



PRESIDENT SHINKICHI HORIBA

The Late Dr. SHINKICHI HORIBA

The President of the Physico-Chemical Society of Japan

Dr. Shinkichi Horiba, who was the founder of the Physico-Chemical Society of Japan and published *The Review of Physical Chemistry of Japan* in 1926, passed away on February 16th, 1968.

Dr. Shinkichi Horiba was born in Kyoto in 1886, graduated from the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Kyoto University in 1910, accepted the professorship in chemistry in 1924 and became Professor Emeritus in 1947. He took the first step toward the study of chemical kinetics in the Japanese chemical world and established "Thermal analysis of reaction velocity" — an analytical method of the reaction rate obtained from the heat of reaction — and also made numerous valuable investigations in the field of the chemical reaction mechanism in gaseous and liquid phases. In reward for his distinguished contributions to chemistry he was granted the Imperial Prize of Japan Academy in 1937.

Furthermore, he was one of the pioneers of physical chemistry in Japan, namely, in colloid chemistry, catalysis and high pressure chemistry, providing a basis for further study to follow.

His achievements in the laboratory of physical chemistry of the Department of Chemistry in Kyoto University are reported in the Commemoration Volume dedicated to him in 1946. In 1949 he was made Member of Japan Academy.

He guided and instructed a great number of researchers as one of the leaders of Japanese chemists. After having retired under the age-limit, he rendered valuable service to the cause of education as the dean of Doshisha University, President of Osaka Prefectural University or that of Kyoto Music College.

*The Review of Physical Chemistry of Japan* was published in 1937 as the English edition of *Butsuri-Kagaku no Shinpo*, Volume XI, and now stands high among the journals of this field in the world, particularly of high pressure and very high pressure chemistry.

For his inestimable contributions to national culture, he was rewarded as a Person of Cultural Merits in 1966.

He, having a mind of great capacity, loved others and was beloved by all. Being looked up to by his pupils for light and leadership, he breathed his last.

I heartily express my regret over his death.

Jiro Osugi

*Editor in Chief*

The Physico-Chemical Society of Japan