CARLOS EVERETT CONANT

CARLOS EVERETT CONANT, one of the founders of the Linguistic Society of America, who met his death as the result of an accident in Boston, January 27, 1925, had had a varied experience as teacher, traveller, and student of many languages.

He was born at Cabot, Vt., November 27, 1870, and took his A.B. and A.M. at Lawrence College, Wisconsin, in 1892 and 1899 respectively, and his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in 1911. In 1908 he married Miss Julie Laubmeyer of Koenigsberg, Germany, who survived him. From 1892 to the year before his death, he held teaching positions in many colleges and universities, viz., University of Minnesota, Chadwick College (Illinois), Benzonia College (Michigan), Lincoln University (Illinois), Kalamazoo College (Michigan), Washburn College (Kansas), University of Chattanooga, Carlton College (Northfield, Minn.), University of Chicago, Indiana University, Tulane University, Peabody College (Nashville, Tenn.), and Boston University. His most important position was that of Professor of Modern Languages at the University of Chattanooga, which he held from 1908 to 1910 and from 1911 to 1921. The subjects which he taught included Greek, Latin, German, Spanish, French, Comparative Philology, and Indonesian (or Malayo-Polynesian) Philology. His specialties among these subjects were German, French, Spanish, and Philippine Languages. He devoted some attention also to the study of Sanskrit, and in his last years was specially interested in Psychoanalysis.

He was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the American Oriental Society, the Academie Malgache (Madagascar), the American Dialect Society, the Linguistic Society of America, and the Tennessee Philological Association, of which last he was president in 1919–20.

Professor Conant spent much time in travel; for besides his journeys in this country, indicated by the list of schools where he taught, he lived for several years in the Philippine Islands, and travelled through Asia, Africa, and Europe in 1907–08, and in Germany and Austria in 1922–23.

He is best known for his work in the languages of the Philippine

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Islands. He was in the Islands from 1901 to 1907, where he served as supervising teacher and as government translator and interpreter of Spanish and the native languages. During this period he translated for the American Bible Society the first five books of the New Testament into Bisaya, and the Gospel of Luke into Ibanag. He was the author also of a number of articles on Philippine languages, particularly on their phonology. His most important contribution was *The Pepet Law in Philippine Languages*, published in the Vienna journal *Anthropos*, 7.920–47 (1912); for other articles, see F. R. Blake, *A Bibliography of the Philippine Languages*, in *JAOS* 40.37 f., 64 (1920). He leaves behind him an unpublished dictionary of Cebuan Bisaya, the Philippine language with which he was most familiar.

Professor Conant had a most attractive personality, of which I still retain a strong impression, though I met him only once, over ten years ago. He was a linguist of ability and an enthusiastic investigator of the subjects in which he was interested. He will be especially missed from the field of Philippine linguistics, where the workers are few, and the tasks many and difficult.

FRANK R. BLAKE.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY.

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