

NECROLOGY

WILL E. EDINGTON, DePauw University

EMIL DIETZ

Rohrschach, Switzerland
February 2, 1864

Indianapolis, Indiana
September 27, 1947

Emil Dietz was a prominent Indianapolis business man who became deeply interested in science because of its philosophical implications. A prodigious reader, principally of philosophical and scientific books, he in time built up an excellent library and acquired a broad general knowledge of those fields.

Emil Dietz was born in Rohrschach, Switzerland, and was brought to Indianapolis by his parents while still a small child. He attended a German-English school until he reached the age of fourteen and then took a business course which completed his formal education. He began his business career as a bookkeeper for the Fred Dietz Company, manufacturers of wooden boxes and trucks. However, his active and practical mind asserted itself in seeking improvements in the company's manufactured products until he finally held eight patents on wooden packing box and factory truck construction, and he was finally promoted to the presidency of the company which position he held until 1910.

As one hobby he became much interested in astronomy and he possessed a four inch reflector telescope by means of which he observed and studied double stars. However, he was forced to give up his observational studies during the last ten years of his life because of blindness. He was also much interested in art and was a patron of a number of the older Indiana artists of whose work he possessed a fine collection which he had purchased when the artists were young and still struggling for recognition.

Mr. Dietz joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1921 and while he did not present any papers he nevertheless maintained an interest in its work even in his last years. He is survived by two sons, Carl V. Dietz of Indianapolis, and Dr. Harry F. Dietz of Wilmington, Delaware, a Fellow and former Press Secretary of the Indiana Academy of Science

CHARLES TOBIAS KNIPP

Napoleon, Ohio
August 13, 1869

Denton, Texas
July 6, 1948

With the passing of Charles T. Knipp the Academy lost another one of its most prominent members and one of its few remaining ties with the early days of the Academy and Indiana science, for Charles

T. Knipp became a member of the Academy in 1894 and maintained a steady and active interest in its work through all the intervening years by attending and presenting papers which appeared frequently in the Proceedings, the last appearing in 1936.

Charles Tobias Knipp was born on a farm in Henry, County, Ohio, near the town of Napoleon, on August 13, 1869. His father was much interested in farm machinery and had a shop in which young Knipp and his brother learned to handle tools and make things, a training that influenced him throughout the rest of his life. After he had completed the work offered in the township schools and the Napoleon high school and was ready for college, his father moved to Bloomington, Indiana, so that Charles and his brother and sister might attend Indiana University. Young Knipp entered Indiana University during the last year of the presidency of David Starr Jordan.

This was a golden age for science at Indiana University and also the age of opportunity for gifted young scientists. John M. Coulter succeeded Jordan as President in 1891 at the age of 39 and, with his coming, Arthur L. Foley was made Associate Professor of Physics at the age of 24 and Robert E. Lyons was similarly promoted to Associate Professor of Chemistry at the age of 21. In 1893 Joseph Swain, at the age of 36, succeeded Coulter as President, and David M. Mottier became Associate Professor of Botany at the age of 29.

It was in this scientific atmosphere that young Knipp received his physics training, his A.B. degree in 1894, and his A.M. degree in 1896. At the beginning of his senior year he was appointed instructor in physics. He retained this instructorship while he studied at Cornell University where the Ph.D. degree was conferred upon him in 1900. He returned to Indiana University as an Assistant Professor of Physics. In 1903 he accepted a similar position at the University of Illinois, where he attained the rank of Associate Professor of Physics in 1915, and Professor of Experimental Electricity in 1917. He retired in 1937 with the rank of Professor Emeritus. During his tenure at Illinois he went to Cambridge, England, and spent the year 1910-1911 working under J. J. Thomson in the Cavendish Laboratory. He returned there again to spend the year 1926-1927 in study. Following his retirement at Illinois Dr. Knipp accepted a visiting professorship of physics at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, and spent the years 1942-1945 there, after which he went to live with a daughter in Denton, Texas, where he passed away on July 6, 1948.

Charles T. Knipp was an outstanding scientist, being listed in Who's Who in America and starred in American Men of Science. He was a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was made an Emeritus Life Member in 1943. He held memberships in the American Physical Society, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Optical Society of America, and the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education. He was active in the Illinois Academy of Science, being its vice-president in 1920-1921 and its president the following year. He was also a member of Sigma Xi,

Phi Beta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu, and Epsilon Chi. He was also a member of the advisory subcommittee on physics for the Century of Progress Exposition in 1933.

