

Association. It was typical that his interest was rather with the American Academy of Arts and Letters, which he served as treasurer and chancellor. He was indeed, in the usual American sense, a man of letters rather than an historian.

C. K. S.

WALLACE WALTER ATWOOD

Wallace Atwood, internationally known educator, geographer and geologist, died at his summer home at Annisquam, Massachusetts, on July 24, 1949. He was born in Chicago, October 1, 1872, the son of Thomas Green and Adalaide (Richards) Atwood. He entered the University of Chicago in its opening year, and was active in athletics, dramatics, and fraternity life. In his Sophomore year he enrolled in a University field-course given in the Devil's Lake region in Wisconsin. It was then and there that his interest in geography and allied subjects was first aroused, and there was born the intense love of the outdoors which remained with him throughout his life. He returned to college, took as many courses in geology as he was allowed to do, and was graduated with the degree of B.S. in 1897. He received his Ph.D. degree in 1903.

After graduation Dr. Atwood participated in various fields of geology until 1899, when he returned to the University of Chicago to enter its department of geology, and served as instructor and associate professor for fourteen years. In 1913 he was called to Harvard where he followed William M. Davis as professor of physiography. In 1920 he accepted an invitation to come to Clark to establish the first graduate school of geography in the country, to continue his teaching, and to assume the full duties of presidency of the institution. Previously the administration had been divided between Dr. Edmund C. Sanford and Dr. G. Stanley Hall.

The establishing of a school of geography was considered by educators as a daring step. Some critics attacked the idea as unfit for university instruction and referred to it as a subject more suited to the "sixth grade." But these critics did not realize how geography could be developed and how important it was in a changing world. Geography no longer meant the recital of place names and the bounding of states or the naming of capitals. Treated as a new science, it comprehended the physical setting of a country, its climate, its trade relations, its social and cultural relations, and especially its international relations. The faith of the founders was justified. Soon the influence of the new School spread over the entire country. It meant the improvement of the teaching of geography in the schools and academies, it trained those who were to conduct courses in geography at the colleges, and it encouraged and sponsored field investigation throughout the continent.

Dr. Atwood served actively as President of the University until his retirement in 1946. During that quarter of a century the University was reorganized, the resources were augmented by about two million dollars, the faculty and student body were notably increased, new dormitories, a gymnasium, and an auditorium were erected, and the reputation of Clark was enhanced throughout the country and abroad. Dr. Atwood himself during these years gained distinction as a scholar, lecturer, world traveler, and educator, and especially as an author.

Dr. Atwood's activities did not cease with his retirement. He attended conferences, travelled for long distances, and continued to write. In the summer of 1948, accompanied by his wife and son, he journeyed more than 13,000 miles through the Rocky Mountains in the longest of more than twenty-five field trips he made in the area, carrying on geological studies and enduring arduous travel by air, train,

automobile, and pack train. In 1949, soon after he had recovered from a serious operation, he travelled to Australia and New Zealand to attend a scientific congress and to study in fields in which he was interested.

Throughout the country Dr. Atwood was probably best known as an author of textbooks in geography and kindred sciences. He published more than thirty books and hundreds of technical articles. His geography textbooks have sold over ten million copies and his courses of study have been adopted in nearly 30,000 schools in the United States. About a year ago he acceded to the request of the Antiquarian Society asking him to place in the library all of his books which came within the scope of its collecting. He received many honors both in this country and abroad, and was a member of numerous scholarly societies. In local Worcester affairs he took a decided and active interest, especially in the Worcester Economic Club, the Natural History Society, and the Foreign Policy Association. On November 6, 1949, memorial services were held in his honor at Clark University where Worcester speakers and visiting educators paid tribute to him as a citizen, a scholar, and a teacher.

He was married on September 22, 1900, to Harriet Towle Bradley, and was survived by her and by four children—Dr. Rollin S. Atwood, Dr. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr., Mrs. J. Warren Olmsted, and Mrs. Elliott R. Hedge.

Dr. Atwood was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1924. He was interested in the Society, attended most of its meetings, and frequently brought visiting scholars to the Library. In his will he bequeathed to the Society a fourth interest in a \$20,000 trust. His presence will be greatly missed, not only in educational circles, but by the many who rejoiced in his friendship.

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