Dr. Jacob P. Hassler

Class of 1911

The name of Jacob “Jake” Hassler is synonymous with Grove City College to those students attending from January 1924 through June 1964. As bursar, he was the “keeper of the funds,” and was responsible for the buildings and grounds, and the College’s purchasing operations for 40 years.

Thousands of Grovers settled their financial accounts with this exacting gentleman. During his service to the College, the student body increased from 450 to more than 1,600 and the budget from less than $100,000 a year to more than $2.5 million.

When Hassler started work at the College, only Memorial Hall was on the upper campus. Constructed during his tenure were Mary Anderson Pew Dormitory and its additions; Keller, Lincoln and Hopeman residence halls; Crawford Hall; Rockwell Hall of Science; Harbison Chapel; Recreation Building and the original section of Calderwood Hall.

Hassler served three years with the Pennsylvania National Guard. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Reserve and spent two years overseas. He was honorably discharged as second lieutenant in 1919. His work experience prior to joining Grove City College included traveling coast-to-coast for the U.S. Shipping Board checking cancelled contracts on ship construction and serving as auditor. He and his partner-brother, E.S. Hassler, published the Grove City Herald. He was listed in Who’s Who in Eastern States and was an evaluator for the Middle States College Association.

He served as treasurer for Grove City’s East Main Presbyterian Church for more than 37 years.

He passed away May 15, 1985.

Additional degree: Honorary Doctor of Laws, Grove City College

Additional study: Cleveland School of Accountancy