

### **In Memoriam**

IN MARCH the Society suffered a great loss in the death of one of its founder members, Mr. Eugene Maxwell Moore. Mr. Moore was vice-president of Manning, Maxwell and Moore, a New York machinery concern. He held important posts during the war, being an officer in the Engineer Corps and also a liaison officer for the American and French Armies. He received the honor of being made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor in France.

Those who have followed the progress of the Society from its inception will remember that it was from Mr. Moore's family that the nucleus of its collection came. The collection given in honor of his father, Mr. Charles A. Moore, comprising 50,000 volumes and 20,000 pamphlets, many of them of great individual value, marked the beginning of the Society's usefulness to the business and academic worlds. It is with deep regret that we note the death of a member of a family to which this organization is so deeply indebted.

THE Society has lost one of its earliest friends in Mr. William E. Nickerson, Vice-President in charge of mechanical development of the Gillette safety razor company. He was born in Provincetown, and graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was successively engaged in the tanning, cotton, mining and other industries, and was one of the founders of the Gillette Company. He was the guiding mechanical genius in his organization. His philanthropic activities included the financing of the Nickerson loan library at the Gillette plant, the establishment of a "Chair of Humanics" at his alma mater, and the presentation to Boston University of an athletic plant and recreation field. He was a trustee of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and of several banks, and a member of the executive committee of Boston University.

He took a keen interest in the affairs of the Harvard Business School and The Business Historical Society, and his inventive talent and generosity furnished the Baker Library with a most unusual gift.

At the beginning of the War, Mr. Nickerson conceived the notion of preserving the daily record of events, as reported in newspapers. He, therefore, subscribed to several daily newspapers and, as time went by, he found the usual difficulties of keeping in limited office space such large, unwieldy volumes as daily newspapers soon make.

He thereupon turned his genius to the solution of the problem in the form of a steel cabinet with many shelves and a mechanically operated lift to raise and lower the heavy volumes of newspapers to their apportioned shelf space.

On the termination of the War, Mr. Nickerson felt that the accumulation of daily newspapers should be placed in institutions where they might receive more use by students and scholars than they would in a New England factory. He, therefore, offered to several libraries, and among them The Business Historical Society and the Baker Library, as many of his unit bookshelves as were necessary to contain a long run of the New York Times and other daily journals.

Anyone familiar with technical library problems, will understand and appreciate the gratitude with which The Business Historical Society and the Baker Library received Mr. Nickerson's gift.

## Secretary's Column

### ACQUISITIONS

The acquisitions of the Society since the last report indicate the interest of our members and friends in our undertaking and a gratifying desire to assist in securing historical and current business material. The following accessions are gratefully acknowledged:

From Albert Mueller, Statistician, Moore, Leonard and Lynch, New York, A case of pamphlet and statistical material.

From Mrs. Grace C. Bevan, Librarian, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn., Four cartons of miscellaneous books.

From Edgar A. Clarke, Bakersville, Conn., Account book of Anthony Baker, 1837 to 1857.

From Dr. J. Stroomberg, Dept. of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Buitenzorg, Java, A complete file of pamphlets describing the resources of Java, including statistical information on production, commercial revenue, etc.

From Charles W. Taussig, President, American Molasses Company of New York, New York City. Taussig, Charles W., *Rum, Romance and Rebellion*.

From Harold H. Clafin, Boston, Account Book of John Clafin, Milford, Mass., 1812-1868.

From Edward H. Redstone, Librarian, State Library, Boston, City Records of Boston and Boroughs of Brooklyn, Richmond, Manhattan and the Bronx.