

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



DOCTOR OF LAWS 'HONORIS CAUSA'

EMERITUS PROFESSOR DOROTHY HILL

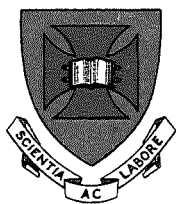
"MR. DEPUTY CHANCELLOR,

EMERITUS PROFESSOR DOROTHY HILL WHOM I PRESENT TO YOU TONIGHT FOR ADMISSION TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS, HONORIS CAUSA, IS ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN AND BEST LOVED MEMBERS OF THIS UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY. I SAY IS, BECAUSE ALTHOUGH SHE HAS RETIRED FROM MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMIC STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY, SHE REMAINS AMONG US, WORKING ACTIVELY AND ADDING STILL FURTHER TO THE SCHOLARSHIP THAT HAS BROUGHT SUCH DISTINCTION AND RECOGNITION TO HER AND TO THIS UNIVERSITY.

SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF A WELL-KNOWN CITIZEN OF THIS CITY; SHE WAS EDUCATED AT THE BRISBANE GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL WHERE SHE EXCELLED IN STUDIES AND IN SPORT AND SHE WON AN OPEN SCHOLARSHIP TO THIS UNIVERSITY WHERE SHE MATRICULATED IN 1924. SHE GRADUATED IN 1928 WITH FIRST CLASS HONOURS IN GEOLOGY AND WAS AWARDED THE UNIVERSITY GOLD MEDAL. SHE WAS THEN AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP WHICH GAVE HER THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE HER STUDIES IN THE BRISBANE VALLEY. IT WAS IN THESE YEARS THAT HER INTEREST WAS AROUSED IN MUNDUBBERA CORALS, AN INTEREST WHICH IN DUE TIME MADE HER THE AUTHORITY ON RUGOSE CORALS.

IN 1930, DOROTHY HILL WAS AWARDED A QUEENSLAND FOUNDATION TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP AND ARMED WITH COLLECTIONS OF PALAEOZOIC CORALS FROM MUNDUBBERA AND ELSEWHERE SHE SET OFF FOR CAMBRIDGE. HER WORK THERE EARNED HER THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY AND SHE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ELECTED A RESEARCH FELLOW OF NEWNHAM. SHE SPENT SEVEN YEARS IN ENGLAND DURING WHICH TIME SHE PUBLISHED AUTHORITATIVE MONOGRAPHS AND IMPORTANT PAPERS.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

PROFESSOR DOROTHY HILL (cont.)

IN 1937 SHE CAME HOME, AND AS A RESEARCH FELLOW OF THIS UNIVERSITY SHE BEGAN A GENERAL REVISION OF AUSTRALIAN RUGOSE CORALS. IN THE YEARS WHICH FOLLOWED SHE PUBLISHED MANY PAPERS AND WITH W.H. BRYAN SHE PROPOSED A NEW HYPOTHESIS FOR THE GROWTH OF CORAL. IN 1942 SHE WAS AWARDED THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE FOR HER SCHOLARLY WORK.

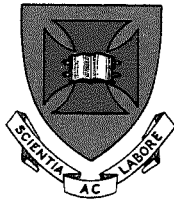
DURING THE WAR YEARS SHE SERVED FOR THREE YEARS WITH THE NAVY.

IN 1946, SHE RETURNED TO THE UNIVERSITY AS LECTURER IN GEOLOGY; IN 1956 SHE BECAME SENIOR LECTURER, IN 1959 RESEARCH PROFESSOR AND IN 1960 PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND.

