

## *Obituaries*

### GEORGE HUBBARD BLAKESLEE

Dr. George H. Blakeslee was one of the best known scholars that Worcester has ever produced, his reputation transcending local boundaries to national and even international fields. He became one of the world's leading authorities on international relations and the Far East and his counsel had much influence in shaping the peace terms after the war with Japan.

George Hubbard Blakeslee was born at Geneseo, New York, August 27, 1871, the son of Francis Durbin and Augusta Mirinda (Hubbard) Blakeslee, descendants of early Massachusetts Bay settlers who had immigrated to western New York State. He entered Wesleyan University from which he was graduated with the degree of A.B. in 1893. After several years of graduate study in this country and abroad, and four years of teaching in schools, he was appointed instructor in history at Clark College in 1903. Two years later he entered the history department of the University, advancing to a professorship, and so remained until his retirement in 1943. It was through his suggestion that the University established a department of history and international relations, the first university to institute such a department.

During his early career at Clark he instituted conferences on affairs of the Far East and of Latin America and edited the *Journal of International Relations* until 1921, when it was merged with *Foreign Affairs*. Outside of Worcester he participated in many teaching and advisory undertakings,

leading the Round Table Institute of Politics at Williamstown from 1922 to 1931, and lecturing at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, at the Naval War College in Newport from 1922 to 1942, and at Johns Hopkins, Wesleyan, Harvard, the University of Hawaii, and serving as Carnegie Professor of international relations to universities in Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. In official connection with the United States he was technical adviser to the American Delegation at the Washington Arms Conference in 1921, an officer of the Far Eastern Affairs division of the State Department during the Manchurian emergency of 1931, an assistant to the American legation at Peiping, China, in 1932, connected with the Department of State in 1942-1945, and special assistant in the office of Far Eastern Affairs since 1945. On his eightieth birthday Secretary of State Acheson publicly commended him for his indefatigable work for the United States Government and for his outstanding achievements in advancing foreign relations of this country with the Orient. After ratification of the peace treaty with Japan and the conclusion of the work of the Far Eastern Commission he returned to Worcester in 1952.

Dr. Blakeslee was a prolific and authoritative writer on his chosen subjects. He was the author of *The Recent Foreign Policy of the United States* in 1925, *The Pacific Area, An International Survey*, in 1929, *The Far East*, with H. S. Quigley, in 1938, and *The Far Eastern Commission, 1945-1952*, shortly before his death, in 1953. He edited six volumes of Lectures and Addresses for Clark University: *China and the Far East*, 1910, *Japan and Japanese-American Relations*, 1912, *Recent Developments in China*, 1913, *Latin America*, 1914, *The Problems and Lessons of the War*, 1916, and *Mexico and the Caribbean*, 1920. He also wrote numerous pamphlets and articles for magazines.

He received several honorary degrees: L.H.D. from Wesleyan, L.H.D. from Williams, LL.D. from Brown, LL.D. from Clark, and Eng.D. from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. In 1949 a volume was published in his honor by Clark University, entitled *Essays in History and International Relations*, containing contributions by scholars in fields in which he was interested. He traveled extensively in Russia, continental Europe, Australia, Japan, and China. In 1929 Dr. and Mrs. Blakeslee were presented to the Emperor of Japan at an imperial garden party arranged in their honor.

Although much away from Worcester, he found time to be associated with the city's organizations: president of the Worcester Economic Club in 1912, president of the Trustees of the World Peace Foundation from 1930 to 1946, and chairman of Worcester Branch of the Foreign Policy Association from 1933 to 1939. He was a member of the Worcester Fire Society and the St. Wulstan Society. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in 1908, a member of its Council from 1918 until his death, recording secretary from 1938 to 1946, and vice-president elected in 1953. In 1918 he contributed to the *Proceedings* a paper "Will Democracy Alone Make the World Safe." He was very fond of the Society and its aims, and a valued member of the Council, where his counsel was constructive and helpful.

Dr. Blakeslee married Edna Frances Day, daughter of John E. and Abbie F. Day of Worcester, March 30, 1910. He died after a short illness, May 5, 1954, leaving his widow and three children: George Day Blakeslee, Mrs. Frances H. Wardlaw, and Mrs. William G. Phelps. C. S. B.

### ELMER TINDALL HUTCHINSON

Elmer Tindall Hutchinson was born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on September 10, 1882. He was the son of Aaron

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