He was the author of a large number of monographs and scientific articles. His first paper was published in 1895 in the Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science, and, during the years, eighteen of his papers appeared in the Proceedings. He was a very clever designer and demonstrator of apparatus and much of his success in the class room and laboratory was due to this skill. He was also an excellent glass blower. He was the inventor of a simple alpha-ray track apparatus, efficient mercury-vapor vacuum pumps, electrodeless electric discharge apparatus, and a cold cathode rectifier, and joint inventor of an alkali-vapor detector tube for use in radio. In his later years he frequently discussed or demonstrated his apparatus before the Physics Section of the Academy.

Dr. Knipp was not only an excellent scientist but he was also a good citizen who was much interested in church and civic affairs. He served as city councilman in Urbana, seat of the University of Illinois, for many years. He loved flowers and while in Urbana had a splendid rose garden. He also had a fine collection of Indian relics.

Despite the fact that he lived outside the State for most of his life, Dr. Knipp nevertheless retained a deep interest in Indiana and Indiana science, and it is fitting that the final services for him were held at Arcadia in the State where he received the inspiration and training that made his life the success it was.

GLADYS ETHELYN KNOTT

Colfax, Indiana
January 20, 1884

New Albany, Indiana
February 26, 1947

Gladys Ethelyn Knott was one of that great group of high school science teachers who are striving to familiarize the youth of Indiana with their environment. She had become a member of the Academy of Science in 1929 and as a teacher of biological science in the Junior High School of New Albany she was instrumental in organizing the science club and affiliating it with the Junior Academy of Science in 1935 and serving as its sponsor until her death on February 26, 1947.

She was born in Colfax, Indiana, January 20, 1884, and after receiving her elementary education she continued her studies until she had secured the Master of Science degree from Purdue in 1911. She chose the career of teacher of biological science and taught in the schools of Illinois, Colorado, Florida and California, before she began her many years of service in the New Albany schools. She was an excellent and effective teacher and was highly respected and admired by her students and fellow workers.

Miss Knott was a quiet unassuming person but she possessed a charming personality. She had traveled quite extensively, especially in Mexico, Alaska and Norway, and these experiences quickened her teaching work. She was active in the American Association for Univer-

sity Women, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Eastern Star and the White Shrine, and Trinity Methodist Church of New Albany. In her passing the State of Indiana loses one of its most faithful and devoted servants whose influence will continue in the lives of many of its better citizens.

MILTON MATTER

Marion, Indiana
August 12, 1887

Marion, Indiana
November 17, 1947

From its very beginning the Indiana Academy of Science has championed all movements for the conservation of the natural resources of the State, and the progress in conservation in the State during the past fifty years is largely due the efforts of such outstanding leaders in the Academy as Stanley Coulter and Richard Lieber. The need for conservation has appealed to many men whose interest in science has thereby been aroused, with the result that they have become leaders in this work. Such a man was Milton Matter who became a member of the State Conservation Commission in 1940 and served as Director of the State Department of Conservation during the years 1945 and 1946.

Milton Matter was born in Marion, Indiana, August 12, 1887, and his death occurred there on November 17, 1947. Except for relatively brief periods, most of his life was spent in Marion and he was one of that city's leading citizens. Following the completion of his public school education he entered Princeton University and was graduated in 1911. The following year he was appointed Director of John Herron Art Institute in Indianapolis. A year or two later he resigned to accept the professorship of Art History at Wells College, Aurora, New York. In 1914 he returned to Marion and became associated with the Marion State Bank of which he later became president. He was a veteran of World War I, having enlisted in the Air Corps in 1917, and later becoming a second lieutenant and commanding officer of a squadron.

Following his appointment to the State Conservation Commission in 1940 by Governor Shricker, both he and one of his sons, Milton Junior, joined the Indiana Academy of Science. Mr. Matter was also active in the Masonic Lodge and the American Legion, and he held memberships in several social and civic clubs in Marion.

While primarily not a scientist, he was nevertheless a conservationist and also interested in zoology, and to quote from an editorial that appeared in the Indianapolis Star, "Milton Matter was a versatile and all-around useful citizen and public servant."