

ing of evolution, we ask that it be eliminated from the curriculum of said school and some other subject taught instead.

The use which anti-science lawmakers in this country at the present day would make of our schools would seem to be, not as training grounds for the development of leaders in the discovery of new knowledge, but rostra for the training of declaimers against all knowledge that is not in accord with traditional beliefs.

EDWIN LINTON

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(*To be concluded*)

### PLATFORM OF THE ENGINEERING FOUNDATION

WHEN, in 1914, Ambrose Swasey, honorary member of the American Societies of Civil and Mechanical Engineers, proposed an Engineering Foundation to aid engineering research and made a generous gift as a "nest-egg" for its endowment, he put up to the national societies of civil, mining and metallurgical, mechanical, and electrical engineers a problem of more than passing interest and difficulty. It was the problem of organized engineering research under the auspices of these societies. Sooner or later, through one channel or another, this problem must have come before them, but theretofore it had not received their formal consideration.

Even in that advanced year of grace, very few engineers outside the electrical branch of the profession, had much understanding of research as conceived by scientists. The world war soon after Mr. Swasey's gift diverted effort to special services. "Reconstruction," with its peculiar problems, followed and other complications arose. Consequently, it was not until ten years after Mr. Swasey first made his proposal that attention was concentrated upon the main question of determining what the functions of an Engineering Foundation could best be as a joint instrumentality of the four societies just named and frequently designated as the Founder Societies.

Among questions demanding answer were the following:

1. Should Engineering Foundation directly organize and conduct research?
2. Should Engineering Foundation only support researches conducted by its Founder Societies, other organizations and individuals?
3. What relations should Engineering Foundation sustain to its Founder Societies, to other technical and scientific societies, to research organizations, to

governmental departments, to industries, to educational institutions and to individuals?

4. With small income how could Engineering Foundation do most to promote and accomplish research in its field?

5. How could researches be increased directly or indirectly?

Naturally there were varieties of opinion on all sides. While discussion of these questions was going on, work was proceeding. Various elements of solutions of the problem were being tried out practically and many useful results were being achieved. Increments to the endowment have been received. Supplementing its direct income, Engineering Foundation during recent years has helped to bring about an average yearly expenditure of approximately one hundred thousand dollars for projects in which it has participated.

About a year ago, Engineering Foundation, as a step toward an acceptable solution of its organizational problems, formally requested of the boards of its Founder Societies a new expression of views on fundamental policies. Finally, in the fall of 1925, at the suggestion of the new chairman, L. B. Stillwell, out of accumulated experience and opinion, and from among many tentative formulations of policy and practise, drafted in preceding years, an answer appeared. A platform was unanimously accepted by the Founder Societies and was adopted by Engineering Foundation December 10. It follows:

Desiring to promote active and wisely directed research as a means to scientific and technical progress and believing that systematic cooperation by Engineering Foundation and the several Founder Societies is essential to any development of the research work of the societies commensurate with the dignity, influence and resources of the profession, Engineering Foundation, while reserving entire liberty of action under the authority conferred upon it by the Founder Societies, through United Engineering Society, adopts the following declaration of its present plan and policy:

1. Engineering Foundation regards engineering research as the preferred field for its activities.
2. It will select or approve specific researches which it will assist by appropriation of funds or otherwise.
3. It will select for each project the agency, collective or individual, which it deems most effective.
4. It will assume no direct responsibility for the prosecution of any specific research.
5. It will cooperate with the national Engineering Societies and preferably support researches approved by it sponsored by one or more of them.
6. A member of Engineering Foundation, or of its staff, may be an advisory, but not an active, member of any committee or other organization in immediate charge of a research assisted financially by the

Foundation. This provision will not be retroactive.

7. Engineering Foundation reserves the right to require from committees or other organizations or individuals assisted, satisfactory progress reports as a condition of continued support.
8. Engineering Foundation will cooperate with the several founder or other national engineering societies in raising funds for the prosecution of approved researches.
9. It will endeavor to prevent conflict or overlap of research effort among the agencies which it supports or assists.
10. It will cooperate in securing information of the state of the art for use of committees of the Founder Societies or other agencies.

