



GALLERY OF DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS INDUCTEE 1986

FRED W. SINGTON was born in Birmingham, on February 24, 1910. He attended Birmingham Public Schools. He was a scholarly student and a good athlete, lettering in four sports. At the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa from 1927-1931, he continued to win honors on the field and in the classroom. He was a letterman in football and baseball. In 1929 and 1930, he was chosen All Southern Football and All American Football. In 1931, he was named an All American in Baseball. He was awarded the Pan Hellenic trophy for best athlete and selected as Best Scholar Athlete. He was chosen Vice President of the Student Council and recipient of a Phi Beta Kappa Scholarship.

He was line coach at Duke University during football season and played baseball during the spring and summer. He played in the Minor League with Washington in the American League and Brooklyn in the National League. In 1942, he was inducted into the Navy, where he coached the Navy Zoomers football team at Norman, Oklahoma.

In 1947, he opened the Fred Sington Athletic Store on Fifth Avenue in downtown Birmingham. He was a Southeastern Conference Football Official for 13 years and served as its President in 1949.

One special function dear to his heart was the UAB Hospital Community Service Award. In 1978, he was asked by the City of Hope Hospital in Los Angeles to serve as honoree at a dinner to raise funds for the hospital. In 1990, the National Federal Lung Hospital in Denver requested that he do the same. He and an associate coordinated a plan with Dr. S. Richardson Hill at UAB to honor one of our local leaders and donate the proceeds to the UAB Hospital.

His great love for football prompted him to organize a bowl game at Legion Field. Cecil Stubbs joined him in the endeavor. It took eleven years of persistent effort before they were finally granted permission by the NCAA. Finally in 1977, the "All American Bowl" game was held in Birmingham. Over the years, this bowl brought many people to Birmingham.

He passed away in 1998.