

# Seymour Stanton Garrett

*May 24, 1880 — February 13, 1947*

Seymour Stanton Garrett, World War Memorial Professor of Industrial Economics, died suddenly at his home on February 13, 1947 after thirty years of distinguished service in the College of Engineering.

Born on May 24, 1880, at Knox, Pennsylvania, he attended public schools there as well as South Trenton, New York and Oil City, Pennsylvania. Upon graduation from high school, he spent two years with the City Engineer of Oil City, Pa., before entering the College of Civil Engineering at Cornell University in September, 1900. After graduating with the degree, Civil Engineer in 1904, he spent a half year as a surveyor on the Mississippi Rivet Improvement Project and a year and a half as a designing engineer for the Great Northern Portland Cement Company, at Marlboro, Michigan.

He returned to Cornell in 1906 as an instructor in Civil Engineering. Except for the two years, 1908-1910, when he was Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering at Swarthmore College, he served Cornell until his death. He was Assistant Professor of Mechanics of Engineering from 1910-1919, Professor of Mechanics of Engineering from 1920-1932, and was appointed World War Memorial Professor of Industrial Economics in 1932. He carried on considerable graduate work at Cornell and Columbia Universities largely in the field of economics which finally became his major interest.

During the first World War, he served as a Captain first in the Engineers Corps and later in the Tank Corps which at that time was very new. He maintained a constant interest in military matters. During the second World War, he organized and directed a training program for civilian ordnance inspectors given at Cornell. The Civil War was one of his side interests and he was a diligent student of the many campaigns.

Since 1932, he was a tower of strength in shaping the program leading to the B.S. in A.E. degree. A man of wide interests, well read in many fields, with a lot of imagination balanced with good common sense, his counsel and judgment were sought on many problems. He served as Acting Head of the Department of Administrative Engineering from 1943-1946, even though failing health would have made it more prudent to forego some of the administrative chores.

His colleagues always sought his advice and valued highly his sound appraisal of economic conditions. He was always the willing worker. No job was too big nor the task too long. Regardless of the demands on his time, he

would take on more work. Although he took his work seriously, he had that needed sense of humor to break monotony and drudgery.

Professor Garrett was very sincere and earnest. A true scholar who would stand by his convictions, his companionship and fellowship was a joy to all who knew him. His contributions to his department and school were many, for he had an active interest in education and in the personal interests of his students. He was always striving for ways and means of improving our educational methods. His passing was a genuine loss to his many friends, associates and former students.

*G. R. Hanselman, H. J. Loberg, H. L. Reed*