D. Howard Doane (July 30, 1883 – February 19, 1984) was most widely known as the founder and long-time Chairman of the Board of Doane Agricultural Services, which is the oldest, and for decades was the largest, farm management, appraisal and agricultural research organization in the United States.

Among his many life accomplishments, Doane served on an agriculture task force appointed by President Herbert Hoover that was charged with reorganizing the United States Department of Agriculture.

He wrote four books and numerous articles for the leading agricultural journals and magazines. He provided leadership to dozens of civic and professional organizations throughout his lifetime.

He received a B.S. in Agriculture in 1908 and M.S. in Agriculture in 1909 at the University of Missouri where he was also the founding father of FarmHouse International Fraternity, Inc. He also received three Honorary doctorates as well.

Self-described as a farm boy, Harold F. Breimyer hoped future generations of youth, particularly from rural areas, would receive similar educational opportunities. He loved his extension assignment and considered the Smith Lever Act, which established a nationwide Agricultural Extension Service, the most important law affecting U.S. agriculture in the twentieth century, outranking even the path-breaking Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933.

Breimyer was a Professor of Agricultural Economics & Extension Economist at the University of Missouri from 1966 until 1984, when he took a Nominal Retirement due to the mandatory retirement age. In his own words, Breimyer “did not miss a day in continuing his professional activity”. He composed a weekly column that was published in the local paper, with the final column being published one day before his death at age 86 in 2001.

Breimyer was awarded AJAE’s Best Article Award in 1954, 1957, and 1962. He was the University of Missouri, Gamma Sigma Delta, Superior Teaching Award recipient of 1981 and given the American Agricultural Editor’s Association Distinguished Service Award in 1998, among other honors. Of his many awards and successes, Breimyer considered being named Elected Fellow by the America Agricultural Economics Association in 1973 and achieving the Thomas Jefferson Award at the University of Missouri in 1983 his most meaningful awards.

William Jasper Spillman (1863-1931) received bachelor's and master's degrees in the 1880s, and an honorary doctorate in 1910, all from the University of Missouri. Due to his competence in genetics, the U.S. Department of Agriculture employed Spillman in 1902 as head of grass and forage plant investigations.

In 1904 Spillman was placed in charge of the USDA's new Office of Farm Management. At the University of Delaware on June 14, 1909, Spillman spoke to an audience of about 1,000 on the topic "Some of the Economics of Agriculture." In July 1910, a group of interested persons met to form the American Farm Management Association. Spillman was elected first president. In 1919 the American Farm Management Association merged with the Association of Agricultural Economists to establish the American Farm Economic Association, now known as the American Agricultural Economics Association.

Spillman is known as a humble Missouri farm boy who became a globally recognized agricultural production and social scientist, educator, and administrator.

- Taken from :The Legacy of William Jasper Spillman; Choices: The Magazine of Food, Farm and Resource Issues, Summer, 2000 by Gerald F. Vaughn