

EDGAR KINCAID CHAPMAN.

HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS.
December 28, 1877.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA.
November 3, 1928.

Edgar Kincaid Chapman was born in Huntley, Illinois, December 28, 1877. A few years later he moved with his parents to Iowa, where he lived on a farm and attended the public schools, graduating from the Independence (Iowa) High School.

In 1903 he received the A.B. degree from Oberlin College. In 1910 he received the degree Sc.M. from Chicago University. In 1919 he began graduate work at Indiana University toward his Ph.D. degree.



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In 1922 when he was stricken he had this work well towards completion. While attending Chicago University he was a member of the Acacia fraternity. His scholarship at Chicago is attested by the fact that he was elected to the honorary scientific society, Sigma Xi.

After graduating from Oberlin College he taught in the South Whitley (Indiana) High School, 1903-04; Garrett (Indiana) High School, 1904-05; DeKalb (Illinois) High School, 1905-06. He held the position of Professor of Physics in Iowa State Teachers' College, Cedar Falls, Iowa, during the years 1906-09. In 1910 he was elected Professor of Physics at Wabash College, and held the position until his death. During the year 1918-19 he was an instructor in the U. S. School for Radio Mechanicians at Indiana University.

Professor Chapman was preeminently a teacher. He was able to impart to the student his enthusiasm and his clear conception of the subject taught. It has been said that the true student and teacher will always get together; this was true in Chapman's case. During his latter years when he was unable to attend classes, advanced students came to his home. Often he held classes in his room when he was unable to leave his bed.

Professor Chapman was a leader in the faculty of Wabash College and did a great deal to advance the cause of science. He was one of the

organizers of the Science Club at Wabash College and applied to the general organization of Sigma Xi for the right to call the club a Sigma Xi club. This being a new idea to the Sigma Xi Council, the permit was granted after a number of years. His standing as a man of science at Wabash is shown by the fact that he was able to convince the President and the Board of Trustees that it was a good thing for Wabash to share the expenses of the faculty to scientific meetings.

He was a member of the American Physical Society and soon after coming to Indiana he joined the Indiana Academy of Science (1911). Although he did not read many papers, he was a regular attendant of the meetings during the early years of his stay in Indiana. The minutes of the Academy show that he read a paper on "The Spectrum of Phosphorescent Mercury" in 1919. Among his papers is found an abstract of a paper for the American Physical Society.

Early in life Professor Chapman identified himself with the Congregational Church. At Crawfordsville he united with the denomination of his choice and was a member until the congregation merged into the Presbyterian Church. In the Presbyterian Church he was a member of the official board. For some time he was the director of the choir of the Baptist Church. Thus he was officially connected with three Crawfordsville churches, and the membership of all three respected and loved him.

Up until he was impaired in health he and his family spent the summers on Bass Lake, near Pentwater, Michigan. Here he was the life of the community. All the farmers and fishermen in the neighborhood knew Professor Chapman. Here he could roam the woods, climb the dunes, and penetrate into the mysteries of Devil's Pond. He knew the quality of the blueberries on the high hills, and the time of ripening of the blackberries in the low valleys. He was an ardent disciple of Izaak Walton. If there was a bass or pickerel any place in the lake that would bite, Chapman caught it. He systematically worked his boat from one end of the lake to the other, casting all the time. The logs were never so high or the brush so thick on a trout stream that he could not worm himself through and get his line in the pool. He was a lover of the great out of doors. Professor Chapman was at his best when he was cooking a "beach supper" over an open fire on the shore of Lake Michigan.

The one word which describes him is the word enthusiasm. Whether it was work or play, he entered in with his whole soul.

During his last years, although he was for months at a time confined to his bed, often suffering severe pain, he was always cheerful and hopeful. He was interested in the affairs of the home, town and college to the end.

In the passing of Edgar Chapman, Wabash College has lost a teacher, the State of Indiana has lost a true man, and we have lost a friend.

R. R. RAMSEY, Indiana University.