

In Appreciation

From the Administration

Dr. Barton has meant much to all who have crossed this campus in the last ten years. His spirit of interested friendliness, together with his many other outstanding virtues, have been responsible for the establishment of his lasting influence in varied and far-flung places.

From a personal standpoint I am faced with the loss of one of my most enjoyable associations as our relationship was much more than a business affiliation. I salute the spirit of my dear friend.

MR. A. B. BENEDICT.

From a Student

When Ward Seminary and Belmont College were consolidated, the banners of honor and integrity of both Dr. Ward and Misses Hood and Herron were raised above our campus. Dr. Blanton who became president of the school shortly before the consolidation moved among the girls in a friendly manner, proffered a happy atmosphere, and kept those same standards foremost. When Dr. Blanton passed away his friends and associates wondered how Ward-Belmont could possibly continue. Soon they realized that this school which has grown greater and mellowed with its age is as fine as it is because of the men and women who have lived and died in its service.

No individual is big enough to make an institution great during his lifetime. It takes joy and tragedy, happiness and sorrow, unselfishness and sacrifice in the establishment and continuance of a great organization. A man's service during his lifetime is only half of his work. His influence reaches into the ages and exerts itself in unknown situations.

Dr. Barton gave himself and his life for the school he loved. He worked to keep it going when he knew that absolute rest was essential to his recovery. Everything that he stood for has become a part of the walls, of the buildings, of the girls who are carrying on his ideals.

All of our last-year girls remember him as he stood before us in our last chapel, his last chapel. Those challenging words that sent the seniors out to new fields, the underclassmen forth to prepare for completion of their education were symbolic of Dr. Barton's entire life. He lived as a challenge before us, a challenge that will live long after we have ceased to be. Margaret Fuller said, "If you have knowledge, let others light their candles at it." Dr. Barton's light has illumined candles that will burn until the end of eternity. Some will tremble and hopelessly go out leaving only vague trails of illumination behind them. But others will glow and burn brightly, setting fire to hundreds which will in turn spread the flame.

Dr. Barton has not left us, he has only transferred his credits to a higher school. He lives and loves us now as he did while he walked on campus beside us. Yes, Dr. Barton lives today, and he will always live in the hearts and homes of his girls.

MARGARET KEYES CLARK, '37.

From an Alumna

I couldn't believe them when they said Dr. Barton was dead. It seemed like a cruel practical joke that first the radio announcer and then Death must have played—not Dr. Barton of the vigorous mind and body—not Dr. Barton of tireless energy and patience. To be sure, he had, we all knew, been in poor health for the past year, but we kept telling ourselves that next fall would find him in his place on the chapel stage, opening the first Wednesday exercises with "This day marks the 72nd year of Ward Seminary, the 47th year of Belmont College, and the 24th year of Ward-Belmont."

But Death's practical joke turned out to be stern reality, and I and hundreds of other alumnae and students had only memories of the Dr. John Wynne Barton who had played such an important part in our "brief moments" on Ward-Belmont's stage. Best of all I remembered him as he offered to each of us, as he had to Seniors many times before, the opportunity to come to his office for one final "good-will" conference.

That conference and its invitation were indicative of all that Dr. Barton was. Young enough to be on youth's side of the situation he was yet old enough in experience and judgment to influence wisely the decisions of hundreds of his Ward-Belmont girls. His personality could smooth over the hardest advice to follow that he could give, and his reasoning often even made it seem easy.

Brilliant, cultured and of high ideals Dr. Barton was the embodiment of the gentleman whose lady a Ward-Belmont girl is expected to be. His personality was far too strong, his worth far too great for him to ever be forgotten. Death may have played a practical joke in taking him from those many who needed him, but he defeated the great prankster in achieving an earthly immortality. In the hearts and minds of the hundreds of Ward-Belmont alumnae whom he counseled, befriended, and joked with, he is enshrined not only as an unforgettable part of school days but as an individual whom to know was both an education and a privilege.

MARGARET GREENE, '36.