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ロバート先生  
五十年勤続表彰式

Sketch of Life of Roy Smith

Roy Smith was born on his father's farm in the western part of the State of Illinois in the United States of America, June 14, 1878. Those were pioneer days in that part of Illinois. Thirteen years before, the war between the States ended and settlers from the East came to settle in that section. Some 40 years before, the last of the Indians had been driven to the north and west out of the State. To secure a doctor it was necessary to ride on horseback several hours to a village on the bank of the Mississippi River.

About ten years before, the dozen or so farmers of that neighborhood established a one-room, one-teacher school. It was here that Roy Smith received his elementary school education. After two years of study at a private normal school he entered the Preparatory Department of the University of Illinois. He was graduated from that university in 1902 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

After working one year in the Young Men's Christian Association in Illinois he accepted in 1903 a request to come to Japan to teach English Language in a Middle School. He was assigned to the Toyoura Middle School at Chofu in Yamaguchi Prefecture. After two years he was transferred to the Okura Commercial School in Tokyo and the Third Middle School of Kanagawa Prefecture at Atsugi.

One year later (1906) he returned to the United States for further study. As the result of this study he received the degree of Master of Philosophy from the University of Chicago and the degree of Master of Commercial Science from New York University.

In 1909 he was invited to come to the Kobe Higher Commercial (now Kobe University) to teach commercial subjects. Since then until the

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present his connection with that institution has been continuous except for the war years of 1942 to 1947.

In 1910 he was married to Miss Charlotte J. Hess of Illinois, U. S. A. Mrs. Smith taught in several schools in Kobe. At the time of her death in 1953 she was a member of the faculty of the Kobe University of Foreign Studies.

From 1917 to 1951 (upon reaching the retiring age) Mr. and Mrs. Smith were associated with the Japan Mission of the Methodist Church as lay workers among students. This work was carried on simultaneously with teaching.

In May, 1937, Mr. Smith was granted the decoration of Kun Gojo Zuihosho (Fifth Order of the Sacred Treasure).

Mr. Smith's present residence is at 15 Shinohara Minami Cho, 2 chome, Nada Ku, Kobe.

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