

NORMAN ROBBINS

Mr. Norman Robbins was a good friend of Dr. Todd's daughter, Mrs. Hallen and her husband. The first Mrs. Robbins and Mr. Robbins and the Hallens used to play bridge. Mr. Robbins ultimately left the University of Puget Sound \$1,300,000 and there is an interesting sidelight to the gift.

Mr. Robbins had gone to Bowdoin College back east and his first inclination was to leave his money to Bowdoin. His brother, Fred, said to him, "We made our money here in the west; our father owned the White River Lumber Company," which merged with Weyerhaeuser and Weyerhaeuser issued stock to the Robbins family, and Fred said, "You ought to leave your money in this area where the money was originally made."

Mr. Norman Robbins was thinking about it at some length and trying to decide whether to leave it to Bowdoin or to the University of Puget Sound. About that time there came a brochure from Bowdoin in which it showed the president of the College with a beard and the concomitant psychological things that go with a beard. Mr. Robbins looked at the picture and said, "That decides it. I'm not going to leave my money to Bowdoin. I'll leave it to the College of Puget Sound. My first wife would have enjoyed that as well as Dr. Todd's daughter."

In my talk with him on several occasions, I was not aware of what was going on in his mind but I appreciated very much his gift to the University at the time of his death which had a value of \$1,300,000.

R. Franklin Thompson

May 4, 1978