

PRESIDENT'S ENTIRE CAREER SPARKLED WITH VERSATILITY

Won Distinction in Widely Different Fields of
Endeavor—Untiring in His Efforts, He
Augmented Institute's Fame

THE NEW TECHNOLOGY HIS MONUMENT

Like our two other great presidents, Rogers and Walker, Richard C. Maclaurin has given up his life to the great cause of Technology. Assuming the leadership when the Institute consisted of a group of delapidated buildings scattered all over Boston, with its finances sorely depleted and its Alumni rather indifferent, he tackled the situation in superhuman fashion, decided that it was impossible for the Institute to accomplish its great purpose without new and greater facilities, and set out at once and secured the much needed funds. He had been president but seven years when the new Technology, now a monument to his memory, opened its doors. And not buildings alone commemorate his efforts. In the broadened reputation of Technology, in her increased usefulness to the world, are the marks of his workmanship. Every graduate who has gone forth from the Institute in the years since 1912 realizes that the ideals into which she has been molded, and which the world admires, are in large part the ideals of President Maclaurin. All this the work of a decade.

Richard Cockburn Maclaurin, the late President of the Institute, was born in Lindean, Scotland on June 5, 1870. He was the son of Robert Campbell Maclaurin, who like his son was also a great mathematician, and Martha Joan Maclaurin. When he was a boy his family moved to New Zealand, and it was there that he received his elementary education. He went to England to complete his preliminary education in English schools, after which he entered Cambridge University. He took two degrees at Cambridge; Bachelor of Arts in 1895 and Master of Arts, the following year. His thesis for the latter degree was on advanced mathematics. Upon his graduation he was awarded the Smith prize in Mathematics and he was elected a fellow of St. John's College.

Became Dean of Faculty

In 1898 he left the law school at Cambridge and went to New Zealand to become chairman of the mathematical department at the University of New Zealand. After seven years at this post he was made Dean of the Faculty of Law. During this time he took an active interest in organizing technological education in the colony.

In the fall of 1907 he received an invitation from America to accept the chair of mathematical physics at Columbia University. He accepted and a few months later he was filling the position left vacant by the resignation of Dr. Robert S. Woodward, who became President of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. A year later Dr. Maclaurin was made head of the Department of Physics at Columbia.

Received Honorary Degrees

In 1898 he had received the degree of Doctor of Science from Cambridge University in recognition of his researches in pure science and again in 1904 that institution honored him with the degree of Doctor of Laws, for his achievements in the study of law.

For three years the Massachusetts Institute of Technology had been looking for some one to assume the position of President, the office having become vacant through the resignation of President Pritchett. After scores of names of prominent educators had been deliberated upon finally, Dr. Maclaurin was the man decided upon, and in November, 1908 a

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SIMPLEST CEREMONIES MARK FUNERAL OF DR. MACLAURIN

Great Gathering of Prominent Men, Alumni, Faculty
And Undergraduates Pays Tribute to
Late President

ALL MOURN LOSS OF GREAT EDUCATOR

The funeral services of President Maclaurin last Sunday were conducted in the simplicity of the great realities. Following the shock of the news that his labors and leadership were ended, the Institute immediately suspended its activities. The blinds on all the windows were drawn up, the busy corridors were empty, all flags were at half mast, and everyone connected with the Institute registered in his own consciousness some reverent regret for the sudden passing on of so genuine and largely useful a life.

With simple yet impressive ceremonies, the friends and admirers of Richard C. Maclaurin paid their last respects to the memory of the deceased. At noon the body of the president was brought by an escort of more than fifty of the oldest employees of the Institute to the grand foyer where it lay in state till 1.30 o'clock so that all who honored his memory might obtain a last look of remembrance. Then they marched out and formed two columns reaching from the entrance to Charles River Road. Here they stood in the biting wind, uncovering as the casket passed by, until the cortege started.

Body Lies in State Beneath Dome

At 11.30 the hearse stopped at the foot of the twenty-five foot path cleared through the drifts in the main court, and Major Smith, superintendent of Buildings and Power, headed the group of the oldest care-takers of the property of the Institute, who carried the casket into the main lobby to lie in state under the dome. A simple blanket of violets and smilax draped the casket, but no other flowers were used.

Without ritual or formality of any kind, the friends and students were permitted to take their farewell, and see their President for the last time, with the repose of power upon his face, and his body folded away in the dignity of his scholar's gown.

Veterans Guard Body

The body was guarded by E. P. Brooks, '17; J. M. DeBell, '17; Donald Warner, '18, and J. S. Marine, '20, lieutenants who have seen distinguished service overseas.

At 1.30 eight members of the Senior class, bearers of the casket, passed down the wide white way which was lined on either side by a triple file of students and friends.

