

## IN MEMORIAM

### EDWARD LEWIS DODD

Edward Lewis Dodd was born in Cleveland, Ohio, November 1, 1875, the son of Heber and Emma Melvina (Drake) Dodd, and died in Austin, Texas, January 9, 1943. He was educated in the Cleveland public schools; in Western Reserve University, from which he received the degrees of B.A. in 1897 and M.A. in 1901; and in Yale University, from which he received the degrees of M.A. in 1902 and Ph.D. in 1904. After serving as instructor in mathematics for two years at the State University of Iowa and one year at the University of Illinois, he came to The University of Texas as instructor in Pure Mathematics in 1907, and rose through the successive ranks of adjunct professor (1914), associate professor (1917), and professor (1923) of Actuarial Mathematics. In the year 1922-23, he taught at Williams College as visiting assistant professor of mathematics.

Professor Dodd was a member of the honorary societies of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi, and of various professional societies, including the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, the Econometric Society, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (of which he was a Fellow), and the American Statistical Association (of which he has just been made a Fellow, the news reaching Austin a few days after his death). He was a councilor of the Mathematical Association of America in 1920, and Associate Editor of the American Mathematical Monthly from 1918 to 1923.

His main fields of work were probability, statistics, and actuarial mathematics. These subjects have many applications in business, and brought him into close contact with the faculty and students of the School of Business Administration; several of his advanced courses could be counted as courses in that School. His wide knowledge of life insurance problems led to his counsel being sought by many men in that line of work who had no connection with the University. During its early days he was a member of the Actuarial Advisory Committee of the Teachers Insurance and Annuity

Association of America. He also gave much assistance in connection with the establishment of the Teachers' Retirement System of Texas. All such demands were met with unfailing courtesy and ungrudging devotion of his time and energy. In his teaching he displayed the same qualities of thoroughness and patient helpfulness, whether he was dealing with freshmen or with advanced students, and he was uniformly liked and admired by his students, both good and poor.

Of the many honors, which came to Professor Dodd in recognition of his attainments in his chosen field, only three will be mentioned here. In 1939-40, he held the Research Professorship at this University. He was chosen as the official representative of the Mathematical Association of America at the Seventh American Scientific Congress held at Mexico City, September 8-17, 1935. He was one of the two Americans who were invited to participate in the International Congress on the Theory of Probability held at Geneva, Switzerland, October 11-15, 1937, and was the only American who actually did take part in it.

Of his personal life, little need be said. On June 15, 1910, he was married to Miss Alice Laidman of Austin, Texas, and from that day to the day of his death the domestic happiness and the devotion of the couple to each other was proverbial. He was the most considerate of husbands, the best of neighbors -- a model citizen. Professor Dodd's record as a teacher, a scholar, and a master of productive research insure him a secure place in the literature of mathematics. But those who had the good fortune to know him well will always prefer to remember him by his sincere friendliness, his unfailing courtesy, and genuine kindness, his being always the Christian gentleman.

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