

Herbert C. Cook

Herbert C. Cook died June 21, 1979, at Ames, Iowa. A veteran of World War I, he received his bachelor's degree at Iowa State Teachers College (now the University of Northern Iowa) and taught high school for a few years. Restless and eager to further pursue the complexities of government and administration, he decided to enter a graduate program in political science at the State University of Iowa, from where he received his Ph.D. degree in 1926. He returned for two years to teach at his first alma mater and in 1928 accepted a position at Iowa State College (now University) in the Department of History, Government, and Philosophy (now Political Science and Public Administration). He was promoted to the rank of professor in 1959, partially retired in 1968, and entered into full retirement in 1970.

Professor Cook was a splendid example of the World War I teaching generation, a renaissance man, untiring, well-disciplined, and committed to his institution. He was a thoughtful and careful scholar, with a thorough understanding of American political institutions and of our Constitutional system of government—national and state. For over three decades he was involved in state and county research in Iowa. His willing and constructive service on many university and college committees is a matter of historical record. Moreover, he was also actively involved in furthering the professional standards and status of his profession and was always a very active participant in our national and regional associations. Professor Cook was one of the founders of the Iowa Conference of Political Scientists. He was a charter member of the American Society for Public Administration. Professor Cook was a good political scientist, a responsible citizen, a confidant of students, a part-time farmer, and an enjoyable colleague. He shall be missed by his friends, associates, and former students.

Ross B. Talbot
Iowa State University

Louis Douglas

Louis Hartwell Douglas was born September 5, 1907 at Bloomington, Nebraska. He earned his A.B. from Hastings and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska. He taught at McCook Junior College, Hastings College, Tottori University in Japan, and was a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of the Philippines. He taught at Kansas State University from 1949 to 1977. Lou Douglas passed away on October 22, leaving his beloved wife Mary, his three children—Kay, Stephen, Merrie Lou—and seven grandchildren. It was my privilege to know him as a beloved friend, and colleague.

Lou Douglas was a many-sided man. In his professional life he was first an inspiring and committed teacher. He was also a scholar who edited, wrote and contributed to over 21 publications. He was active in professional associations. He believed that the mission of the

academy is the pursuit of both knowledge and understanding. Lou had certain tenets of faith—one was that the political scientist should be both scholar and activist. That is not to say that he confused the two—in his research he was a true social scientist. But he believed the responsibilities of the profession demanded more than that.

Many have commented on the fact that Kansas State remained relatively unscathed during the campus unrest of the late 'sixties and early 'seventies. I don't mean to offer a simplistic explanation for the complex forces at work during that very troubled time, but I think it was the presence of Lou Douglas and other faculty members like him, that made the critical difference. I recall reading an interview with a student at a major university who had been arrested after taking over an office. He spoke bitterly about the political scientists who had been buried at their desks doing a roll call analysis while the campus became polarized over the great issues of that decade. That didn't happen at Kansas State because there were professors like Lou Douglas who shared the same doubts about the direction our nation was taking. They provided a mature outlet for student frustration and they worked with students in finding constructive and effective ways to protest the Vietnam War. Another tenet of faith held by Lou was his belief in the ability of the common man to govern himself. It was no coincidence that in his political science research, he focused not on elites (presidency, Congress), but on the rural community. His most recent research was a case study of a small community in Kansas named Dunlap City. He had little patience with political scientists who advocate that democracy is best preserved by placing its security in the hands of the elites who theoretically more fully appreciate its values.

Lou Douglas had a tenet of faith in the wisdom and righteousness of the Democratic Party. It never occurred to anyone to ask Lou after an election if he had voted the straight party ticket. It wasn't that he was intolerant of Republicans, it was just that he didn't understand them. Lou Douglas and Riley County Democrats became almost synonymous terms.

Lou Douglas was a man who never grew old. He lived a full three score and ten, but he was never old. I remember sitting in his office once while he tested an iconoclastic idea on me—his more traditional colleague. Then I heard myself say in exasperation, "The trouble Lou is that you are too young for me."

His inspiration to the young was great, but perhaps it was even greater to the middle aged. He reminded us that youth is not tied to the calendar nor to the body—but to the spirit. Lou spent some of his happiest days after his retirement working with the wonderful staff at the University for Man. Perhaps Lou Douglas drew his strength from these young people. I suspect that he gave more than he received.

A line in a Shakespearean play reads, "Cowards die many deaths, the valiant never taste of