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Obituary

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Obituary

Jacob J. Bikerman



It is with great personal sorrow that we note the passing of Jacob J. Bikerman, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Case Western Reserve University and member of the Advisory Board of *The Journal of Adhesion*, who died of a heart attack on June 11th.

Professor Bikerman probably contributed more to our understanding of adhesion and adhesive joints than any other scientist, and there is certainly not a student of the field who does not know of him through his published works. His book, *The Science of Adhesive Joints*, the first edition of which was published in 1961, was the first comprehensive treatment of the subject. The second edition, published in 1968, is still a standard reference. These books, and many of his papers, contain ideas which were controversial at the time of their publication, and he was subjected to widespread and intense criticism because of them. It is a tribute to his strong personal character and to the depth of his conviction that he absorbed this criticism, held his ground, and lived to see many of his ideas accepted.

We owe a great debt to this man who forced us to think differently and, in so doing, advanced the science of adhesion. It was my privilege to have known him for almost nineteen years and my personal and professional life profited greatly by the experience.

I shall miss him.

We shall all miss him.

LOUIS H. SHARPE