

PERCY NORTON EVANS.

MONTREAL, CANADA.

SEPTEMBER 6, 1869.

LAFAYETTE, INDIANA.

JULY 3, 1925.

The death of Percy Norton Evans on July 3, 1925, was a great loss both to Education and Science in the state.

He was born in Montreal, Canada, September 6, 1869, and graduated from McGill University in 1890 with the degree of Bachelor of Applied Science. From 1891 to 1893 he was at the University of Leipsic, Germany, receiving the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1893. He also did advanced work in chemistry at Clark University in 1894.



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In 1890 and 1891 he was assistant at McGill University, teaching General Chemistry. In 1894 and 1895 he was assistant in the Nutrition Laboratories at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. In 1895 he became instructor in Chemistry at Purdue University to which institution he gave a continuous and distinguished service until his death. His advancement was rapid and from 1910 he held the position of Head of the Department of Chemistry and Director of the Chemical Laboratory.

Administration duties made heavy drafts upon his time and strength but the bibliography accompanying this sketch shows that in spite of this, he made definite contributions to his chosen science.

He became a member of the Indiana Academy in 1896, was made a Fellow in 1901, and was chosen President in 1910. His presidential address upon "The Place of Research in Undergraduate Institutions" excited much comment because of its broad grasp and clear presentation of the problems involved.

During these busy years, he found time to issue a text-book—Introductory Course in Quantitative Analysis—from the publishing house of Ginn and Company.

Doctor Evans was a man of broad culture and fine appreciations in Literature, in Music, in Dramatics, and in Art. He was a trained musician and at times took part in dramatic presentations with exceptional brilliance. In a very rare degree he added the social graces and amenities to the somewhat rugged strength which seems to be the product of specialized technical training.

His interests and influence extended beyond his chosen field of work and the university campus. He was not merely a trained teacher, a skilled chemist, but also a good citizen. The cultured scholar is an asset to any generation and Doctor Evans was a fine type of the cultured scholar.

In the discussion of institutional and educational questions, Doctor Evans was alert and critical, being a champion of a meticulous exactness in all statements in rules and regulations or courses of study. His interest in the internal affairs of the University was keen and his contribution to the discussion of University policies was always helpful and constructive.

I am indebted for the bibliography appended to the courtesy of Mr. G. K. Foresman of the Department of Chemistry.

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- 1918. Sulfur By-Products of the Preparation of Ether (and G. K. Foresman). *Proc. Indiana Acad. Sci.*
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