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Barklie McKee Henry

1902-1966

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The tributes which follow are from some of the institutions which Barklie McKee Henry served so well, and are reproduced with their kind permission. OCCASIONAL PAPERS by the faculty and friends of The Rockefeller University are published at irregular intervals by The Rockefeller University Press, New York. This is Occasional Paper Fourteen, of which one thousand copies have been printed in December 1967 for the family and friends of BARKLIE MCKEE HENRY.

Barklie McKee Henry

1902-1966



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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

BARKLIE MCKEE HENRY died on September 5, 1966, while walking with his son in the Adirondacks. His untimely death brought to a sudden end 19 years of faithful and devoted service as a Trustee of The Rockefeller University.

At moments of major decision—whether to move from Princeton, or choosing a new President, or in developing the needed new buildings for the expansion of the University—Buz could always be counted on for tactful, thoughtful, sound advice. In 1951, he was appointed to the committee of Trustees that reviewed the fundamental policies of the institution and formulated the plans for creation of the modern Rockefeller University. During reconstruction of the five existing buildings, the construction of eight new buildings, and the landscaping of the campus, Buz, as Chairman of the Committee on Buildings and Grounds, gave constant support to Det Bronk over ten years of great expansion and development.

Buz graduated from Harvard in 1924, *cum laude*, and also spent a year at Balliol College. In 1926, he became managing editor of *Youth's Companion*, and in 1927 joined The Guaranty Company of New York. On the death of his parents in 1930, he retired from business to give his full attention to the affairs of his family and to his many interests in projects for human welfare.

During the depression, he was active in the Emergency Re-

lief Organization in New York, and later became President of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. He organized the merger of that group with the Charity Organization Society to form the Community Service Society of New York. He was the first President of the Community Service Society, and also one of the organizers of The Greater New York Fund.

Buz was a Governor of the Society of The New York Hospital and later its Vice President and President. He was much interested in bringing together the fields of medicine and psychiatry and active in strengthening the psychiatric services of New York Hospital. In 1958, he was appointed by the Governor of New Jersey as a member of the commission to study the Department of Institutions and Agencies, a body responsible for all the State's correctional activities, mental hospitals and clinics and welfare work.

Buz was a Trustee of The Pierpont Morgan Library, the American Academy in Rome, The Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, the John Hay Whitney Foundation, and The Cooper Union. He was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, a member of the Overseers' Committee to Visit Harvard College, a member of the Princeton University Advisory Council to the Department of Philosophy, and a Director of the Milbank Memorial Fund.

During World War II, he was on active service with the United States Navy and commanded a coastal minesweeper,

a subchaser, and finally a destroyer escort. After the war, he served on a Civilian Advisory Committee to the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

Just before his death, Buz served as Chairman of a special committee which chose Professor Carl Kaysen as successor to the late J. Robert Oppenheimer as head of The Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

Buz was a modest, sensitive man with a combination of tact and wisdom rarely found. He was also thorough in whatever he did and very determined once he was satisfied as to the right course. His cheerful spirit and warm interest made him a great many loyal friends. He was an unselfish man and a generous man, who served many institutions with great devotion over the years.

His counsel and his presence will be sorely missed by all at the University who came to know him. It is hard to think of anyone we will miss more.

*Board of Trustees, The Rockefeller University
Minute 24 May 1967*

THE PIERPONT MORGAN LIBRARY

THE DEATH of Mr. Henry in the Adirondack woods on September 5 was a grievous shock to me and to other members of the Library staff. He was elected a Trustee in January 1951, and his counsel was available not only at Board meetings but also on many occasions when the Director sought him out for informal talks. He was a man of ideas and ideals, always probing for new ventures and considering new ways of carrying on old activities. He was especially helpful in planning our fiftieth anniversary traveling exhibition and our subsequent fund-raising program, and he was an active proponent of our concert series. It is certainly an understatement to say that he will be sorely missed here as a thoughtful and enthusiastic supporter of the Library and as a person of warm human sympathies.

Frederick B. Adams, Jr., Director
15 September 1966

COMMUNITY SERVICE SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

IT IS WITH deep sorrow that we record the death on September 5, 1966 of Barklie McKee Henry, the first president of the Community Service Society.

