

Columbia University
in the City of New York

(NEW YORK 27, N. Y.)

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

July 16, 1951

Dear Editors:

According to your request, I have written an obituary notice, which I enclose herewith, of the late Professor Nagaoaka, whom I knew well and whom I respect. One thing which I am not sure is the name of the physicist who is always connected with the name of Heaviside as one of the discoverers of ionosphere. Is it Kennely or Kennedy? I am now on my vacation and have no references near at hand. Anyway, I am sure you know it.

I shall be very happy, if you would kindly send me a copy of "Nature", in which my article would appear. My address during July and August is

Hideki Yukawa, 209 Delaware Avenue, Ithaca, N. Y., U. S. A.

From the beginning of September on, it will be, as before,

Hideki Yukawa, 501 West 121st Street, New York 27, N. Y., U. S. A.

Sincerely yours,

Hideki Yukawa

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Obituary Notice of Professor Hanaro Nagaoaka

Professor Nagaoaka was born in Japan on August 18th, 1865, graduated from the College of Science of Tokyo Imperial University (now Tokyo University) in 1887 and got his Doctor's degree in 1893. After having studied further in Germany for three years, he was appointed professor of physics in Tokyo Imperial University and held the position from 1896 to 1926. Since 1926, he continued his research at the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (now Scientific Research Institute) in Tokyo until 1945. Even after he left the Institute, he has been actively engaged in his research up to the very end of his life, which came on December 10th, 1950 at the age of 85.

He published more than 300 papers which covered a wide range of pure and applied physics, extending from hyperfine structure of atomic spectra to such subjects on geophysics as ionosphere and earthquake. His earliest works on geophysics were followed by the investigation of magnetism, which was further extended by Professor K. Honda. Then his interest was turned to spectroscopy. In his latest years, he returned to various subjects on geophysics. Among numerous works, however, he is best known by his pioneering paper on atom model which appeared in Philosophical Magazine in 1903. In a sense, his Saturn model of the atom could be regarded as the forerunner of Rutherford-Bohr theory.

He was elected a member of Imperial Academy of Japan (now Japan Academy) in 1905 and has been the president of the Academy from 1939 to 1948. He was the first president of Osaka (Imperial) University which was established in 1931. He was among the first who received in 1937 the Order of Cultural Merit, a medal of highest distinction. Honors

's also worthwhile to mention that he predicted the existence of ionosphere idently of Kennedy and Heaviside.

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came also from abroad. He was chosen in 1912 as Honorary Fellow of the Physical Society of London and was conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy from Cambridge University in England.

Profound was his influences on a great number of younger physicists in Japan, who looked up to him as an outstanding native scientist and who were eager to catch up with Western sciences after three hundred years of isolation of Japan from the rest of the world. His tireless endeavor for more than 50 years in search of truth and his genuine love of Nature amply deserved his reputation.

Hideki Yukawa



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Profound ~~was~~ ^{were} his influences ^{on a great number of younger physicists in Japan,} ^{both direct and indirect} ^{as well as a pioneer} ^{Japanese} who looked up to him as an outstanding native scientist ^{and ~~was~~ were eager to catch up with Western sciences after three hundred years of isolation of Japan from the rest of the world.} ^{and technology} ^{in new endeavor} His tireless endeavor for ^{more than} ^{nearly 60} years in search of truth and his genuine love of Nature amply deserved his reputation.

