up-to-date directory of all his former students and called on all those whom he could reach in his extensive travels. He and Mrs. Reynolds spent the day before his death visiting a number of former students and their families in the Bay Area.

Over the years, Professor Reynolds showed great interest in University affairs, and served on innumerable academic and administrative committees. He was acting Executive Head of Civil Engineering from September 1944 to March 1947. During the school year 1949-50, he was President of the Men's Faculty Club, and by his enthusiasm and hard work brought it to the highest membership ever reached.

Professor Reynolds was an active member and held high offices in many professional societies. He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers for 45 years and, among other offices, was president of the San Francisco section. The list of organizations also included the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, and the California Sewage Works Association. In 1944, he received the Kenneth Allen Award for Outstanding Service of the Federation of Sewage Works Associations. He was a member of Tau Beta Pi and Sigma Xi, honorary scholastic and scientific societies.

He was a talented professional man, and was one of the first registered civil engineers in California. He was author of numerous technical articles in the field of sanitary engineering and wrote the chapters on Water Purification, Sewage Treatment, and Refuse Disposal in "Essentials

of Public Health", by William P. Shephard (J. P. Lippencott, 1948). He also served as sanitary engineering consultant to San Francisco and numerous other California communities.

Professor and Mrs. Reynolds traveled widely, having visited throughout Europe, in Hawaii, and Alaska, as well as every part of the United States.

Throughout his life, Professor Reynolds played an active part in Palo Alto-Stanford civic and youth affairs. He was a member of the Palo Alto Board of Public Works, a director and president of the YMCA, and a trustee of the Matadero Mosquito Abatement District. He was a member of the Congregational Church, where for 20 years he directed the high school boys who served as ushers. He held many local and statewide offices in the Kiwanis Club, and was a 25-year member of that organization. At the time of his death he was an Honorary Member of the Palo Alto club, an honor given to only two others, Herbert Hoover and Ray Lyman Wilbur.

The passing of Leon Reynolds leaves his colleagues, students and friends with a deep sense of loss, but with real gratitude that he lived a long and fruitful life among and for them.

Clarkson H. Oglesby, Chairman  
Eugene L. Grant  
Rixford K. Snyder