

This PDF is a selection from a published volume from the National Bureau of Economic Research

Volume Title: Stepping Stones Towards the Future

Volume Author/Editor: Arthur F. Burns

Volume Publisher: NBER

Volume ISBN:

Volume URL: <http://www.nber.org/books/annu47-1>

Publication Date: 1947

Chapter Title: Memorial: Edwin Francis Gay

Chapter Authors: NBER

Chapter URL: <http://www.nber.org/chapters/c13609>

Chapter pages in book: (85 - 86)

Edwin Francis Gay, 1867-1946

The following memorial resolution was adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Board, held on February 25, 1946:

With deep sorrow the Directors of the National Bureau of Economic Research record the death of Edwin Francis Gay on February 7 in his California home.

Dr. Gay was one of the founders and incorporators of the National Bureau. A distinguished investigator and trainer of investigators in economic history, he had a warm interest in objective studies of contemporary developments. His experience as organizer and first dean of the Graduate School of Business Administration in Harvard University had made him widely acquainted with business problems. The intensive work he had just been doing as a member of war agencies in Washington, where he could grasp as few others the whole economy and its international relations, had deepened his conviction that definite and tested knowledge was needed in peace as well as war. No other among our founders brought a better equipment for guiding our early efforts. By common consent, he was chosen the first President of the National Bureau.

Giving generously of his time and strength, Dr. Gay served as Director at Large from 1920 to 1927, when he became Director by Appointment from Harvard. On retiring as President of the *New York Evening Post*, he was elected joint Director of Research with Wesley C. Mitchell, an office he held for nine years, from 1924 to 1933. After going to the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, Dr. Gay remained a member of the Board until 1936. As late as last year he returned to prepare at our request an incisive memorandum upon the

studies that are needed in international economics, with constructive suggestions upon what the National Bureau should undertake in this field.

To the senior members of our Board and staff, Dr. Gay's passing is a personal grief. They are grateful not only for his wise counsel, his high standard of workmanship, and the prestige his association with our enterprise conferred, but also for the integrity that made his company inspiring, and the eagerness to help others that made him so firm a friend.

To Dr. Gay's son and daughter, Edward R. Gay and Margaret Gay Davies, the Directors of the National Bureau respectfully offer sympathy, and this brief acknowledgment of one among the many benefits their father conferred upon his fellows.