*Had born scientist
with me*

Hideki Yukawa

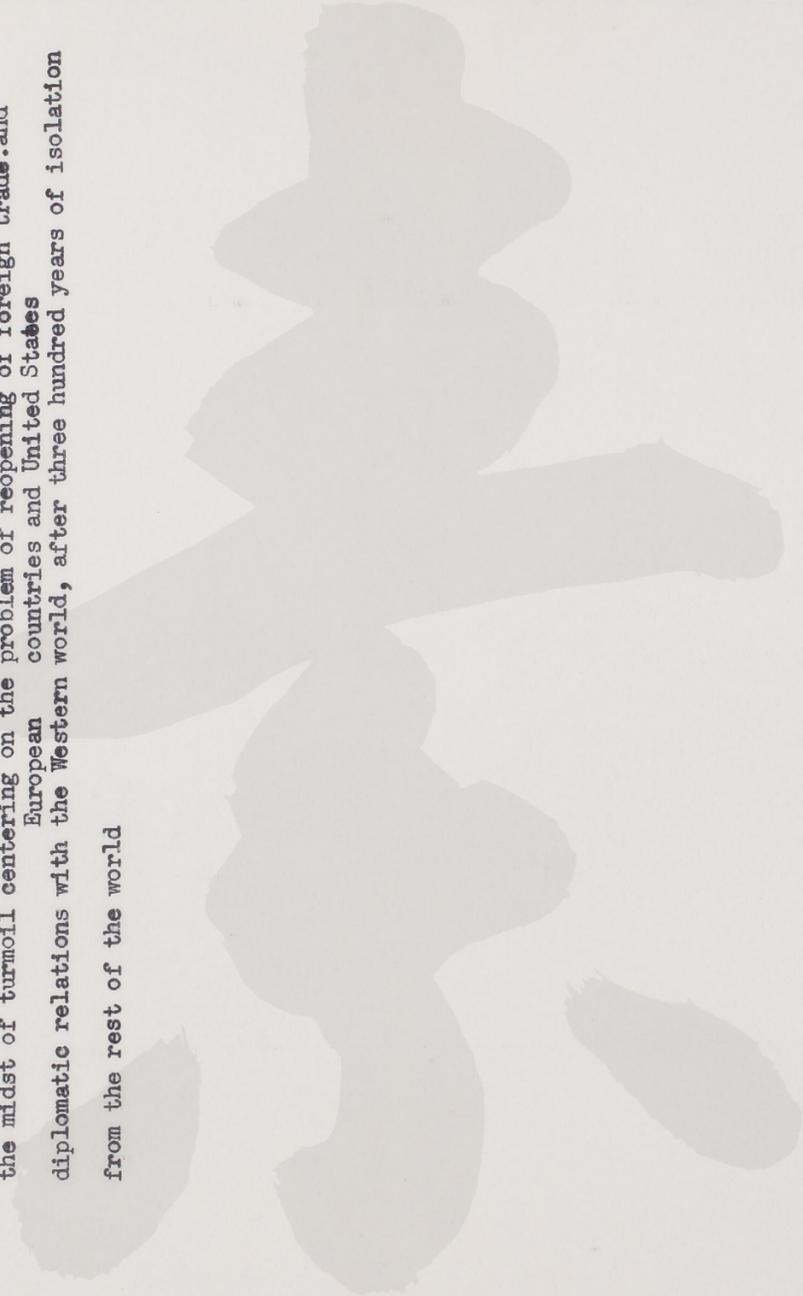
Hideki Yukawa

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Obituary Notice of Professor Hantaro Nagaoka

Professor Nagaoka was born *in Japan* on August 18th, 1865, when Japan was in the midst of turmoil centering on the problem of reopening of foreign trade and diplomatic relations with the Western world, after three hundred years of isolation from the rest of the world



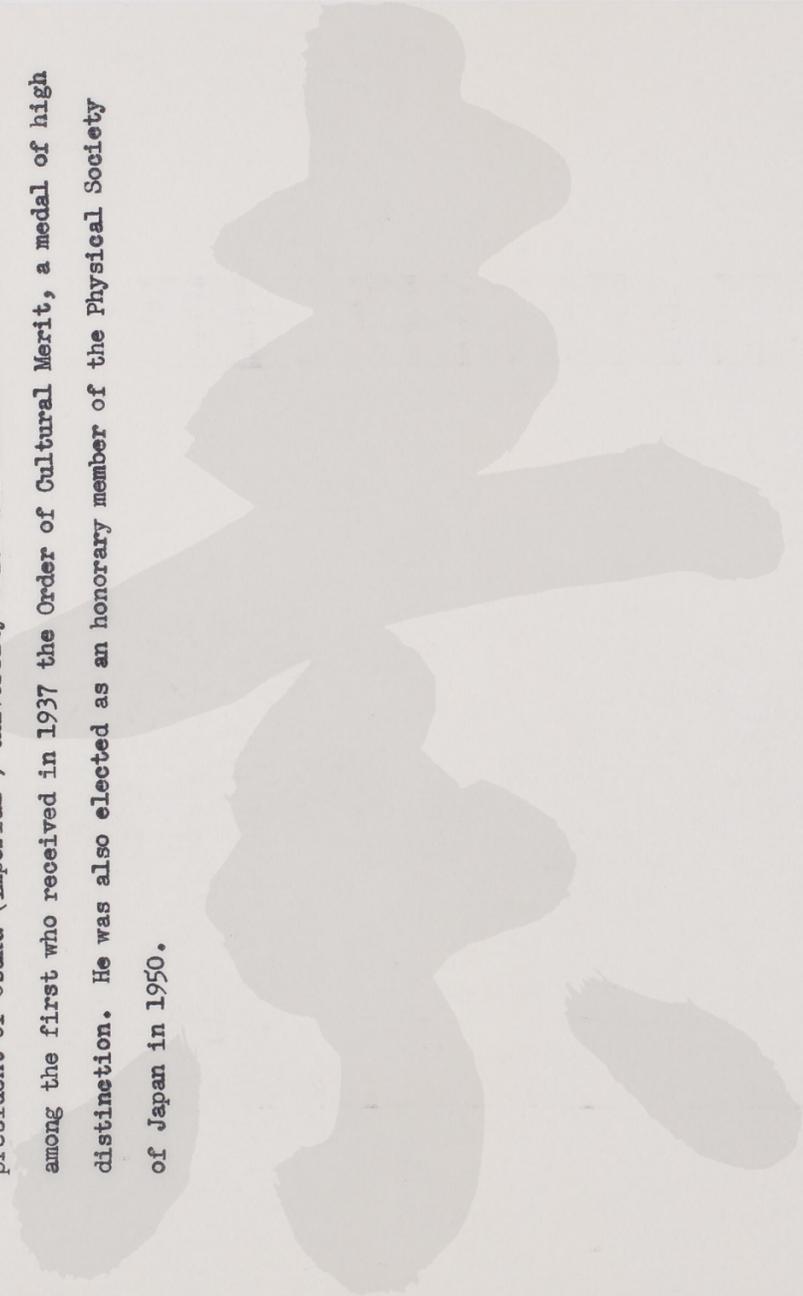
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distinction. He was also elected as an honorary member of the Physical Society
of Japan in 1950.



concerning an attempt
the problem of
opening of
foreign trade.

was in the
when Japan
was beginning
to opening
door to
three years
before Meiji
Restoration

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