

industries, are invaluable for their wealth of historical and statistical information. He served also at various times as consulting expert for the U. S. Geological Survey, the U. S. Forestry Service and the Civil Service Commission, and was chairman of the advisory committee of the American Railway Association for drafting regulations on the safe transportation of explosives. He was chairman of the Committee on Explosives of the American Society of Testing Materials and also of the Committee on Explosives Investigations of the National Research Council. His name is writ large in the history of the American explosives industry.

No less extensive were Munroe's services for the numerous scientific societies of which he was a member. In 1873 at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Portland, Maine, he was secretary of a group of distinguished chemists (among whom were seven future presidents of the American Chemical Society) who petitioned the association for the formation of a subsection of chemistry. This was a recognized feature of the association until 1881, when it was made a full section. Munroe was the last survivor of this original group of founders of Section C. He was also the last surviving charter member of the American Chemical Society (founded in 1876), which honored him with its presidency in 1898. His services to this body, of which he was a life member, were of the highest order. In the early days when the American Chemical Society, because of mismanagement, was threatened with disruption, no less than seven of its future presidents having resigned, it was Munroe who, adhering loyally to his membership, organized the first local section and the first general meeting of the society at Newport, which, with the other reforms that he helped to initiate, restored harmony to the shattered organization and set it for the first time on the path that led to its subsequent phenomenal growth. When collaborators were lacking to write the chapter on "Industrial Chemistry" for the fiftieth anniversary number of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 1926 it was Munroe again who saved the day by voluntarily assuming this extra burden. He served continuously as associate editor on explosives for *Chemical Abstracts* from the first issue of this journal in 1907 until death terminated the activity of his pen.

In addition to the various domestic and foreign chemical societies to which he belonged, Munroe was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Philosophical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was a recipient of numerous honors, among which were a membership in the Turkish Order of Medjidieh and a decoration of the Order of Leopold from Belgium.

In his social relations, Munroe was a prince among men. Within his large circle of friends at the Cosmos Club (of which he was president in 1913-1914) cordiality and good will radiated from him as light from the sun. Like his old college chums, F. W. Clarke and H. W. Wiley, he had a jovial temperament, and those who were so fortunate as to join this famous trio of Harvard men in one of their festive gatherings will always remember the spontaneous flow of wit and merriment.

On June 20, 1883, Professor Munroe married Mary Louise Barker, daughter of the late Professor George F. Barker, also a charter member and past president of the American Chemical Society, and just fifty years later he and Mrs. Munroe, surrounded by their five children and numerous grandchildren, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Munroe's life was singularly happy and productive. He was the last brilliant example of the old school chemist who cultivated his science upon all its sides, who saw it steadily and saw it whole. To him may be applied those words of Ariosto, "Nature made him and then broke the mould."

C. A. BROWNE

RECENT DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. HENRY VANPETERS WILSON, Kenan professor of zoology at the University of North Carolina and since 1891 head of the department until his retirement two years ago, died on January 4 in his seventy-sixth year.

DR. FABIAN FRANKLIN, professor of mathematics in the Johns Hopkins University from 1879 to 1895, later editor of the *Baltimore News* and associate editor of the *New York Evening Post*, died on January 8 at the age of eighty-six years.

DR. LOUIS ISRAEL HARRIS, health commissioner of New York City from 1926 until 1928, died on January 6 at the age of fifty-six years.

DR. WARREN KING MOOREHEAD, professor emeritus of Phillips Academy at Andover, Mass., and curator of its museum, died on January 5 at the age of seventy-two years.

PROFESSOR H. J. BAKER, director of the extension service for the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station at Rutgers University, died on January 6 at the age of fifty-three years.

DR. GEORGE BARGER, Regius professor of chemistry at the University of Glasgow, known for his work on alkaloids and the synthesis of thyroxin, died on January 6. He was sixty years old. Dr. Barger lectured at Cornell University and at the Johns Hopkins University in 1928.