In Memoriam

DAVID PRESCOTT BARROWS

This distinguished citizen of California died on September 5, 1954, at the home of his son in Orinda, California, at the age of eighty-one. It is not possible in brief compass even to touch on all of the many and varied activities in which he engaged. Beside his long teaching career and his years of active service in the first World War, he revivified the 40th Division of the California National Guard while he commanded it (1926-37). The interest he aroused and the training he promoted were of great value when the division was called into service in the second World War.

He was born in Chicago, June 27, 1873. While he was still very young, his family moved to southern California. Here he watched the vanishing of the pioneer era. He became interested in the people who preserved the old traditions, and laid the foundation for his subsequent interest in historical matters. He also came to know many of the remaining fragments of the Indian tribes of that area. This awakened an interest and sympathy that were life long.

David Barrows was graduated from Pomona in 1894, obtained an M.A. degree from the University of California in 1895, another from Columbia in 1896, and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1897. As soon thereafter as civil government had succeeded the military, he was sent to establish a system of education first in the city of Manila, afterwards for the Philippine Islands as a whole, and was there till 1909. He came to the University of California in 1910 as professor of education and dean of the graduate school. The next year he was made professor of political science, and, in 1913, dean of the faculties. From 1919 to 1923 Barrows was president of the University of California, resigning to resume his old post as professor of political science, which he held until his retirement in 1943. His thirty-three years of service to the University of California were interrupted only by his war service and two years abroad, first in 1928 as Carnegie visiting professor of international relations in Latin America, afterwards in 1933-34 as Theodore Roosevelt professor at the University of Berlin.

Thousands of California students during those years have borne through life the impress of his guidance, given with his characteristic cordiality and forthrightness. While giving so much to those who were his first responsibility he never shirked the many calls to participate in activities to promote the welfare of the community.

The members of the California Historical Society, who heard him speak at the luncheon commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of California’s admission to statehood, will long remember the stirring recital he gave of our growth in ways too often overlooked.

ANSON S. BLAKE