

DR. HAROLD LONG

Dr. Harold Long, who was Pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, was on the Board of Trustees of the University of Puget Sound for many, many years. He had been born and reared in Lincoln, Nebraska, and moved out to Immanuel Presbyterian Church as a young man and gave his entire ministry to that one church. He was well beloved by his congregation and was one of the outstanding leaders in the community. He was a man who was well loved by every denomination, including many of the Catholic faith. His ministry and the touch of his goodwill went out to the far ends of the community, and he was universally respected and revered.

In the days when Tacoma was recovering from the multitudes of people who came during the War, he was one of the outstanding leaders in keeping the city government clean and doing all in his power to keep the city a good city in which to live. This brought him some unusual criticism from those political functionaries who wanted to profit personally from the vice which threatened to come into the city, and I know that Dr. Long was, from time to time, threatened both from the standpoint of his own well-being and through some of the members of his church.

When I became President in 1942, within a month, he was in my office and said, "I want to get to know you because I expect to work with you. I'll be your 'hair shirt' and if you get too pompous, I will deflate you and if you need to be encouraged, I will be at your right elbow." We had many discussions concerning the place of the University in the city and the place of the city in the University.

our relationship with Pacific Lutheran which was very competitive, and the outreach and the power which the University could have in the community. He was very meaningful and very helpful and very dedicated, both from the standpoint of Immanuel Presbyterian Church and the University of Puget Sound.

He had a number of parishioners in his congregation who felt very keenly that he was doing a most outstanding service and they created the Immanuel Foundation. Each year, they would give a certain amount of money to the Foundation and allow him to do exactly what he wanted with it--to help people if they needed financial help, to help people in school, to bring food to those who needed it, and he had an open field to use the money at his own discretion.

One Christmas I was surprised, when salaries had not been very good at the University, to find that certain people were thanking me for an anonymous envelope containing a twenty dollar bill, which was in their mailbox. I, frankly, said I did not know anything about it and I wondered where the bills came from. The faculty had been very carefully selected, because only those who were student-minded and went out of their way to help students were recipients. I did not know then that the money came anonymously from Dr. Long's foundation but years later the lady who distributed the mail told me that he had come up and given these envelopes to her and swore her to secrecy at that time. This was typical of the kind of person he was and of the help that he gave in so many, many ways.

He was on our Board of Trustees until just a short time before his death. He felt that there ought to be new members on the Board of Trustees and he wanted

to make way for a younger person.

I considered him a very, very outstanding influence in the University. It was great to have a personal friend to whom you could talk about any problem. You could talk about faculty tenure; you could talk about promotions; you could talk about the impact of your faculty on the community and the community on the faculty; you could talk about the tensions that were mounting on all universities; and he was a good sounding board and had unusual ability in discerning the situation and also had good judgment.

His influence in the life of the University will be long remembered and he made a great contribution on the Board of Trustees and in the community.

R. Franklin Thompson

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