

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

VICTOR J. WEST (d. 1927)

Victor J. West, a graduate of the University of Chicago, was serving on the faculty of Northwestern University when he was called to Stanford in 1913 as assistant professor of political science in the department of economics. He was promoted to associate professor during the period that his subject was still a division in that department. In 1919, when Political Science was given independent standing as a separate department, he was promoted to full professor and designated its executive head. The work of organizing the new department and of directing its development through its first years engaged his untiring affectionate interest up to the time of his untimely death on February 26th, 1927.

In the councils of his department, of committees, and of the faculty as a whole, Victor West was alert in the search for constructive policies, critical of testing proposals, and fearlessly loyal in supporting his convictions. His colleague in the American Political Science Association and his fellow townsmen in Palo Alto, recognizing his generous readiness for service, gave him responsibilities that were both honors and opportunities. His students, especially the more mature among them, found stimulus in the exacting standards of his critical methods and in the clear grasp of his thought. His friends everywhere were drawn to him by his open friendliness, his sincerity, and his spontaneous love of healthy laughter.

We, his colleagues of the University Council, wish to record our sense of high privilege in past contacts and our present sense of loss by inscribing these words in our minutes, by forwarding them to the Board of Trustees, and by sending them with our heartfelt sympathy to the family whose bereavement we share.

Edwin A. Cottrell
Samuel S. Seward, Jr.
Murray S. Wilaman