

IN MEMORIAM
HANSON TUFTS PARLIN

On the third of February, 1951, died Hanson Tufts Parlin, Dean Emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences, after 43 years of service to the University as teacher and officer of administration.

Dr. Parlin was descended from an English family that came to Massachusetts in the seventeenth century and gave to New England many men and women who were substantial leaders in their several communities. Later the family scattered over the country as far as the Pacific coast. Dr. Parlin's father, after whom he was named, married Mary Goodwin Hall of West Dresden, Maine, in 1873, and settled in Colorado. There at Leadville, Dr. Parlin was born November 7, 1879. On the death of his father, when the boy was six years old, his mother moved with her four children to Denver.

After five years in the East Denver High School young Hanson went to the University of Colorado in 1900 and took there the degrees of B. A. in 1904 and M. A. in 1906. In college he was an enthusiastic fraternity man (Delta Tau Delta) but his social interests did not prevent his being elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In both of these organizations he took a keen interest his whole life, much to the advantage of both. In 1906 he went to the University of Pennsylvania as a Harrison Fellow and there won the doctor's degree in English in 1908, his thesis being an edition with notes and introduction of James Shirley's The Ball.

In the fall of 1908 he came to the University of Texas as Instructor in English. In 1913 he was made Adjunct Professor of English and Assistant Dean of the College of Arts. In 1919 he became Associate Professor and Professor in 1923. In 1928 he was made Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (as the College of Arts was now called). This position he held for 21 years, was Consulting Dean for a year, and became Dean Emeritus in 1950.

Alike as Professor and Dean Dr. Parlin stood pre-eminently for broad, liberal training and for relations of friendship and confidence between faculty and students. He was not sympathetic

with a narrow outlook or early specialization for undergraduates. To encourage broad training and independent thought he persuaded the faculty to offer Plan II as one of the routes to the B. A. degree. That the value of Plan II is rated high in student opinion is shown by its steady choice by a large number of students of high standing. That his feeling for cordial relations between faculty and students was appreciated is shown by the exceptional regard in which he personally was held. A fund was raised almost without effort to present his portrait to the University and a memorial scholarship is bruted.

A noteworthy characteristic of Dr. Parlin as Dean was his combination of feeling for good work with sympathy for students who had not found themselves. He sought earnestly by stricter regulations to promote higher standing in class work and better attendance but in cases of doubt or hope he could be relied on for sympathy to the limit of the law.

As a teacher Dr. Parlin's main interest was in Victorian and especially Twentieth Century English literature. Year after year his courses in this field were among the most popular in the Department. One had to be given in several sections.

Dr. Parlin was not an advocate of liberal culture for students alone. He himself was a man of broad interests. He was popular in social life. He was in demand at ex-student gatherings. He was a lover of music and fathered the Austin Community Concerts for 15 years. He was devoted to outdoor life and on a jaunt into the country had no rival in broiling a steak out of doors. He had not only a fondness but a genuine aptitude for household management. He never had the help of a wife but the home that he made on 33rd Street was a joy to all who entered it and his management of the dining-room at the University Club was the most successful in its history. He had also a keen sense of humor that constantly made him new friends. But above all these things was the confidence he inspired, the lasting friendship. His name stands written on many a heart.

E. C. Barker
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A.W.C., Manager