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MR. EIZABURÔ FUJII

ADVISER EIZABURŌ FUJII

Our Physico-Chemical Society of Japan was established in the autumn of 1936 with the support of Mr. Eizaburō Fujii, one of the pioneers of the Japanese chemical industry, whose creed is: "the profit earned from chemical industry should be devoted to the chemical world." This creed, needless to say, had much to do with the establishment of our society.

Now we are very glad to introduce him as an adviser to our society.

Mr. Eizaburō Fujii was born in Kanazawa on November 1st, 1866, as the son of Chōhei Fujii, who was of a Tokyo *samurai* family, and was the younger brother of the late Dr. Jōkichi Takamine, inventor of 'Taka-diastrase'. Early in life, in Tokyo, he engaged himself in manufacturing chemicals. In 1922 he founded the Fujii Industrial Chemistry Co., and became its acting partner. Later he became the managing director of the Tokyo Sulphuric Acid Co., Ltd., together with the director of the Sulphuric Acid Shop, the managing director of the Asahi Warehouse Co., Ltd., the auditor of the Katsuraya Shop, the director of the Takamine Production Co. and the Hananoya Colours Factory, and the superintendent of the Fujii Glifan Laboratory. In addition, he was the founder of the Publishing Office of the Chemical Industry Review (the Kagaku Kōgyō Jihō,) and the overseer of the Kōsei-kai, a corporate juridical person, and the Society of Spreading Scientific Knowledge, a foundational juridical person.

Now, having retired from almost all the enterprises for profit, he takes the greatest delight in exerting himself for the development of chemical industry in Japan. He, hoping to serve the chemical industry world, often has made much contribution to the Technical Department of the Tokyo Imperial University, the Scientific and Technical Department of Waseda University, the Kōsei-kai, the Electric Association and the Society of Spreading Scientific Knowledge. Then, for the Economical Department of the Tokyo Imperial University he contributed a collection of the ancient oriental coins whose value was estimated about ¥ 100,000 at that time. Owing to these merits he received a blue-ribbon medal in 1927. Thus, nobody can but impress to see a great deal of his contributions to public affairs, chiefly in the chemical world. It should be added as an example of his contributions in other lines than in natural science that he gave support to the movement of Neo-Buddhism by Rev. Entai Tomomatsu from the same locality.

Last autumn he trusted ¥ 30,000 to us. This encouraged us to establish the Physico-Chemical Society of Japan, and to change the *Review of Physical Chemistry of Japan*, the organ of the editor's laboratory, into that of the society containing originals in English or German as well as complete abstracts of Japanese physico-chemical literature.

In his sixty-ninth year Mr. Fujii is yet in good health. We wish most heartily that he may live long to see his dream of the development of the Japanese chemical world come true.

Shinkichi Horiba