

Professor Kroeber never attended a meeting of the Society; indeed, his correspondence file contains only his letter of acceptance to membership.

Professor Kroeber was a distinguished anthropologist who spent almost his entire professional life at the University of California. He was a graduate of Columbia College and University and held honorary degrees from Yale, Columbia, Harvard and California. Dr. Kroeber's activities ranged from anthropological expeditions in Peru to the study of American folk lore. His published writings make an extensive list.

He was born in Hoboken, New Jersey, on June 11, 1876, the son of Florence and Johanna (Mueller) Kroeber, and died on October 5, 1960, at Berkeley. M. A. Mc.

WILLIAM SMITH MASON

William Smith Mason, collector of Benjamin Franklin manuscripts and books, died in Rancho Santa Fe, California, on January 11, 1961, at the age of ninety-four. He was a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, in the class of 1888.

Mason was born in Millburn, Illinois, on December 8, 1866. He lived in Evanston, Illinois, for many years, where he was associated with the City National Bank & Trust Company. He was a trustee of Northwestern University and of Pomona College and gave that institution a fine collection of material on California history.

His great Franklin collection, a monument to Mr. Mason's tenacious quest for the important and the elusive, went to Yale in 1935. It forms the basis for the work on the Franklin papers, now being conducted at Yale by two other members of this Society.

Mr. Mason was elected a member of this Society in October, 1922. He contributed a paper published in the October, 1924, issue of the *Proceedings*, entitled, "Franklin and Galloway, some Unpublished Letters." Prior to 1929, he was a generous contributor to the Society.

Mr. Mason was active in the Grolier Club and was on the Board of Managers of the William L. Clements Library. He was also a member of the American Philosophical Society.
M. A. Mc.

WILLIAM LAW LEARNED PELTZ

William Law Learned Peltz, elected to the Society in October, 1950, died in Selkirk, New York, on the 26th of March, 1961. Although he did not attend any meetings, he was a faithful and generous supporter of the Society. Mr. Peltz was an infrequent visitor at the Library, but impressed the staff with his kindly manner.

Mr. Peltz was a 1904 graduate of Yale and was trained in the law at the Albany Law School. He also received a Master of Arts degree from Yale in 1915. Union University granted him an LL.D. in 1957. Mr. Peltz was active in Albany banking circles, being elected President of the Mechanics and Farmers Savings Bank of Albany in 1947. In 1955, he was elected Chairman of the Board of that Bank.

He was a native of Albany, being born in that place May 27, 1882, and was very interested in his home town history. He wrote two books on the subject, one being *The Top Flight at One LaFayette Street*, a volume of biographical sketches of presidents of the Board of Trustees of Albany Academy, printed at the Yale University Press in 1939, and a history of banking in Albany, entitled, *The Banks and Savings Banks of Albany, New York*, published in 1955.
M. A. Mc.

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