

HARRY A. TOWSLEY

Mr. President, on behalf of the faculty of Kalamazoo College, it is my pleasure to present DR. HARRY A. TOWSLEY as a candidate for the honorary degree Doctor of Science. Educator, scholar, scientist, physician and humanitarian, Dr. Towsley has given generously of his extensive talents throughout a long career in the service of humanity.

Dr. Towsley is one of six children of a Midland physician, four of whom, including Dr. Towsley, attended Kalamazoo College, as did a niece and nephew, a grand-niece and grand-nephew. The Towsleys, as Dr. Towsley himself has said, "have a tradition at Kalamazoo College."

Dr. Towsley received a medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1931. He has also done graduate study at the University of Chicago, and Boston, Cornell, and Washington Universities, in this country; and Birmingham and London, in Great Britain.

In 1935, Dr. Towsley joined the medical faculty of the University of Michigan. World War II drew him into the U.S. Army Medical Service, where he served with distinction. Dr. Towsley then returned to the University of Michigan as a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Infectious Diseases, gaining national recognition as an authority in pediatrics, and serving a term as President of the American Board of Pediatrics.

Dr. Towsley has special interests in the postgraduate education of physicians. He served as Chairman of the Michigan State Medical Committee on Postgraduate Medical Education and the Annual Session Scientific Program Committee. He has been lauded by professional journals as the innovator of post-graduate medical education at both the state and national levels. The Towsley Center for Continuing Medical Education at the University of Michigan honors his commitment to such efforts.

It seems to be a quality of persons with unusual talents and vision that, in spite of busy professional schedules, they find time for selfless service and leadership in the general community. Such has certainly been the case with Dr. Towsley. He served as Director of the Michigan Association for Retarded Children, President of the Michigan United Fund, a member of the Ann Arbor Board of Health, the Michigan Health Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Alumni Advisory Board of Galen Honorary Medical Society, and most recently as State Chairman of the Gerald R. Ford Library / Museum campaign, a project to which the Towsley Foundation is strongly committed.

Dr. Towsley meets regularly with Kalamazoo College graduates at the University of Michigan and with the College's pre-medical undergraduates. He is a generous benefactor of Kalamazoo College, where he endowed the Harry A. and Margaret D. Towsley Foundation Scholarship Fund for the support of medical career students.

In honoring Dr. Towsley we remind ourselves of the high standards to which we as individuals and as an institution aspire. Therefore, on behalf of the faculty of Kalamazoo College, I recommend that upon DR. HARRY A. TOWSLEY be conferred the honorary degree Doctor of Science.