Hiroshi OKAMURA

By

Toshizô Matsumoto

September 3, 1948 the sudden death of Prof. Okamura aston-
ished us. It was the next morning of the day he left hospital after
the permission of the doctor. At that time in our Institute he
was charged with the third chair of mathematics (differential and
integral calculus, theory of functions of real variables) which the
present writer had formerly assigned to him. Okamura, as his
follower, would have witten the note for him. But a curious des-
tiny overturned the rôle. In the following I would like to speak
shortly about his researches on the uniqueness of the solution of
the differential equation of the first order.

Hiroshi Okamura was born in Kyoto September 10, 1905 as
a son of Tsukasa Okamura, who was the professor of the chair
of the civil law in the Department of Law of our University. He
finished March, 1929 the course of three years of the higher
mathematics of our Department of Science with a brilliant career.
Next month he was charged as a lecturer. He said he had a
particular interest in course of my lecture for Picard's successive
approximation of differential equations. By this reason I proposed
to him, pursuing somewhat Picard's method, to search the necessary
and sufficient condition for the unique existence of the integral of
the differential equation of the first order. At that time in our
country, after Perron and Yoshie, several sufficient conditions for
the uniqueness were found by many mathematicians. I offered to
him all of the literatures I had. Thus his first paper appeared
March 1931, in our Memoirs of the College of Science, much
influenced by Caratheodory's function theory of real variables
which I was derivering in the seminary.

After his second paper one day he came to me to tell that
his task seemed to have been finished. Though his second paper
was very valuable, yet it was far from giving the necessary and