SHE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE WORK OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF COMMITTEE OF WHICH SHE WAS SECRETARY FROM 1946 TO 1955 AND DURING THIS TIME THE HERON ISLAND MARINE BIOLOGICAL STATION WAS ESTABLISHED. IN 1946 SHE WAS INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE THE SECTION OF PALAEOZOIC CORALS TO THE ANGLO-AMERICAN TREATISE ON INVERTEBRATE PALAEOLOGY. IN 1950 SHE BECAME EDITOR OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND LATER PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

IN 1956 SHE WAS ELECTED A FELLOW OF THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE - THE FIRST WOMAN TO BE ACCORDED THIS HONOUR, AND SHE ASSUMED THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ACADEMY FOR A PERIOD DURING 1970. IN 1964 SHE WAS AWARDED THE LYELL MEDAL OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY IN PRESENTING THAT DISTINGUISHED AWARD TO HER SAID OF HER THAT "THE STREAM OF PUBLICATIONS IS SYNONYMOUS WITH ALMOST ALL THAT IS KNOWN ABOUT AUSTRALIAN PALAEOZOIC CORALS". IN 1965 SHE WAS

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



PROFESSOR DOROTHY HILL (cont.)

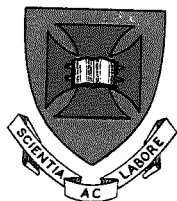
ELECTED A FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY. SHE HOLDS OTHER FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS OF DISTINGUISHED SOCIETIES IN MANY PLACES. SHE WAS HONOURED BY THE AWARD OF THE C.B.E. IN 1971. HER ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL STANDING IN THIS PLACE, MR. DEPUTY CHANCELLOR, WAS ALSO RECOGNIZED BY HER ELECTION IN 1971 AS PRESIDENT OF THE PROFESSORIAL BOARD AND SHE SERVED WITH DISTINCTION IN THAT OFFICE. I WAS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH HER AT THAT TIME AND I CAN SPEAK WITH CLOSE KNOWLEDGE OF HER MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WELFARE OF THE UNIVERSITY. SHE WON THE RESPECT, THE SUPPORT AND THE ADMIRATION OF HER COLLEAGUES.

MANY DISTINGUISHED AUSTRALIANS HAVE BEEN HER STUDENTS AND SOME OF THESE - NOW SPREAD OVER THE WORLD - CONTRIBUTED IN THE LATE SIXTIES TO THE PUBLICATION OF ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF DOROTHY HILL. SHE HAS BEEN HONOURED BY THE UNIVERSITY BY THE AWARD OF THE TITLE OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR AND A CHAIR OF GEOLOGY BEARS HER NAME.

MR. DEPUTY CHANCELLOR, THERE IS MORE TO REPORT: HER SCHOOL GIRL PROWESS AS A SPORTSWOMAN WAS CARRIED THROUGH INTO HER UNIVERSITY DAYS. SHE HAS BEEN A PILOT, SHE ONCE CLAIMED SOME EXPERTNESS IN THE SPORT OF BICYCLE POLO.

THERE MUST BE AN END: TO RECOUNT ALL OF HER ACHIEVEMENTS AND INTERESTS WOULD BE TOO FORMIDABLE A TASK. SHE IS MUCH BELOVED AND WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR REGARD FOR HER AND OUR RECOGNITION OF HER SERVICE AND DISTINCTION IN VARIOUS WAYS. ONE THING REMAINS. IT IS THE UNANIMOUS WISH OF THE SENATE TO RECOGNIZE HER MANY ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE AWARD OF AN HONORARY DEGREE. THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



PROFESSOR DOROTHY HILL (cont.)

SCIENCE SHE ALREADY HOLDS BY INTELLECTUAL ATTAINMENT AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT. WHAT ELSE REMAINS FOR A PERSON OF SUCH QUALITY. A LAWYER VICE-CHANCELLOR HAD NO HESITATION IN PROPOSING TO THE HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE AND TO THE SENATE THE APPROPRIATE AWARD AND A PERCEPTIVE COMMITTEE AND SENATE READILY AGREED.

MR. DEPUTY CHANCELLOR, I PRESENT TO YOU DOROTHY HILL, COMMANDER OF THE MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (CAMBRIDGE), DOCTOR OF SCIENCE, FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY, FELLOW OF THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND FELLOW OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, FOR ADMISSION TO THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS 'HONORIS CAUSA'."

The Deputy Chancellor says:

"DOROTHY HILL BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, I ADMIT YOU TO THE RANK AND PRIVILEGES OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS 'HONORIS CAUSA' IN THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND."