

ALBERT RUDDOCK

1886 - 1970

Albert Ruddock died on July 24, 1970, at the age of 84. He was Caltech's friend and benefactor for more than 40 years, beginning his long association in 1926 as one of the 100 founders of The Associates of the California Institute of Technology. In 1938 he became a trustee of the Institute, and from 1954 until he retired in 1961 he was chairman of the board. He was elected an honorary trustee in 1961, and in 1969 he became chairman emeritus, the first and only person to hold that office. One of Caltech's undergraduate houses is named in his honor.

The scion of a family of lumbermen, Albert Ruddock was born in Chicago. He graduated from Yale University in 1907. After receiving an MA from Columbia in 1909, he studied at the Ecole des Sciences Politiques in Paris as a prelude to entering the diplomatic service. From 1912 to 1916 he was secretary of the U. S. Embassy in Berlin, and he held the same post in 1917 in Brussels. He returned to Washington, D. C., to serve in the State Department in 1918, then from 1920 to 1923 was on the staff of the Legation in Peking. In 1924 he resigned from the foreign service to enter private business.

In 1924 Albert and his wife, the former Margaret Kirk, moved to San Marino, California, where they made their home for 28 years. He was a director of the Security First National Bank of Los Angeles and was active in the petroleum industry. In 1952 the Ruddocks moved to Santa Barbara but continued to maintain a residence and offices in Pasadena. Mrs. Ruddock died last year. Margaret and Albert are survived by two sons, Merritt who lives in Belvedere, Billings of Pasadena, and three grandchildren.

Albert Ruddock was a trustee or director of many civic and cultural institutions, including Occidental College, the Los Angeles County Museum, the Town Hall of Los Angeles, the Hollywood Bowl Association, the Southern California Symphony Association, the Pasadena Civic Music Association, the Santa Barbara Foundation, and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. He



served as president of Polytechnic Elementary School and the California Graduate School of Design. He was a president and campaign chairman of the Pasadena Community Chest and, in 1944, of the Pasadena and Altadena War Chest. In 1943 he received Pasadena's Arthur Noble Award. He was a chairman of the advisory committee of the Los Angeles County General Hospital, and a former president and chairman of the management committee of the Huntington Memorial Hospital of Pasadena.

Mr. Ruddock was a member of the Twilight Club, Annandale Country Club, and Valley Hunt Club of Pasadena; and the Sunset Club and the California Club of Los Angeles. He also belonged to the Valley Club of Santa Barbara and the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. He was attending the annual Bohemian Grove Encampment on the Russian River in northern California at the time of his death from a heart attack.

The Institute held a memorial service in Beckman Auditorium on July 31, at which there were tributes from President Harold Brown and from four of Albert Ruddock's long-time friends and associates: Arnold O. Beckman, chairman of the Caltech board of trustees; attorney Herbert Hahn, a trustee; Robert Huttenback, dean of students; and Robert Sharp, professor of geology.