By adopting this platform Engineering Foundation believes it has forestalled queries which might arise as to whether its acts were always impartial and judicial in the allotment of funds. A double safeguard is thrown around the funds put at its disposal. The interest of the Founder Societies and their research committees will be quickened.

Engineering Foundation is entering its second decade, therefore, with increased assurance of support, with brighter prospects of greater resources, with greater faith in the purposes for which it was created, and with higher appreciation of the foresight of its founder. With much confidence it now looks to those who profit from the work of the engineering profession (and who does not?) to make its funds sufficient to do more nearly the volume of services expected of it "for the furtherance of research in science and in engineering, or for the advancement in any other manner of the profession of engineering and the good of mankind."

ALFRED D. FLINN,  
*Director.*

ENGINEERING FOUNDATION

### THOMAS ALLISON SMITH<sup>1</sup>

WE have met to unveil a memorial to one who for twenty-seven years was a loyal and devoted servant to Bellevue Hospital. It is fitting that service such as was rendered by Dr. Smith to this institution should be recorded on a tablet of bronze, exposed to the public gaze, which shall carry its message of inspiration, let us hope, far down into posterity.

Deeds of men whose lives have been well spent continue to live and exert their influence, after the eyes of their enactors are forever closed and their lips speak no more.

Monuments to commemorate worth are like a con-

<sup>1</sup> Address at the unveiling of the memorial tablet to Dr. Thomas Allison Smith, at Bellevue Hospital, January 13, 1926.

tinuous expression of "glad tidings and good will toward men," in a world in which the highest good of mankind is attained through the consistent practice of usefulness and the exercise of a kindly spirit.

[The tablet, adorned with fresh gladiolas, was then unveiled, the inscription on which was the following:

#### IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF

THOMAS ALLISON SMITH, M.D.  
1872—1924

FOURTH SURGICAL DIVISION OF BELLEVUE HOSPITAL  
1895 — INTERNE — 1897

1899—ASSISTANT-VISITING AND VISITING SURGEON—1924

THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY THE VISITING STAFF OF HIS DIVISION, TO WHOM HE HAD ENDEARED HIMSELF BY HIS DEVOTION TO THE DIVISION AND HIS SPIRIT OF JUSTICE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ITS AFFAIRS, AND BY MANY OTHERS AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL WHO APPRECIATE HIS FAITHFUL AND EFFICIENT SERVICE OF TWENTY SEVEN YEARS, INCLUDING THE VISITING STAFFS OF THE FOURTH MEDICAL DIVISION AND THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD SURGICAL DIVISIONS, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL BOARD, INTERNES AND MEMBERS OF THE TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES.

A STAUNCH FRIEND OF HUMANITY, A DEVOTEE TO DUTY, AN ABLE SURGEON AND EXECUTIVE AND A MAN OF KINDLY PRESENCE.]

I would have you note on this tablet the gladiolas in relief, crossed above the inscription. They are a token of the pastime of Dr. Smith, whose delight it was to personally cultivate a great abundance of these beautifully colored flowers at his country home in Stamford, and bring them on summer mornings to the hospital wards, to gladden and to cheer the lives of the sick.

This tablet is erected by appreciative friends to perpetuate in Bellevue Hospital the memory of Dr. Thomas Allison Smith.

Thomas Allison Smith, a man who took an active part in helping to bring Bellevue Hospital up to its present state of high efficiency.

Thomas Allison Smith, a man who grew up under the influence of the "old school," having spent his earlier years in close friendship with his father, Brigadier-General Andrew Kingsbury Smith, an army surgeon of distinction.

Thomas Allison Smith, a rigid disciplinarian, but with it all a gentleman who enforced the right and truth with simple justice, without rancor. His denunciations were never spoken without justification. His views on discipline must have been influenced by his father's army training, as well as his own training for three years as a cadet at West Point, before he took up the study of medicine.

His relations with the visiting staff of his division are indicated in the words of the inscription: "The