

actions (1900), and served on the board of editors in each case.

On the fiftieth anniversary of the society in 1938, Fiske received all honors as founder of the society. His portrait was painted for the occasion and now hangs in the rooms of the society in the Low Library of Columbia University. A full history of the first fifty years of the society, including a most complete account of Fiske's life and services, was written by Professor Archibald, of Brown University.¹

Fiske was rapidly promoted in the department of mathematics at Columbia, becoming full professor in 1897 and the executive officer in 1915. He was an enthusiastic lecturer, equally interested in undergraduate and graduate work, inspiring many students. His main courses were in the theory of functions and differential equations. He published several technical papers in his early years, and a valuable monograph on functions of a complex variable, but his chief literary work was in the role of editor.

Fiske's name will always be connected with the American Mathematical Society, and also with another important organization, the College Entrance Examination Board. This was started in 1900 and the first secretary was Professor Nicholas Murray Butler. When Dr. Butler resigned as secretary, just before becoming president of Columbia, he asked Professor Fiske to take over the work, and to regard this service as a real portion of his duties as a professor, promoting the course of general education. Fiske was secretary from 1901 to 1936. Under his wise guidance the board grew from a small organization, examining 1,000 candidates for admission to twenty colleges, to 23,000 candidates to two hundred colleges.

When Fiske retired from Columbia and from the College Board in 1936, he settled in Poughkeepsie with his daughter, living the life of a country gentleman and keeping up many scholarly interests; until his death on January 10, 1944.

EDWARD KASNER

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. NORTON ADAMS KENT, who founded the department of physics at Boston University and was professor of physics there until his retirement in 1942, died on June 5 at the age of seventy years.

DR. FREDERICK G. REYNOLDS, since 1891 until his retirement with the title emeritus in 1943 professor of mathematics and head of the department of the College of the City of New York, died on June 9 at the age of seventy-two years.

FREDERIC H. FAY, senior member of Fay, Spofford and Thorndike, engineers, Boston, a member of the Boston Planning Board for twenty years, died on June 5 at the age of seventy-one years.

DR. AMOS ARTHUR HELLER, botanist of Chico, Calif., died at Vacaville, Calif., on May 18. He had at various times been connected with the University of Minnesota, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the New York Botanical Garden and the University of Nevada.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association reports that a portrait of the late Dr. Howard Taylor Ricketts, who died of typhus in Mexico City on May 3, 1910, was unveiled on June 11 in the Archibald Church Library of the Northwestern University Medical School. The portrait is the gift of Mrs. Howard T. Ricketts and was presented by Dr. Henry T. Ricketts, son of Dr. Ricketts. It was unveiled by Robert Howard Palmer and Howard James Ricketts. Dr. Ludvig Hektoen, after an introduction by Dr. Irving S. Cutter, dean emeritus of Northwestern University Medical School, delivered the principal address. The portrait will hang permanently in the Archibald Church Library. A special exhibit of memorabilia depicting the work of Dr. Ricketts, who contracted typhus while carrying on research on the disease, will be on display.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE HAWAIIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

THE Hawaiian Academy of Science held its eighteenth annual meeting on the evenings of April 27, 28 and 29 at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu. Scientific papers were presented on the first two evenings, and on Saturday the annual dinner and business meeting were followed by the address of the retiring president, Professor Carey D. Miller, who spoke on "Some Aspects of Growth and Food Needs."

¹ American Mathematical Society Semicentennial Publications, Vol. 1, 1938. I have borrowed most of my facts from this volume.

For two years, owing to blackout restrictions and attendant travel difficulties, no evening meetings were held and meetings this year marked the return to the usual pre-war program. The average attendance has been about ninety. Thirty nominees were elected to membership. Officers elected for the coming year were: J. L. Collins, *President*; Peter H. Buck, *Vice-president*; Chester K. Wentworth, *Secretary-Treasurer*; T. A. Jaggar, Jr., and Colin G. Lennox, *Councilors* for one and two years, respectively; and Carey D. Miller, *Councilor, ex officio*.

The Hawaiian Academy of Science was founded in