Mr. Henry was a man of remarkable endowments and character who, above all, had genuine feeling and concern for people. His warm and unselfish nature was his hallmark. In the early days of the depression, for example, when he was not yet thirty years of age, he asked Cornelius Bliss: "What can a fellow do to help?" Mr. Bliss suggested to the young man that he serve on the Committee on Rehabilitation and Relief. The next day Barklie Henry appeared at the Committee's office and said simply: "Put me to work." Thus began for Mr. Henry almost a full-time career as a benefactor of troubled people in our city.

Shortly thereafter he was elected to the Board of Managers of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and in 1934, at the age of 32, he became President of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

In 1939, when the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor and the Charity Organization Society merged to form the Community Service Society, he was elected as the first President of the new agency. During his long association with the Community Service Society his keen interest and

fine leadership enabled it to help thousands of families in times of great trouble.

We who carry on the Society's work will long remember with appreciation and respect Barklie Henry's compassion and love for his fellow man and the dedicated and serious manner in which he served the Society's humanitarian cause.

Board of Trustees

Minute 28 September 1966

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION
OF WASHINGTON

THE TRUSTEES of the Carnegie Institution of Washington by this minute record their grief and bereavement at the death of Barklie McKee Henry, who joined the Institution's Board on December 9, 1959, served on many Committees, and became Chairman in 1961, retiring from that office in 1965. He remained a Trustee until his death in September 1966.

If the designation "Renaissance Man" implies universality of interests and understanding, Barklie Henry was that man in the Twentieth Century. From a conventional background: a scholar, athlete, financial man (banker, if you will), philanthropic administrator, naval officer, wise advisor and coadjutor to a succession of eminent characters conducting great affairs, courageous leader into new and untried areas, and withal an utterly charming companion and a warm and vibrant human being, with a delightful sense of humor and an abiding sense of values.

Be It Therefore Resolved, That we, the Trustees of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, record our grief and deep sense of loss at the death of our friend and companion, Barklie McKee Henry.

And Be It Further Resolved, That this resolution be entered on the minutes of the Institution and that a copy be sent to Mrs. Henry.

*Board of Trustees
Minute 5 May 1967*

THE SOCIETY OF THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL

BARKLIE MCKEE HENRY was elected a Governor of our Society in 1932, serving as Governor until 1955 and as an Honorary Governor from then until his death.

In the course of his tenure he was a member of our Executive, Finance, and Nominations Committees, and of the Psychiatric Committees for both the Westchester Division and the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic, of which last he served as Chairman. He was on the Council of the School of Nursing. He served as Chairman of the Joint Administrative Board, was for four years Vice President of the Society, and for two years its President.

The great qualities of mind and spirit which characterized Barklie Henry's work in behalf of famous scientific, welfare, and educational institutions, were put to our service and our benefit. He sought a clear view of the potential stature of our Hospital as a preeminent teaching Hospital in a preeminent Medical Center, and did all that he could to bring that objective nearer to reality. We ourselves can do no better than follow his example.

We have lost a loyal friend. We honor his memory.

*Board of Governors
Minute 4 October 1966*

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

BARKLIE MCKEE HENRY served for eight years as a member of this Board from April 1958 to his sudden death in September. In this time he won the affection, respect, and admiration of all of us.

In an active life of service to a variety of research, educational, and welfare institutions, the Institute was neither his only nor his first love; but as it proved to be his last, perhaps we may be permitted to feel it was his best. The devotion and energy with which he used the remarkable combination of his talents in behalf of the Institute made evident how much it meant to him. His sensitive perception of others and wide human sympathy, his generosity of feeling, his penetrating and wide-ranging mind, his wit—never exercised at the expense of another—and his perfect tact were the ingredients of a grace and charm felt by all who met him. To these he added sure and steady judgment, and great taste.

In the last year, as Chairman of the Board's Committee to find a new Director, in the light of the possibilities for the future development of the Institute, Barklie Henry bore the immediate weight of the heaviest responsibility a Board such as ours can carry. He put all of himself into this task, with his characteristic combination of devotion and joy. He fulfilled it in a way of which we know he was proud, and we expect to have cause to be.

With thanks that he was one of us, we here record our deep appreciation of his contribution to the Institute, our own great loss at his death, and our profound sympathy for his family.

Board of Trustees

Minute 13 October 1966