

# George Frederick Warren

*February 16, 1874 — May 24, 1938*

The death of Professor Warren on May 24, 1938, brought to its close the notable career of one of the most widely known and most eminent members of the Faculty of Cornell University.

George Frederick Warren was born, the son of a farm family, near Harvard, Nebraska, on February 16, 1874. Graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1897, where his special interest had been mathematics, he devoted himself during the next five years to teaching in the high schools of his native State. In 1902 he resigned his position as superintendent of schools in Minden, Nebraska, and came to Cornell University to study under Professor L. H. Bailey. He received the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture in 1903 and was appointed to a fellowship for the next year, in the course of which he earned the degree of master of science in agriculture. In 1905 Cornell University conferred upon him the doctorate of philosophy, and he left the University to become horticulturist of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Returning to this University in 1906 as assistant professor of Agronomy, his promotion kept pace with the development, under Dean Bailey, of the rapidly expanding New York State College of Agriculture. While still an assistant professor he was, in 1907, made head of the newly organized department of Farm Crops. With unusual vision and untiring effort he undertook the development of research and teaching in the then but little explored field of Farm Management. In 1909 his accomplishments in this field were recognized by his promotion to a full professorship as the head of an expanded department of Farm Crops and Farm Management. With a reorganization of departments in the college in 1911, he became professor of Farm Management and head of that department. Again pioneering, he undertook investigations into the broader aspects of the farmer's economic problems, with the result that in 1919 his contributions in this direction were recognized in the establishment of the department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, of whose staff he remained the head and the inspiring leader until his untimely death.

Professor Warren inherited to a marked degree the pioneering spirit of his forefathers. This spirit found expression through his leadership in the initiation and development of the largest and most outstanding department of agricultural economics and farm management in the agricultural institutions of this country. No one man has wielded greater influence than he in the development of this field or has made more important and lasting contributions to the basic principles of economics as applied to agricultural problems. His renown in this phase

of modern agricultural thought and practice is world-wide. He was a great teacher, as witness the host of able and brilliant young men who have gone forth moulded and inspired by his teaching to take positions of great importance and responsibility. They are to be found today in universities, in governmental organizations, and in other public services not only throughout the United States but also in nearly every country in the world.

Born and raised a farmer, he ever sensed and understood the problems and point of view of the American landsman. Through the eyes of a farmer he saw the economic problems of the American farm people. With keen insight, with unbiased judgment, and with untiring devotion to their welfare, he sought to solve their problems and lead them along the road of safety and success. No member of this faculty commanded a larger or more devoted audience when he arose to speak in public; no teacher was more respected and loved by his students.

In the death of George Frederick Warren this Faculty recognizes an irreparable loss. The most eminent agricultural economist of his time, a teacher of rare ability and great influence, a pioneer in agricultural science and teaching, a noted citizen, a loved and respected colleague, we record our heartfelt tribute to his memory.