

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

JAMES WILFORD GARNER

November 22, 1871—December 9, 1938

It is with deep sorrow that the Editors of the JOURNAL record the death on December 9, 1938, at Urbana, Illinois, of their associate, Professor James Wilford Garner of the University of Illinois. Professor Garner had been a member of the Board of Editors since 1924.

Born in Mississippi, November 22, 1871, Professor Garner graduated at the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College in 1892. Some years later he began his graduate studies in history and political science, first at the University of Chicago and later at Columbia University, from which he received his doctorate in 1902. Following a year as instructor at the University of Pennsylvania, he was called to the University of Illinois as professor and Chairman of the Department of Political Science, a position which he held until his death. There Professor Garner in fact created the department. Patiently, with foresight, and with discrimination in the selection of his colleagues, he brought together at Urbana a group of scholars, each gaining distinction in his peculiar field, competent as teachers and fruitful in productive scholarship. During the thirty-odd years of his chairmanship Professor Garner led the group by his devotion to teaching and by his ceaseless activity in research and writing. With unflagging interest, equalled only by his industry, he found in teaching and in writing each the inspiration of, and recreation from, the other.

His interests originally bounded only by the field of political science in its broadest meaning, he found himself, as his department grew, able to concentrate more and more in the more specialized area of public law, and with the outbreak of the Great War he devoted himself increasingly to public international law. For the past quarter of a century his contributions to it have been many and valuable. He brought to its study a profound knowledge of political theory and legal philosophy. He never lost touch with history and its processes. While his innate passion for justice greatly determined his approach to the subject, he had the open-mindedness of the scholar. He was as meticulous in expression as he was painstaking in preparation, both based upon his fundamental conscientiousness. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that he had little time for play. Space does not permit a listing of his works, which are permanently a part of the literature of the subject. As an editor of this JOURNAL, he was always actively coöperative in the reading of manuscripts submitted and in contributing reviews, editorials and leading articles. His advice was always valuable, his support enthusiastic, and his labors great. His death comes as the grievous loss of a great teacher to his many devoted pupils, as a lasting deprivation to the scholars who have for so long a time enjoyed the fruits of his pen, and as a poignant blow to those, both here and abroad, who were privileged in his friendship.

J. S. REEVES