

Fred Stillman Rogers

December 19, 1886 — October 2, 1949

Fred Stillman Rogers, Professor of Machine Design, was born in Alfred, New York on December 19, 1886 and died in Tompkins County Memorial Hospital in Ithaca, New York on October 2, 1949 following several years of ill health.

Professor Rogers graduated from Alfred Academy in 1905 and received the degree of Bachelor of Science, *magna cum laude*, from Alfred University in 1909. He entered Cornell University in 1910 and received the degree of Mechanical Engineer in 1913. He was appointed Instructor in Machine Design at Cornell in 1914, Assistant Professor in 1918, and Professor in 1924.

From 1909 to 1910, before entering Cornell, he taught science and mathematics in the High School at Watkins, New York. During vacations and at other times from 1902 to 1916, for periods aggregating about 5 years, he worked as a machinist and designing draftsman for Rogers Machine Tool Company at Alfred, New York. During the summer of 1917 he worked as draftsman and engineer for Cayuga Cement Corporation at Portland, New York, and as a designing draftsman for Shepard Crane and Hoist Company at Montour Falls, New York during the summer of 1920.

In 1916 Mr. Rogers married Miss Edna M. Collins of Ithaca, New York. They had two daughters: Janet, Mrs. Leonard W. Kline of West Hartford, Connecticut; and Helen, Mrs. Karl H. A. Lorenzen of Ithaca. All survive him.

As an active member of the First Unitarian Church of Ithaca, Professor Rogers served for eighteen years on its Board of Trustees where he was esteemed for his sound judgment. The position of Financial Secretary he handled over a like period with skill, tact, and ability.

A loyal Mason, Professor Rogers was a member of Hobasco Lodge No. 716, Free and Accepted Masons, Eagle Chapter No. 58, Royal Arch Masons, of which he was High Priest, and St. Augustine Commandery No. 38, Knights Templar.

He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and of the American Society for Engineering Education, and was a Licensed Professional Engineer of the State of New York. Among Cornell Fraternities his affiliations were with Acacia.

In view of the fact that Professor Rogers' thirty-five years at Cornell were devoted to the teaching of Kinematics and Machine Design, it is but natural that he appears as co-author of the book "Kinematics of Machinery" by Albert and Rogers.

Professor Rogers was for many years in responsible charge of the courses in Kinematics. He was highly regarded and very well liked by the many instructors who, through the years, were associated with him in the work. He captured and retained their friendship and secured their cooperation by his ability, helpfulness, and unflinching kindness. His good judgment and the quality of his idealism contributed greatly to improving the standards of instruction and to increasing the effectiveness of the department in which he worked.

Professor Rogers was an excellent teacher of Kinematics and of Machine Design and was held in high esteem by his students as teacher, counselor, and friend. He had a genuine interest in teaching and tried continually to improve his methods of instruction and to raise the standard of work of his students.

Professor Rogers will be remembered by his colleagues as an able, loyal, and devoted member of the Department of Machine Design and of the College of Engineering, and he will be remembered by all those who knew him as a loyal and kindly friend.

C. D. Albert, R. E. Clark, R. S. Hosmer