

Hollis P. Allen
1895 - 1980
PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, EMERITUS

B. A., Pomona College, 1919; M.A., 1925; Ed.D., School Administrator, Type 1,
Education, Stanford University, June 19, 1933
California State University, Fullerton From September 1, 1960 To August 30,
1965
Birth: June 28, 1895; Death: August 20, 1980

Hollis P. Allen, the first professor to be awarded emeritus status at California State University, Fullerton, upon his retirement in 1965, began his career at Orange County State College in September, 1960, as a Professor of Educational Administration. In that same year Claremont Graduate School awarded him the LL.D. degree (honorary) in recognition of his distinguished service from 1929-1960. Hollis was the first full-time professor at the Claremont Graduate School and assumed several major responsibilities including Director of Graduate Studies. He published extensively in educational journals. His *The Federal Government and Education*, published by McGraw-Hill in 1950, followed his work at the Brookings Institution for the Hoover Commission Task Force on Education. The book was considered to be the definitive work on that critical subject and its broad scope of diverse issues. While at Claremont he was honored by Harvard, UCLA, Stanford and the University of the Philippines by their selection as visiting professor on various occasions. He served as consultant to many school districts and did the background papers in education for the California Constitution Revision Commission.

At Orange County State College, Hollis initiated and organized the graduate program in educational administration in 1960-61, and it grew rapidly. Enrollments increased exponentially each year because of his high standards, ability to inspire qualified students to prepare for careers in educational administration, communication with school districts, depth of knowledge in the discipline, and charisma. He was an influential member of the graduate education committee and served as part-time director of graduate studies in 1964-65, his last year on this campus.

The Renaissance man among us in the early years was Hollis Allen: an artist in furniture-making and photography; a practical scientist in growing plants and inventing ingenious gadgets; an influential communicator through books and published papers and through the spoken word to hundreds of audiences; a seeker of truth in government and education; a model family man who found his greatest happiness in his home; an exemplary citizen and unwavering democrat; and a pragmatist certain that the ultimate ideal was to teach and help others to live full lives.

His wit is legendary; the following is representative: "There was that time in World War II when I was Commander of Air Force troops coming into Leyte Gulf. Amid the confusion of being kamakazied, I lost the safe with

the future plans of the war - I mean all the plans! Why hadn't we thought of that before? No safe, no plans. No plans, no war. It's just that simple."

Born 1895 in Pasadena, Hollis attended the public schools there and was awarded the B. A. by Pomona College in 1919, although his undergraduate education was interrupted by military service as an armament officer. He completed his studies for the California teaching credential at Santa Barbara Normal and at UC Berkeley and began his teaching career at Pomona High School in 1920 in auto mechanics and blacksmithing. He rose rapidly in the professional ranks in administration in Big Pine, Palo Alto, San Bernardino and Claremont. Stanford awarded Hollis the M. A. in Education in 1925, and the Ed. D. in 1932.

Hollis and Janet were on a cruise to Alaska to celebrate their 40th anniversary, this fulfilling a honeymoon promise, when he died in 1980.

Submitted by
Kenneth R. Doane
Professor of Education, Emeritus
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