

Howard Lincoln Hodgkins

(23 Jan 1862 – 13 Feb 1931)

The Evening Star, June 25, 1921, p. 1

Hodgkins May Be Acting G.W. Head

Dean Likely to Be Named for Duties Until President is Chosen

Dean Howard L. Hodgkins of George Washington University probably will be named acting head of the institution to serve until a successor is chosen to President William Miller Collier, nominated by President Harding yesterday to be ambassador to Chile.



This was intimated today by John B. Lerner, president of the board of trustees.

Committee to Be Named

At its last meeting, the trustees instructed Mr. Lerner to name a committee to fill the vacancy, should one occur, in the presidency of the university. Mr. Lerner will not name the committee before the middle of next month, as he is leaving Washington Tuesday on an extended automobile trip.

It is assumed Dr. Collier will not tender his resignation until the Senate has acted upon his nomination to be ambassador to Chile. He is now at his home in Auburn, N.Y.

Mr. Lerner said the procedure, in all probability, would be that Dean Hodgkins would take over the active management of the university as soon as Dr. Collier's resignation is received and continued in charge until the committee of trustees has selected a successor to Dr. Collier.

Hope to Act Promptly

If possible, he said, a successor will be chosen before the beginning of the next scholastic year.

Gratification over the progress the university has made since Dr. Collier became its president in 1917 was expressed by Mr. Lerner. He said the resignation of Dr. Collier would be a severe loss to the institution.

The Evening Star, November 6, 1921, p. 12

Colleges

George Washington

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President Howard L. Hodgkins has authorized the closing of the university Armistice day, November 11, as a token of respect for the burial of the unknown soldier and the celebration of the Armistice day committees in the city.

The Evening Star, February 14, 1931, p. A2

Educator Dies

Distinguished Career Ends At Age of 69

**Dr. H.L. Hodgkins, G.W.U. Dean, Dead
Distinguished Career as Educator Ends at 69 --
Funeral Tomorrow Afternoon**

Dr. Howard Lincoln Hodgkins, dean of George Washington University since 1923 and professor of mathematics there, died in George Washington University Hospital last night after a long illness. He was 69 years old.

For many years associated with the university in various important capacities, Dr. Hodgkins had attained a national reputation as an educator. He was closely linked with the university's growth and development.

During his period of service at the university he had held the positions of dean of the department of arts and sciences, dean of the College of Engineering, dean of the College of Engineering, dean of the Corcoran Scientific School and professor of mathematics.

Served as President

Dr. Hodgkins also had the distinction of serving as acting president of the university from 1921 until 1923, when he was named dean.

Besides his work at the university, Dr. Hodgkins had been prominent in many school activities and various scientific organizations.

He was the author of the "Historical Catalogue of Columbian University" and at one time was director of the Columbia Institute for the Deaf.

Organizations of which he was a member include the Washington Academy of Sciences, the Philosophical Society of Washington, the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Cosmos Club and the Federal Schoolmen's Club.

Native of Illinois

Born in Elgin, Ill., January 23, 1862, Dr. Hodgkins was the son of David and Harriet Shears Hodgkins.

Coming to the National Capital in his youth, he was graduated from Washington High School in 1878 and from George Washington University in 1883. He held the degrees of bachelor of arts, master of arts, doctor of philosophy and doctor of science.

Early in his career from 1882 to 1892, he was special computer for the Nautical Almanac Office, United States Navy. He became connected with the old Columbian University, now George Washington University, in 1883. First he held the position of tutor, then assistant professor, professor, and the other offices.

Dr. Hodgkins is survived by his widow, Mrs. Marie Wilkinson Hodgkins; two sons, Howard W. Hodgkins and George W. Hodgkins; a sister, Miss Jessie E. Hodgkins, and a brother, H. Grant Hodgkins. The Hodgkins home is at 1821 Kalorama road.

