4-21-1969

Mrs. Elsie Talbott Mead and Mr. Louis Wozar to Receive Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities

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DAYTON, Ohio, April 21, 1969 --- Mrs. Elsie Talbott Mead, Chairman of the Board, Barney Children's Medical Center, and Mr. Louis Wozar, President and General Manager of the Tait Manufacturing Company, will receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities at the 119th commencement exercises of the University of Dayton this Sunday, April 27. They will be the 105th and 106th honorary degrees conferred since 1901.

Mr. Wozar, whose dedication to civic and charitable affairs equals his success in the business world, will receive his honorary degree at the morning exercises. Mrs. Mead, whose husband, George H., was the founder of the Mead Corporation, will be honored at the afternoon graduation.

Two exercises are needed in the UD Fieldhouse this Sunday because more than 1,100 will receive diplomas. Associate, bachelor and master's degrees will be given. The College of Arts & Sciences graduates will receive degrees at the 11 a.m. exercise while graduates of the Schools of Business Administration, Education and Engineering, and the Technical Institute will receive diplomas at the 2:30 p.m. program.

Mrs. Mead's dedication to her fellow men, particularly unfortunate children, dates to the First World War. It was at this time, 1917-18, that she was instrumental in establishing milk stations in the various churches through the Dayton area.

The mother of six children and grandmother to 20, Mrs. Mead's philanthropy has included St. George's Episcopal Church, Dayton Junior League, Dayton Philharmonic Women's Association, Dayton Opera Guild and The Dayton Opera Association, Montgomery County Historical Society, YWCA, YMCA, Dayton Civic Ballet, DANCE Inc. for Handicapped Children, Ohio Society for Prevention of Blindness, Senior Citizens of Dayton, and Barney Children's Medical Center.

Her greatest efforts probably have been aimed toward the growth of the Children's Medical Center. In the Center's November, 1968, newsletter issue, it states:

"Perhaps, no one person has been more instrumental in carrying through plans for a Children's Hospital in Dayton than Mrs. George H. Mead. In 1959, she and other leading citizens in the area formed The Children's Hospital Society to raise funds..."
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and build a general Children's Hospital."

Her honorary degree citation points to her efforts during World War I, care of the poor particularly during the Depression of the 1930s, nurses aide efforts during World War II, devotion to the handicapped of all ages and finally dedication to Barney Children's Hospital.

Because of her personal and financial efforts for this hospital, 35,000 children received treatment through the Center's out-patient clinics, in 1968. More than 3,900 young ones were admitted to the Center and received in excess of 26,000 days of care. More than 10,000 received emergency room treatment. It is through her efforts that the Center has established a research facility to delve into the origins of childhood diseases.

Mrs. Mead's family includes daughters, Mrs. John M. (Louise) Walker of Greenwich, Conn., Mrs. Frank (Marianna) O'Brien of Groton, Mass., and Miss Katherine T. Mead of Fort Lee, New Jersey; and sons, H. Talbott Mead and Nelson S. Mead. Another son, George H. Jr. was killed in World War II.

Mr. Wozar was born in Woodbridge, New Jersey, and lived in that state until coming to Dayton in 1942 as Production Engineer for United Aircraft Products. He moved up the management ladder at that company until 1948 when he joined the Tait Manufacturing Company as executive assistant to the president. He was named President and General Manager of Tait in January, 1954. He is presently Chairman of the Board of six other companies.

Mr. Wozar's experience in civic and charitable affairs is extensive. He is the past president of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce (1961-63), Rotary Club of Dayton (1960-61), the Miami Valley Council of Boy Scouts of America (1957-59), Board of Trustees of Junior Achievement of Dayton (1962-64), United Fund Inc. (1967-68), and Board of Trustees of Frank M. Tait Foundation (1955-present).

He was General Chairman of the 1963 United Appeal Fund Drive in Montgomery and Greene Counties. He has been honored with the "Silver Beaver" and Silver Antelope awards from the Boy Scouts of America and the Junior Achievement "Spirit of American Heritage" award among others.

He has been President of the Associate Board of Lay Trustees of the University of Dayton since 1965. He is also a member of the Boards of Directors of Winters National Bank and Trust Company and Philips Industries Inc.

Other civic and charitable organizations who have felt Mr. Wozar's presence are Air Force Museum Foundation, Miami Valley Council, Citizens Committee on Mental Retarded Children, Council for Retarded Children, Dayton Council on World Affairs, Engineering Foundation of Dayton Inc., Hospital Planning Council of Greater Miami Valley, Mental Health and Retardation Board of Montgomery County, Mental Health Association of Montgomery County Inc., Montgomery County Society for Cancer Control, Ohio Valley Regional Medical Program, Sinclair Community College Foundation, Special Committee on Urban Renewal, Sister City Committee of Dayton and Augsburg, Germany, United Negro College Fund Inc. and Barney Children's Medical Center.

Mr. and Mrs. Wozar have two daughters, Mrs. Robert Parker of Dayton and Mrs. James Savage of Toledo.