

DAVID ANDREW ROTHROCK, A. M., PH. D.

Of high intellectual and professional attainment and ranking among the foremost educators of the state, David Andrew Rothrock, the efficient and popular professor of mathematics in Indiana University, has achieved marked distinction in the work to which his talents and energy have long been devoted. As a teacher and principal of public schools he made his presence felt and as a citizen in the daily walks of life his influence has always tended to the advancement of the community and the welfare of his fellow men, while in the advanced educational field in which he is now engaged he has wielded a large and beneficent influence not only as an instructor in the science to which he is devoted, but has also had a wholesome and stimulating influence on the students who have come in contact with him. His name with eminent fitness occupies a conspicuous place in the profession which he adorns and his career presents a series of successes which has gained for him more than a local reputation.

David A. Rothrock was born on January 31, 1864, on the paternal farmstead near Milltown, Indiana. He is the son of Amos and Mary Elizabeth (Burnett) Rothrock, both of whom were natives of Indiana and both are now deceased, the father having been actively engaged in agricultural operations near Milltown up to the time of his death. They were the parents of three children, George W., John W. and David A.

David A. Rothrock received a good, practical education in the common schools of his native town and then was for two years a student in Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he graduated in 1887 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He then took a course in Indiana University, graduating in 1892 and gaining his Master's degree in 1893. In 1898 he received from the University of Leipsic, Germany, the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He attended the University of Chicago, doing post-graduate work in 1894 and 1896. During the ten-year period from 1881 to 1891, Professor Rothrock was engaged as a public school teacher and principal of schools at various places in Indiana and Illinois and was numbered among the popular and successful educators of this period. In 1892 Professor Rothrock became an instructor in mathematics in Indiana University, in 1895 was made assistant professor, 1900 became associate professor, 1905 junior professor and since 1908 has been professor of mathematics, holding one of the most important chairs in this great university. Professor Rothrock possesses an exhaustive knowledge of the science of mathematics, in which he is widely recognized as an authority, and he has been honored by the following memberships: Fellow of the Indiana Academy of Science; a member of the American Mathematical Society; a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; a member of the Deutsche Matematiker Vereinegung, Leipsic, Germany; a member of the Circolo Matematico De Palermo, Italy, and also a member of the Society Matematiche de France. He is the author of several valuable treatises on mathematics, including "Essentials of Algebra," 1904; "Supplementary Examples in Algebra," 1906; and "Plane and Spherical Trigonometry," 1909, and also other works now in preparation. He possesses a love and enthusiasm for his work which has enabled him to accomplish results impossible to one of less devotion, and no member of the faculty of Indiana University enjoys a larger degree of popularity or esteem among his fellow members of the faculty.

Professor Rothrock was married on September 12, 1905, to Grace Shirley, a

daughter of Dr. Henry W. and Emily (McKnight) Shirley, of Shoals, Indiana. Doctor Shirley, who was a native of Shoals, is one of the most successful physicians of that locality, enjoying a large practice. His wife, who also is a native of this state, is deceased. Professor and Mrs. Rothrock are the parents of three children, Henry, Mary Emily and David A., Jr.

Politically, Professor Rothrock is a staunch Republican, but has never been particularly ambitious for public office. From 1902 to 1904 he rendered efficient service as city engineer of Bloomington. Religiously, he is a member of the Presbyterian church, and his wife is identified with the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally, he is a member of the Masonic order, in which he has attained to the degrees of the chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and in which he takes a deep interest. Professor Rothrock is a well-rounded symmetrically developed man, fully alive to the demands of the times, thoroughly informed on the leading questions before the public and takes broad views of men and things. By keeping in touch with the times and the trend of current thought, he is enabled to discharge the duties of citizenship in the intelligent manner becoming the level-headed American citizen of today and he manifests an abiding interest in whatever makes for the material advancement of the community, encouraging all worthy enterprises and lending his influence to means whereby his fellow men will be benefited and made better. He is in hearty accord with laudable and healthful pastimes and sports and all kinds of athletics which tend to develop and strengthen the physical powers. He is a gentleman of pleasing personality, refined and cultured, courteous in his relations with his fellows and retains the warm and abiding friendship of all with whom he associates.

(History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties Indiana , 1914 B. F. Bowen & Co. Inc. Indianapolis, Indiana pgs 579-581)