

or "Let us reason together." This was characteristic of his approach to any problem.

His death brought to a close a highly useful life. His memory will be carried on through the many students whom he inspired to careers of public service.

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#### F. P. RAMSEY

THE death at the age of 26 of Frank Ramsey, Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, sometime scholar of Winchester and of Trinity, son of the President of Magdalene, is a heavy loss—though his primary interests were in Philosophy and Mathematical Logic—to the pure theory of Economics. From a very early age, about 16 I think, his precocious mind was intensely interested in economic problems. Economists living in Cambridge have been accustomed from his undergraduate days to try their theories on the keen edge of his critical and logical faculties. If he had followed the easier path of mere inclination, I am not sure that he would not have exchanged the tormenting exercises of the foundations of thought and of psychology, where the mind tries to catch its own tail, for the delightful paths of our own most agreeable branch of the moral sciences, in which theory and fact, intuitive imagination and practical judgment, are blended in a manner comfortable to the human intellect.

When he did descend from his accustomed stony heights, he still lived without effort in a rarer atmosphere than most economists care to breathe, and handled the technical apparatus of our science with the easy grace of one accustomed to something far more difficult. But he has left behind him in print (apart from his philosophical papers) only two witnesses to his powers—his papers published in the *ECONOMIC JOURNAL* on "A Contribution to the Theory of Taxation" in March 1927, and on "A Mathematical Theory of Saving" in December 1928. The latter of these is, I think, one of the most remarkable contributions to mathematical economics ever made, both in respect of the intrinsic importance and difficulty of its subject, the power and elegance of the technical methods employed, and the clear purity of illumination with which the writer's mind is felt by the reader to play about its subject. The article is terribly difficult reading for an economist, but it is not difficult to appreciate how scientific and æsthetic qualities are combined in it together.

The loss of Ramsey is, therefore, to his friends, for whom his personal qualities joined most harmoniously with his intellectual powers, one which it will take them long to forget. His bulky Johnsonian frame, his spontaneous gurgling laugh, the simplicity of his feelings and reactions, half-alarming sometimes and occasionally almost cruel in their directness and literalness, his honesty of mind and heart, his modesty, and the amazing, easy efficiency of the intellectual machine which ground away behind his wide temples and broad, smiling face, have been taken from us at the height of their excellence and before their harvest of work and life could be gathered in.

J. M. K.

C. P. SANGER

WE deeply regret to record the death of Mr. C. P. Sanger on February 8 at the age of fifty-eight. Mr. Sanger, who was formerly a Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and practised as a barrister-at-law, had drifted somewhat away from economic studies in recent years. But he was at one time a leading authority on mathematical and statistical economics. He had lectured on these subjects in the University of London, and had often examined in the Economics Tripos at Cambridge. He had been a frequent contributor to the *ECONOMIC JOURNAL*—I have been astonished on looking up the records to find that he had contributed to our pages no less than fifty times—and had served on the Council of our Society. He will be particularly regretted by members of the Royal Statistical Society, in whose proceedings and activities he had taken an active part.

Sanger's acute and critical mind, with its bird-like flashes, was not of the kind to deliver itself in treatises. It was in conversation, in discussion and in teaching that his gifts were to be admired and appreciated. He will be greatly lamented, not least for his sweet personality and gift for lifelong friendships, by all those who have taken part by word of mouth in the semi-academic London world of economic discussion during the last thirty-five years.

Sanger and Ramsey were both scholars of Winchester and of Trinity, both mathematicians by *métier* who were strongly drawn to economic science. Commemorating Sanger in the *Nation and Athenæum* of February 22, Mr. G. Lowes Dickinson writes of him as follows, joining Frank Ramsey with him (by reference though not by name) :—