Grinnell Mourns Prof. Charles E. Payne

Distinguished As A Scholar, And Teacher

Memorial Services In Herrick Chapel Tuesday At 2:30 P.M.

Charles Edward Payne, for forty years one of Grinnell’s “beloved professors,” came to the end of his long struggle against increasing ill health and feebleness early Sunday morning in a local hospital. He was 68 years old.

A man in whom the flame of scholarship burned with an undying fire, a teacher who was a real inspiration to the young people who studied under him, Professor Payne has left a rich legacy to the college which he served so well and so faithfully.

Memorial Service Tuesday

A memorial service will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o’clock in Herrick chapel, with President Emeritus John Scholte Nollen as the main speaker, assisted by President Samuel Nowell Stevens and Professor Emeritus J. D. Stoops. The college choir under the direction of David B. Scollar will sing “God So Loved the World” by Stainer. Elbert M. Smith will be at the organ. Ushers, sons of some of Professor Payne’s former students, will be Loring Appleby, Raoul Hurd, John MacEachron, Henry Tuttle, Jerome Strong and David Vinje.

The ashes will be taken to Terre Haute, Ind., for interment.

Professor Payne had been a member of the Grinnell college faculty since 1907 and the value of his long service was recognized by his appointment to the trustees’ honor professorship which was announced at commencement exercises last June.

The professorship, carrying with it a special honorarium, is awarded annually to a faculty member who has, “through his research, teaching or other service, brought some unusual distinction to the institution.”

President’s Tribute

President Samuel N. Stevens, in tribute to Prof. Payne, said Sunday: “Through the death of Prof. Payne, Grinnell has suffered a great loss. Throughout his many years of service to the college, Prof. Payne as a true scholar, fine teacher, and prolific and thoughtful writer made a significant contribution to the thinking of the nation.”

Born Nov. 11, 1879, in Hamilton, Ont., Canada, the son of Charles H. and Sarah Anne Jenkins Payne, he came at the age of six with his parents to the United States, where the family became naturalized citizens. On July 11, 1925, he married Ina Chatterton. Grinnell graduate in 1918, who survives him, together with his mother and a younger brother, F. W. Payne, both of Terre Haute, Ind. The brother arrived in Grinnell Saturday evening.

Educated at Indiana State Normal school, the University of Indiana with A.B. and A.M. degrees, Harvard university, and Oxford university, Prof. Payne was widely traveled. He attended the Assembly of the League of Nations in 1925 and made the Geneva Institute of International Relations the focal point of his fourth European trip, in 1933.

Attended Institute

From 1928 to 1934, when not abroad for the summer, he attended each annual session of the Williamsburg Institute of Politics studying under such eminent social scientists as Arnold Toynbee.

Appointed professor of European history in 1918 and Parker professor of European history in 1925, he was chairman of the Grinnell history department from 1925 to 1944. He taught summer sessions at the State University of Iowa in 1930 and 1931 and at the University of Minnesota in 1932 and was guest professor of history at Scripps college in 1935-36.


Wrote Many Articles

Besides his authorship of eight biographical sketches in the Dictionary of American Biography, he contributed many articles on political and other topics to such publications as the Christian Science Monitor, the Des Moines Register and Tribune, Landmark, Journal of Modern European History, and the Nation. In 1929 he won the National prize for the best study of American-British cooperation.

Listed in Who’s Who in America, International Who’s Who, Directory of American Scholars, and other biographical directories, he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and of the American Historical association, a life member of the Iowa State Historical Society and a past president of the Iowa Historical association.

For many years he was a member of the League of Nations association.

Dean of the Grinnell Institute of International Relations from 1935 to 1942, Prof. Payne also served on numerous Grinnell college committees. He brought outstanding speakers to the campus annually for the Rosenfield Lectures on International Relations.
Suitable Tribute To Professor Chas. E. Payne At College Tuesday

Professor Charles E. Payne

Eloquent words, spoken with deep feeling and eloquent music played by Elbert M. Smith at the organ and sung by the college choir under the direction of David B. Scoular, with its message of sympathy and comfort, characterized the simple but extremely beautiful memorial service held in Herrick Chapel at the college Tuesday afternoon for Professor Charles Edward Payne, longtime member of the college faculty.

The memorial address by President Emeritus John S. Nollen constituted an appropriate tribute to Professor Payne, recognizing his contributions as a scholar, author and teacher, his brave fight against physical weakness and the wide scope of his sympathies and his broad understanding of international problems. Dr. Nollen also paid fitting tribute to Mrs. Payne for the devoted care and sympathetic understanding which had marked their life together.

President Samuel Nowell Stevens read selected passages of Scripture and Professor Emeritus John Dashiel Stoops offered an eloquent prayer.

Mr. Smith at the organ played "Solemn Melody" by H. Walford Davies as a prelude and as a recessional, by request of Mrs. Payne, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". The college choir sang Stainer's always lovely anthem "God So Loved the World" and the Nunc Dimittis by Gretcheninoff following the benediction by President Stevens. The Sevenfold Amen by Stainer was sung at the conclusion of the prayer.

The class of 1910 in which Professor Payne held a valued membership, was represented at the service by Arthur Epperson who happened to be in Grinnell with Mrs. Epperson for a short stay on their way to Florida from their home in Oregon. Mr. Epperson got in touch with some of his classmates by telephone and as a result one of the beautiful floral tributes which graced the platform was from the class of 1910.
FORMER LOCAL RESIDENT
DIES AT HOME IN IOWA

Professor Charles E. Payne, former Terre Hautean, died Saturday night at Grinnell, Iowa. He was 68 years old.

The son of the late Charles H. Payne and Mrs. Payne of 220 South Ninth street, Professor Payne had served on the Grinnell College faculty for 40 years. He was a member of the history department. This last year at the commencement exercises he was honored for his long and continuous service to the college.

He is survived by the widow, Ina Chatterton Payne; the mother, Mrs. C. H. Payne of Terre Haute, and a brother, Fred W. Payne, also of Terre Haute.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon in the chapel of Grinnell College. Following services there the body will be brought to Terre Haute and taken to the Gillis Memory Chapel.