

## OBITUARY NOTE: TADAHIKO KUBOTA (1885—1952)

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On Oct. 31, 1952, a honorary Professor of Tôhoku University, a Member of Japan Academy of Science, one of the former editors of this Journal, Tadahiko Kubota died at his home of Koyama-machi, Shiba Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, where he had lived with his wife and son since 1948. The direct cause was urine poisoning, but according to the autopsy of his body it is said that everywhere of his body had been seized with diseases. Since April 1950, he was attacked by diseases. He was of high blood pressure and presented symptoms of paralysis, the heart had also grown weak. Sometimes it seemed that he was recovering from illness but, his body was being gradually worm-eaten by the illness and he could not recover once again. His death is indeed a remarkable loss not only to our University but also to the mathematical world at large.

Prof. Kubota was born on Feb. 27, 1885 at the same place cited above. He completed the course of the First Higher School (Tokyo) and then graduated at 1908 the Mathematical Institute of Tokyo Imperial University. He was appointed at 1910 to a professor of the First Higher School and at 1911 to an assistant professor of Tôhoku Imperial University, Sendai, founded at that time. On August 1912 he was sent by the government to study mathematics and stayed at England, France and Germany. On 1915 he came back to Japan, awarded the degree of the doctor of Science and was promoted to a full professor of Tôhoku Imperial University and took charge of the chair of Geometry. On 1926-27 he went abroad again to inspect European countries.

He was appointed to members of many important committees such as Scientific Research Council of Japan, the Council of Tôhoku Imperial University etc. He was also elected as the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Tôhoku Imperial University during the period of July 1936 to March 1939. He retired from his chair on March 1946 and was appointed to a honorary Professor of Tôhoku University (after the second world war the word Imperial was omitted from the name of universities in Japan) and was elected as a Member of Japan Academy of Science.

On July 1945, his residence house in Sendai reduced to ashes by the air raid. Although he built a little poor house on November of that year, in 1947, he changed his residence from Sendai to Tokyo. On Nov. 1948 he was appointed to the director of the Institute of Statistical Mathematics and retired from the position on August 1952.

Prof. Kubota has three daughters and a son between his wife Sue. The first daughter Chieko is married to Prof. Tomoo Kawamura at Keiô University

located at Tokyo, the second daughter Yoshiko is married to Prof. Mitsuo Kameda at Tôhoku University and the third daughter Toshiko is married to Prof. Taizô Suzuki at Medical College of Fukushima. His son Atsushi is now an undergraduate student of Keiô University.

Prof. Kubota was a very good research worker and instructor. His works and lectures are full of geometrical intuition and elegance and every one who attended to his lecture attracted both to his mathematics and character. He loved very much of mathematics, we think, because we met often the chance how he enjoyed pleasantly to study mathematics. He was very kind to his friends and pupils. He was yearned after by many pupils. Many of his students wrote very interesting and worthy papers under his guidance. He himself wrote many papers concerning geometry and analysis. Notable among his papers are those concerning inequalities among invariants of ovals and ovaloids, problems of construction, twisted cubics, algebraic correspondences, conformal and Laguerre differential geometries and calculus of variations, etc. The complete list of his papers published up to 1949 is given at Vol. 1 (1949-50) of this Journal. He also wrote books on elementary, analytic and differential geometries, all of them are well refined and full of geometrical contents.