Funeral services will be held in Corcoran Hall of George Washington University tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

The Evening Star February 15, 1931, p. A7

The Evening Star, February 16, 1931, p. A4

**Tribute Is Paid To Dr. Hodgkins
Work of G.W. Dean Lauded by Prominent Educators at Funeral Rites**

Addresses eulogizing Dr. Howard Lincoln Hodgkins, dean of George Washington University, were delivered by prominent educators yesterday at his funeral services in Corcoran Hall of the university. Members of the faculty, student body and alumni attended.

Private burial services were conducted today in Congressional Cemetery.

"In the death of Dean Hodgkins," declared Dr. Floyd Hick Marvin, president, "the university, the people of this community and every single one of us has lost a staunch and good friend. Fifty-three years ago he entered the university as a student and from that time until now he gave unsparingly of his best to the university that he loved and served.

"He merits for this one thing above all others, our respect. He labored for the university, not for himself. Because of his devotion he goes down to his grave covered with honor, blessed in the memory of a generation of students. The love in the hearts of those who came in contact with him rises up to be his unperishing monument."

Praised by Dr. Wilbur

"This university," said Dr. William Allen Wilbur, provost, "has been singularly fortunate in its history in a few men who stand out in high relief in having no personal ambition apart from the institution. They merged their lives with the university and as the years go by they are remembered.

"Luther Rice, the founder of the institution, was such a person. William Ruggles, secretary of the faculty for nearly 50 years, was such a person. So too, was Dean Hodgkins. He has given his life to the George Washington University and he is an enduring, inspiring influence, living still.

"Dean Hodgkins was completely identified with the institution. He never seemed to think or plan about himself. In the early days of my 53 years of association with him I was constantly meeting those who studied under him. They always said, 'He is a great teacher.'

Classes Are Suspended

"His words, like his thinking, were straight and true and simple; thin as a skirmish line, strong as a battle line. He had visions of truth and he was loyal to them. He loved truth and he loved people. I have never known anyone who surpassed him in love of work and of his calling. His heart was where he work was.

"His influence has been an integrating influence in human fellowship, it has meant much to the alumni and to the student body of the institution."

All George Washington classes were suspended today out of respect to the memory of Dean Hodgkins.

Dr. Hodgkins was 69 years old. He died Friday night. He had been dean of the university since 1923, served as acting president from 1921 to 1923 and had from time to time been dean of various departments.

The Washington Post, February 15, 1931, p. M2

Dr. Hodgkins' Rites Will Be Held Today

G.W.U. Officials to Praise Services of Dean and Mathematics Head

Burial To Be Tomorrow

Funeral services for Dr. Howard Lincoln Hodgkins, dean of the George Washington University, will be held this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in Corcoran Hall, Twenty-first street between G and H streets northwest. The Rev. Samuel Judson Porter, of the First Baptist Church, will officiate.

Dr. William Allen Wilbur, provost of the university, will deliver a eulogy and Dr. Cloyd Heck Marvin, president, will speak in appreciation of Dean Hodgkins' long and distinguished services to the university.

A mixed quartet from the men's and women's' glee clubs, under the direction of Dr. Robert Howe Harmon, will sing.

Interment tomorrow at the Congressional Cemetery will be private.

Honorary pallbearers are John Bell Lerner, chairman of the board of trustees of the university; Harry C. Davis, secretary of the board; Theodore W. Noyes and N.L. Burchell, members of the board; Bertis B. Thompson, who was president of Dean Hodgkins' high school graduating class, the first to be graduated from the old Washington High School, in 1878; Frank B. Noyes, and Charles W. Holmes, comptroller of the university, who were also members of that class; Dr. Randall Hagner and Dr. F.A. Hornaday.

Active pallbearers are Dean George N. Henning, Dean Louis F. Bradley, Dean William Carl Ruediger, Dean John R. Lapham, Prof. Elmer Louis Kayser and Prof. George Morton Churchill, of the faculty of the university.

In respect to the memory of Dean Hodgkins all classes in the university will be suspended tomorrow.