The pallbearers, as chosen by the Executive Committee, include the following Seniors: Norris G. Abbott, Jr., President of the Senior Class; Warren L. Cofren, Treasurer of the Institute Committee; John C. Nash, President of the Interfraternity Council; Edwin D. Ryer, of the Institute Committee; Percy Bugbee, General Manager of Tech Show; Count B. Capps, General Manager of THE TECH; Scott H. Wells, Kenneth F. Akers, Vice-President of the Senior Class.

Ushers Chosen from Faculty

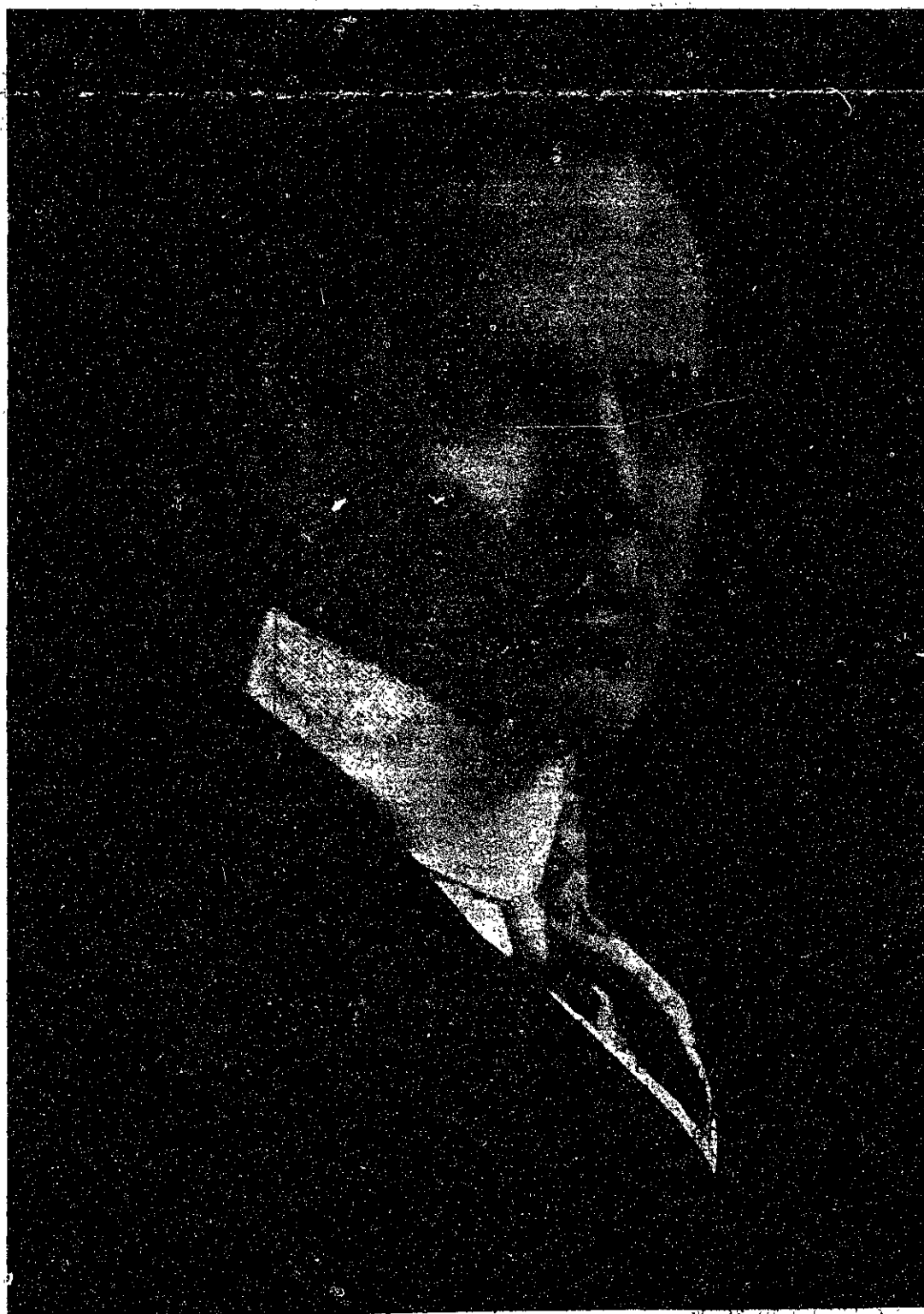
At the Old South Church the ushers included the heads of the departments, as follows:

Professor D. C. Jackson, E. F. Miller '85, W. H. Walker, E. B. Wilson, W. H. Lawrence, '84, A. L. Merrill, '85, H. G. Pearson, H. W. Tyler, '84, H. M. Goodwin '90, Henry Fay and R. S. Williams '02, also the following alumni: H. S. Ford, bursar of the Institute; Henry Morris, '93, A. F. Bemis '93, F. H. Fay '93, I. W. Litchfield '85, Jasper Whiting '89 and George L. Gilmore '90.

Simple Service Held

The organist of the Old South Church, Henry E. Wry, provided the

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RICHARD C. MACLAURIN