

meetings of our societies. He is survived by Mrs. French and by three daughters, Miss Maud French of Hanover, New Hampshire, Miss Frances S. French of New York, and Mrs. Evan Spalt of Plainfield, New Jersey.

C. K. S.

### HENRY LEFAVOUR

Henry Lefavour was born at Salem, Massachusetts, on September 4, 1862, a son of Thomas Hovey and Caroline (Wallis) Lefavour. His father was an insurance officer in the last days of Salem commerce. Henry was educated at Salem High and Classical school and sent to Williams College where he ignored the fraternities and enjoyed the mathematics and astronomy. It was typical of the middle-of-the-road proclivities which marked his whole life that as an undergraduate he recorded himself as a tariff-for-revenue-only Republican. After being graduated with the Class of 1883 he taught for one year at Williston and then returned to Williams, first as an instructor of French and mathematics and later as a professor of physics. In 1886 he received a Ph.D. from Williams and during the years 1888-90 he studied at the University of Berlin. In 1897 he became Dean of Williams College.

During the summer of 1901 Dean Lefavour was asked by the trustees of the John Simmons funds to draw a plan for the proposed vocational college for women. His program was so obviously the solution to a difficult problem that he was invited to become the first president of Simmons college. From January 1, 1902, when he took office, to 1933, when he retired, he built up the college from 140 to 1600 students. In spite of the opposition of the friends of the college he built buildings, against the opposition of the American Association of University Women he won the right to grant degrees, and with the conspicuous non-cooperation of some of Boston's

most famous philanthropists he built up an endowment. This is not the place to review his administration, but it should be said that he personally taught courses in which he won the respect and affection of thousands of young women.

During the period of his presidency, Dr. Lefavour was a trustee of Williams, and immediately upon his retirement from Simmons, he became chairman of the Massachusetts Emergency Public Works Commission, on which he served for eleven years. In 1938 he became President of the Massachusetts Historical Society. He was elected to the American Antiquarian Society in April, 1940, and, considering the other demands upon him, he always was a very sympathetic and generous supporter.

Dr. Lefavour on October 17, 1917, married Anna Burgess, who died on January 15, 1941. He himself died on June 16, 1946.

C. K. S.

### JOSEPH HENRY SINCLAIR

Joseph H. Sinclair died on May 24, 1946, of a heart ailment, at Ottawa, where he was vacationing. He was born at Toronto on July 18, 1879, the eldest son of Henry Francis and Isabella Matthews (Baer) Sinclair. His father, who was English, although a former resident of Philadelphia, moved the family to Rochester, where Joseph attended the public schools and the University, which granted him a B.A. in 1902 and an M.S. in 1912. In 1902 Sinclair went to work as topographer for the Northern Pacific Railroad, and later he joined the United States Geological Survey. Leaving government service after a few years, he explored for mining companies in South America, Canada, and Africa. In 1918 he discovered in Guinea fossils which for the first time permitted the dating of much of the rock formation of western Africa. Later in the service of the American Geographical Society

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