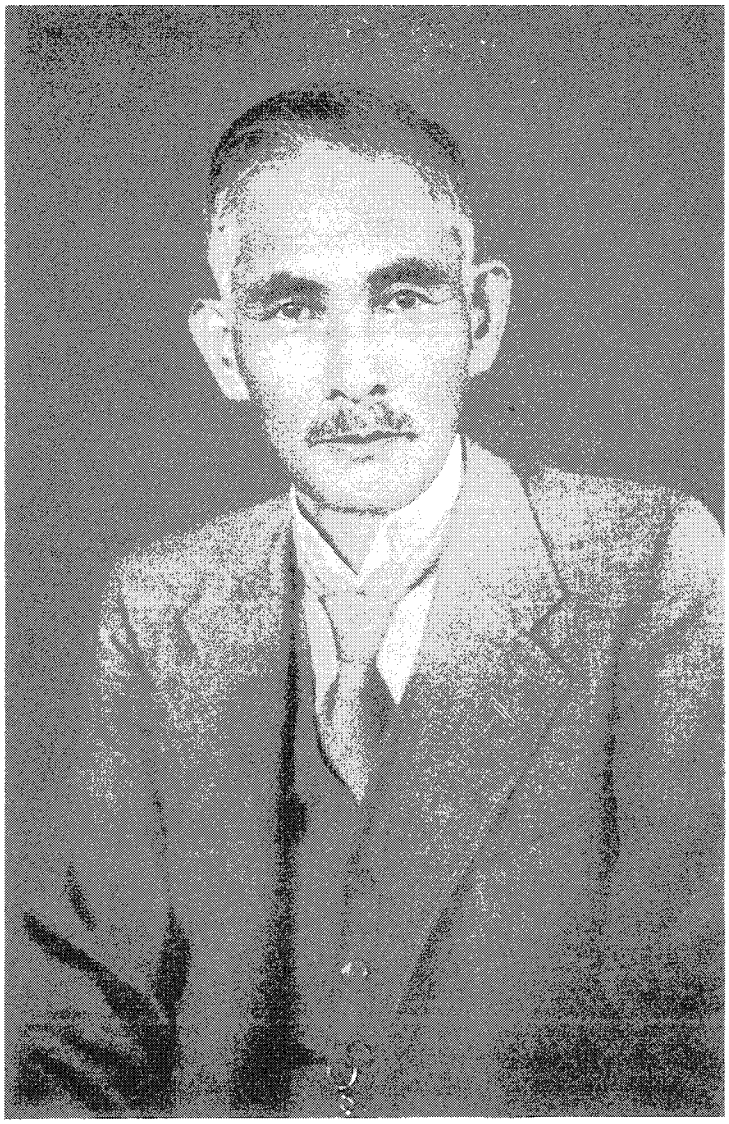

Motooki Matsui

PRESIDENT MOTOOKI MATSUI.

Dr. Motooki Matsui was born on December 25th, 1873, at Uchino-mura in Sawara-gun of Fukuoka Prefecture, as the second son of Motosuke Hiroba of a samurai family in the clan of Kuroda. In 1889 he was adopted as heir by Tsukuda Matsui. After finishing the elementary and middle school education in the native province, he proceeded through the Fifth Higher School at Kumamoto to the Imperial University of Tokyo where he graduated in 1898 from the Chemical Department of the College of Science. He was conferred the degree of Doctor of Science in 1911.

For seven years after graduating from the Imperial University of Tokyo, he taught in local higher schools and was invited in 1905 to the Imperial University of Kyoto as Assistant Professor in the College of Science and Engineering. In 1911 he was sent by the Government to Germany and England for a further study of analytical chemistry. In Germany he worked at first on electrolytic analysis under Prof. Classen of the Technische Hochschule of Aachen, and then moved to Giessen where he studied chiefly organic electro-chemistry in Prof. Elbs's laboratory. On returning to Japan in 1914, he was appointed Professor in the Imperial University of Kyoto and held the chair of analytical chemistry for nineteen years since then. During these years he was elected the Dean of the Faculty of Science for 1921–1923. He served as the President of the Chemical Society of Japan for the term 1932–1933. In July, 1933, he was elected the President of the Imperial University of Kyoto.

During the earlier days of assistant-professorship in Kyoto Dr. Matsui made investigations in the field of organic chemistry and he was much interested in organic sulphur compounds. A general mode of formation for thio-acids R–CSOH and their esters R–CSOR′ was established for the first time, and was subsequently published in his doctral thesis entitled "Action of Hydrogen Sulphide upon Imido-esters". Since returning from study abroad, his researches were done chiefly in the fields of organic electro-chemistry and analytical chemistry where many important contributions were made to promoting these branches of science in Japan. Among them, especially the research on the mechanism of Kolbe's reaction is, it is presumed, the one that filled his heart with the greatest eagerness and hope.

Dr. Matsui was endowed from the boyhood with a rare intellectuality and grew up as a gentleman of many noble characters and of warm sympathy which filled his laboratory with the atmosphere of admiration and congeniality. At the same time, Dr. Matsui possesses a superb poetical talent and has composed numerous exquisite pieces in the branch of "haiku".

As the President of the Imperial University of Kyoto, the ancient capital city of legends and traditions of hundreds and thousands of years, Dr. Matsui bears on his shoulders the heavy but delightful burden of rearing select thousands of the nation's youths for building up the Japan of to-morrow. Let us all unite in wishing him health and prosperity.

The following is a list of the published scientific papers of Dr. Matsui and those of his pupils under his direct guidance, arranged in the chronological order, and also excellent books written by him during his tenure of the professorship.

Masayoshi ISHIBASHI.

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Books in Japanese written by Dr. Motooki MATSUI:
The Analytical Chemistry,
The Electro-Analysis,
The Organic Electro-Chemistry,
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