

NATIONAL SPRINT CAR HALL of FAME & MUSEUM

T. E. "POP" MYERS

Few men in any branch of sports or business have woven their lives into the history and tradition of any project to a greater extent than T. E. (Pop) Myers, the "Grand Old Man" of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Pop's connection with the world's most famous racing strip dates from 1910 when he assumed the responsibilities of ticket manager for the 1910 events. His nickname came then, although he was but 36 years old, when press agent Heinie Schuart referred to him as "Pop," drawing attention to the fringe of grey around his temples.

The post of General Manager fell to Pop for the 1914 500 mile race, and one year later he was named secretary-treasurer of the Speedway corporation, then headed by Carl Fisher, the founder. When the track was sold



T.E. "Pop" Myers
Bruce Craig Collection

to interests headed by Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker in 1927, Pop was elevated to the position of Vice President, Anton Hulman, Jr., purchased

the big plant in 1945 and retained Pop as Vice President.

On three trips to Europe Pop visited race courses in Italy, France and England, stimulating interest in the Indianapolis classic. Through his connection with racing, from the very start, Pop listed every outstanding race driver of all time as his personal friend.

In his lifelong association with racing's greatest classic Pop had seen the prize fund grow from \$25,000, in 1911, to the \$230,100 awarded the winner of the 500 in 1952. He had served as a member of the AAA Contest Board and as referee of the 1950 and 1951 Mobilgas Economy Run.

No authority on any subject deserves more recognition in his particular field than the Speedway's "Grand Old Man" of automobile racing, who, on his 79th birthday was elected to Auto Racing's Hall of Fame.