

ULYSSES S. HANNA

Perseverance and sterling worth are almost always sure to win conspicuous recognition in all localities. Ulysses S. Hanna, who for a number of years has been recognized as one of the leading mathematicians of the state, having for nearly two decades held a position in the department of mathematics in the Indiana State University, at Bloomington, affords a fine example of the successful, self-made man, who is not only eminently deserving of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens, but also possesses the talent and forcefulness that have made him successful as an instructor and educator. A man of strong fiber and vigorous mentality, he has achieved a signal success in his special calling and has earned high words of commendation from those competent to form a proper estimate of the man and his accomplishments.

Ulysses S. Hanna was born in Delaware county, Indiana, on January 16, 1865, and is the son of William and Rhoda (Boots) Hanna, both of whom were natives, of the state of Ohio. In 1854 they moved to Indiana, locating in Delaware county, where the father continued to follow agricultural pursuits during the rest of his active life, he and his wife being now deceased. Ulysses S. Hanna received his early education in the common schools of Delaware county, graduating from the high school in Muncie, Indiana. From 1883 to 1894 he engaged in teaching school, and in the latter year he became a student in Indiana University, taking a special course in mathematics, in which he was graduated in 1895, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He received his Master's degree from his alma mater in 1898 and in 1905 the University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. In 1895 he began teaching mathematics in the Indiana University, which he has continued to the present time, with the exception of some brief periods spent in outside study. In 1904 Mr. Hanna was elected city engineer of Bloomington, being still retained in that official position and discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. With a profound and comprehensive knowledge of his profession, Mr. Hanna combines the ability to impart, in an interesting way, to others the knowledge he possesses, and he is one of the most popular and successful members of the faculty of this great educational institution. He is allied with a number of scientific societies, membership in several of which is considered a distinct honor and mark of distinction. He is thus a member of the American Mathematical Society, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the Mathematiker Vereinigung, at Leipsic, Germany; of the Circolo Matematico di Palermo, of Italy, and of the Indiana Engineering Society, in the proceedings of which societies he takes a deep interest. He is also a member of the honorary literary society, Phi Beta Kappa, and a member of the honorary scientific society, Sigma Xi.

In November, 1890, Mr. Hanna was united in marriage with Cora Pierce, the daughter of William H. and Emma (Cecil) Pierce. Her father, who was a native of Ohio, was for many years an active and successful minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, but eventually retired and took up the vocation of farming, to which he still gives the major part of his time and attention, though his voice is still frequently heard in the pulpits of his church when called upon. His wife was a native of Delaware county, Indiana. Mrs. Cora Hanna died in 1897, leaving two children, Hubert and Cecil. On December 27, 1901, Mr. Hanna married Ella Millis, the daughter of John and Maria (Bruner) Millis, both of whom were natives of Orange county, Indiana. The father, who

was formerly a farmer, engaged also in the mercantile business, which demanded his attention for fifteen years, but he is now retired from active pursuits. Both of Mr. Hanna's fathers-in-law were veterans of the Civil war, William H. Pierce having been a member of the Eighty-fourth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and John Millis, who enlisted as a private in Company D. Sixty-sixth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, became a lieutenant before the close of the war. To Mr. Hanna's second union was born one child, John.

Politically, Mr. Hanna was formerly a Republican, but he is now an enthusiastic supporter of the Progressive party. Fraternally, he is a member, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Free and Accepted Masons, having taken the degrees of lodge, chapter and council in the latter body. Religiously, he is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Personally, he is a man of genial and approachable disposition, possessing to a marked degree those qualities which make and retain friendships. During the years of his connection with educational work at the State University, he has at all times tried to keep in close touch with the students with whom he has been connected and many of these young men have gone out into the world and achieved eminent success in their several stations. His influence has been potent and his sympathies broad, so that he has been enabled to quietly, yet strongly, call forth the best in those with whom he has been associated. Those who know him are unstinted in their praise of his genial disposition and superior ability, and he has ever held the unequivocal confidence and esteem of the people among whom he has lived and labored.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 573-575)