Clarence Luther Herrick - Biography

William E. Davis

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CLARENCE LUTHER HERRICK

2nd University President

Served 1897 - 1901

Born Minneapolis, Minnesota

       June 21, 1858

Dr. Herrick was appointed President of the Faculty in charge of the University at $1,800.00 annual salary beginning September 1, 1897.

Education

Dr. Herrick received his undergraduate, graduate and PH.D. from the University of Minnesota and studied abroad at the University of Leipzig and Berlin.

Career

Clarence Herrick was a renowned scholar in the field of geology and published several extensive reports on the fauna of Minnesota. When forced to come to New Mexico after contracting tuberculosis, he spent much of his life here living in the open with a covered wagon and camp kid. His interest in geology was renewed and he was soon considered an expert in regional geology and published extensively on the subject.

University Activities

During the years of Dr. Herrick, the University was viewed as a scientifically devel-
oping institution because of his efforts in personally establishing a laboratory for bacteriological research.

The first large donation ($10,000.00) was made to the University by Mrs. Walter Hadley for the construction of the Walter C. Hadley Laboratory and Science Hall, the second building to be erected on campus. It was completed February 1, 1900.

Several bulletin publications were authorized by the Board of Regents in 1898. The subjects included animals of the Territory as well as several economic items.

The Board of Regents also adopted an extensive advertising program to promote the University and increase the enrollment and make the institution recognized as the leader of the territorial school system.

Dr. Herrick was quite ill during his last year as President and the Board of Regents reluctantly accepted his resignation in 1901. He passed away in Socorro in 1904.

Excerpt from William E. Davis’ Miracle on the Mesa.
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