

Monday, October 7, 1968

Dr. Clyde Tull Dies In Grinnell

Dr. Clyde C. "Toppy" Tull, professor emeritus of English at Cornell College, died at Grinnell General Hospital Friday. He was 87.

Dr. Tull was a resident of Mayflower Home here.

Born on a farm near Scottsburg, Ind., on Jan. 13, 1881, Dr. Tull was the youngest son of James and Josephine Adeline Leclare Stoakes Tull. When he was four, the family left the farm finally settling in Monon, Ind., where he attended grade school and three years of high school. He later graduated from the Monticello, Ind., high school.

At 19, Dr. Tull became principal of the Monon high school--the youngest principal of an accredited high school in the country. He was graduated from DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind., in 1905 and received a master's degree in English from Harvard University in 1909. He also did further graduate work at Columbia University. The honorary degree of Doctor of Letters was conferred upon him by DePauw University in 1937.

In 1912 he married the former Jewell Bothwell of Weisner, Ohio. Mrs. Tull died in 1963.

Before going to Cornell to head the English department in 1917, Dr. Tull taught at the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, and at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell S.D.

A close friend of poet Carl Sandburg, Dr. Tull supplemented his English courses with visiting literary celebrities, including Sandburg, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Harriet Monroe and many others.

Dr. Tull is survived by his adopted daughter, Dr. Signi Falk, professor of English at Coe College.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday (Oct. 6) at the Presbyterian Church in Mt. Vernon. The Rev. Dr. Larry E. Shiner, associate professor of religion at Cornell College, officiated. Burial was in the Mt. Vernon cemetery.