

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

HENRY ANTHON LEWIS RYFKOGEL (1873 – 1934)

Henry Anthon Lewis Ryfkogel, Clinical Professor of Surgery, was born in Nova Scotia in 1875, and died in San Francisco on June 11th, 1934. He received his medical education at the University of California School of Medicine, where he graduated in 1894. During an active medical life of over forty years, Dr. Ryfkogel was always closely identified with the teaching of students. He served as instructor in Anatomy at the University of California until 1898; followed by two years as instructor in Clinical Pathology. He then served as instructor in the Department of Bacteriology for six years., and as instructor in Surgical Pathology for one year. At the time of the San Francisco fire he was bacteriologist for the Board of Health and did more than one man's share of work during that great disaster. In 1904 he was made Chief of the Polyclinic service at the San Francisco Hospital which, in 1919, came under the direction of the Stanford Medical School. Dr. Ryfkogel early realized the advantages to be gained in the care of patients and in the training of students and interns by combining into one organization the Stanford and Polyclinic medical staffs at the San Francisco Hospital. Such an arrangement was achieved in 1935 largely through the disinterested and unselfish efforts of Dr. Ryfkogel.

Much of Dr. Ryfkogel's time was devoted to public activities, and in 1919-20 he became president of the California Medical Association. He served two terms as a member of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco County Medical Society and one term as a member of the California State Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Ryfkogel was a kindly man, an experienced and able surgeon, and was always keenly interested in providing the best of care for those under his control. He gave untiringly of his time and energy in providing medical services to the very poor as well as to those in more fortunate circumstances. Stanford Medical School feels toward him a deep sense of gratitude for his long and devoted service and will remember him always as a loyal member of its staff.