

LEONARD EUGENE DICKSON
1874–1954

Leonard Eugene Dickson was born in Independence, Iowa on January 22, 1874. He was a brilliant undergraduate at the University of Texas receiving his B.S. degree as valedictorian of his class in 1893. He was a chemist with the Texas Biological Survey from 1892–1893. He served as a teaching fellow at the University of Texas receiving the M.A. degree in 1894. He held a fellowship at the University of Chicago from 1894 to 1896 and was awarded its first Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1896. He spent the year 1896–1897 in Leipzig and Paris, was instructor in mathematics at the University of California 1897–1899, Associate Professor at Texas 1899–1900, Assistant Professor at Chicago 1900–1907, Associate Professor 1907–1910, and Professor in 1910. He was appointed to the Eliakim Hastings Moore Distinguished Professorship in 1928, and became Professor Emeritus in 1939. He served as Visiting Professor at the University of California in 1914, 1918, and 1922.

Professor Dickson was awarded the \$1,000 A.A.A.S. Prize in 1924 for his work on the arithmetics of algebras. He was awarded the Cole Prize of the American Mathematical Society in 1928 for his book *ALGEBREN UND IHRE ZAHLENTHEORIE*. He served as Editor of the Monthly 1902–1908, and the Transactions from 1911 to 1916, and he was President of the American Mathematical Society from 1916–1918. He was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1913 and was a member of the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the London Mathematical Society. He was also a foreign member of the Academy of the Institute of France, and an honorary member of the Czechoslovakian Union of Mathematics and Physics. He was awarded the honorary Sc.D. degree by Harvard in 1936 and Princeton in 1941.

Professor Dickson died in Texas on January 17, 1954.

Dickson was one of our most prolific mathematicians. His bibliography (prepared by Mr. Richard Block, a student at the University of Chicago) contains 285 titles. Of these 18 are books, one a joint book with Miller and Blichfeldt. One of the books is his major three-volume *History of the theory of numbers* which would be a life's work by itself for a more ordinary man.

Dickson was an inspiring teacher. He supervised the doctorate dissertation of at least 55 Chicago Ph.D's. He helped his students