

COACH WILLIAM L. "FOX" STANTON

After 21 years of guiding Tech athletics, the beloved "Fox" has decided to retire.

"FOX" STANTON RESIGNS

After 21 years of service as director of athletics and head football coach at the Institute, W. L. "Fox" Stanton brought to a close an outstanding era of Caltech athletic history when he announced his resignation from all connections with the school shortly before the start of the annual gridiron battle with Pomona November 7. The announcement, made to Professor Royal W. Sorensen, Chairman of the Physical Education Department, surprised faculty, students, and alumni alike, but it provided the spark that enabled the Engineers to bowl over the Sagehens for their first Conference win since 1934. The boys really wanted to win that one for the "Fox."

Coach Stanton, who has been a fixture of the athletic department almost since the very start of the California Institute under its present name, first came to Tech in 1921 as head football coach. During the 21 years that followed, right up to the present, he has been the constant guide of the Beavers' football destinies as well as filling the positions of track coach and director of athletics. This has earned him the distinction of having served a single school on the Pacific Coast longer than any other coach. And next to Amos Alonzo Stagg he

has been connected with football longer than any other coach still active in the game.

Any description of his colorful career must be practically synonymous with the story of the development of football itself, so long and close has been his association with the game.

EARLY FOOTBALL EXPERIENCE

Stanton's first football experience was gained in Philadelphia, where he was captain and halfback on the Drexel Institute team in 1892. For the three years 1894-96 he played in the backfield for Pennington Seminary in New Jersey, also serving as captain and coach of the team. During the Spanish-American War he played on and coached his brigade team, which twice defeated a University of Georgia eleven.

The years intervening between the close of the War and 1908, when the "Fox" began his 33-year association with the Southern California Conference, were spent in coaching a number of Eastern college teams, except for a brief interval

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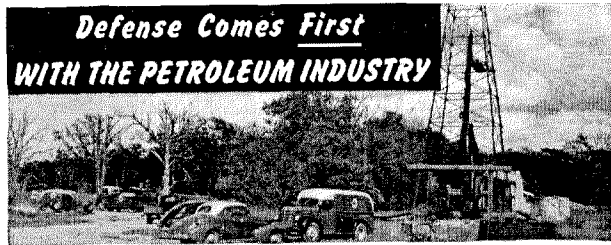
the stage where mass production can be undertaken. Some of the laboratory results already achieved hold such promise that every day which intervenes before their widespread utilization becomes a serious matter. Obviously the problems to be met here cover a wide range of equipment and materials — as wide as that marked out by the scientific results themselves — and since they involve large-scale manufacture, the whole plan must be carefully worked out with other official agencies. I am sure, however, that we are prepared to meet and solve these problems, and rather than be concerned with the difficulty of making progress along this avenue, I think all who are guiding the work of the N.D.R.C. would exclaim to the ranks of scientists and technicians, "Bring on your results, the more the better, and we will guarantee them a speedy passage to the firing line."

Editor's Note: This paper by Dr. Jewett was presented at the Session on National Defense at the 1941 Annual Meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in New York, December 1-5. It was also printed in the January, 1942, issue of Mechanical Engineering, official publication of the A.S.M.E.

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STANTON RESIGNS

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when Stanton essayed to display his talents on the legitimate stage.

Arriving in California in 1908, Stanton's first connection was with the Pomona College Sagehens. In the eight years from 1908 to 1915, he coached Pomona to four conference championships, developing several famous players during the period. In 1916 he became coach at Oxy, conference champions for that year.

Interrupted by the war, he spent the first year, before going overseas, as coach with the Camp Lewis team. The war over, he coached Oxy for two more years, up until 1921, when he first began his long association with Tech football.

SORENSEN PAYS TRIBUTE

Prof. Sorensen, closely associated with Coach Stanton for a number of years, says, "Our relations with him have always been good. He has always been interested in what the Institute is doing and has never made football take so much time of the men to interfere with satisfactory college work."

"I know of no other man around that could have done as well under the same conditions."

Continuing, "Mr. Stanton in the past has said several times he was ready to retire but at our request he has continued on. His family has also been after him to quit. Although he is director of athletics, the coach will probably resign that position as well."

At present, it has been established that Coach Stanton will not officially sever his connections with the Institute until the end of the 1941-42 school year. This means that the promising-looking 1942 track squad will still perform under his tutelage.

MILLIKAN'S STATEMENT

Dr. Robert A. Millikan also paid high tribute to Coach Stanton's position in the Institute's job of training men for life in these words: "Fox Stanton, as he has been familiarly called for the last thirty-three years in which he has been coaching football in Southern California, has one of the most enviable records ever won by any football coach—enviable because, unlike some successful coaches, he has never tolerated in himself, or in any member of his team, dirty football.

"He has realized, to an extent that not all coaches have done, that the greatest value of competitive athletics is in learning the lessons of real sportsmanship and spreading the spirit of sportsmanship throughout our American life. No finer tribute to him could be paid than the tribute of maintaining on the campus of the California Institute the spirit of sportsmanship which he has spent his life in fostering here."

