

Samuel Peter Orth

Goldwin Smith Professor of Political Science

1873 — Feb. 26, 1922

Samuel Peter Orth in a few short years won for himself as Goldwin Smith Professor of Political Science no mean place in the life of Cornell University. Coming to us in the maturity of his powers after varied experience in law, in public office, and in teaching, enriched by contact with problems political and social at home and abroad, he had been trained by affairs no less than by books. For a decade he gave without stint to his classes here the ripe fruit of his experience, inspiring them by precept and example to recognize the peremptory claims of citizenship in a democracy. His gift of epigram, his zest for telling speech, the incisive vigor of his written word, were evidence of convictions carefully formed and firmly held. Wise in the ways of men and of nations, tolerant with a sympathy never sentimental and never veiling his impatience of shams, he believed profoundly in the wisdom of enthusiasm and the efficacy of effort. First and last he was an active citizen striving to broaden and deepen the civic life that he shared with all his neighbors. The University and the entire community have been the richer by his life and are the poorer for his untimely death.

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