George J. Miller Geography Scholarship

George J. Miller 1880-1973

George Miller was born in 1880 near Sturgis, Michigan and was teaching in rural schools at the age of seventeen. He graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1900 and attended the University of Chicago from 1902-03 where he earned his Bachelor of Science and eventually his Master’s degree in 1913. He completed much of the work necessary to get his Doctorate of Education from Michigan State Normal College, which is now Eastern Michigan University, but had to quit to earn a living. He was later awarded an honorary Doctorate of Education. He came to Mankato Normal School in 1913 where he had just been appointed head of what would eventually become the Department of Geography.

His dedication to education and geography was demonstrated when a fire gutted the main building of Mankato State Teachers College on February 5, 1922. Dr. Miller paid for office furnishings and equipment replacements out of his own pocket.

Students will reap the benefits of George Miller’s zealous energy, hard work, and determination in the field of geography, and geographic education for infinite generations. It is MSU’s quest to employ the George J. Miller Geography Endowment not only as a measure of homage to Miller, but also as an effort to embrace, uphold, and to continue Miller’s global vision that proved so successful in the past.

Department of Geography
Armstrong Hall 07
389-2617