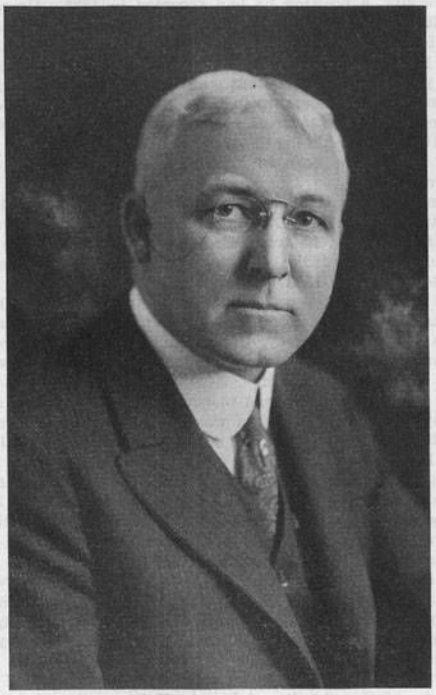

JOHN PAUL GOODE

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1862–1932

John Paul Goode died on August fifth, 1932, at his summer home at Little Point Sable, Michigan. His brief illness came shortly after the publication of the revised edition of his School Atlas, and his last days were enlivened by letters of congratulation. He remained to the end the happy, enthusiastic personality known to hosts of students and friends.

Professor Goode was born on a farm near Stewartville, Minnesota, November 21, 1862. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1889 and accepted a position at the newly-opened normal school at Moorehead where he remained for nine years, doing graduate work at Harvard in 1894 and at the University of Chicago in 1896–97. In 1898 he went to the State Teachers College at Charleston, Illinois, and two years later to the University of Pennsylvania where he received his Ph. D. in geography in 1901 and remained two years as instructor.

In 1903 the University of Chicago established a department of geography under the headship of Rollin D. Salisbury who promptly invited Dr. Goode to an assistant professorship. The presence of these two brilliant scholars and teachers soon attracted a following of both undergraduate and graduate students, and the department grew rapidly. Dr. Goode was advanced to an associate professorship in 1910 and to a professorship in 1917.

Dr. Goode's activities extended far beyond the classroom. He was one of the founders of the Geographic Society of Chicago, served as president for two years and as a director for more than two decades. He was co-editor of the Journal of Geography from 1901 to 1904. In 1908 he made a study of the principal European ports for the Chicago Harbor Commission. In 1909 he was appointed one of the government escorts to the Honorable Commissioners of Japan in their transcontinental tour. Two years later he lectured for the Philippine Government at the Baguio Assembly.

In his later years Dr. Goode gave increasing attention to research and writing. He brought out a set of desk maps and a significant series of physical and political wall maps of the world and of each continent. For years he wrestled with the baffling problem of a map projection of the world on an equal-area basis. He advanced the solution in 1916 with his interrupted homolographic projection and solved the problem in 1923 with his interrupted homolosine projection. These projections represent a basic advance in cartography. In the brief interval since their appearance, they or projections based on them have been used in technical publications of several governments and by practically all important map-making institutions of the world. The climax of Dr. Goode's work is represented in his School Atlas, first published in 1923 and recently revised and enlarged. In it he combined the long experience of a mature geographer with the technical ability of a master cartographer. As a result the Atlas has both scientific and educational distinction.

Professor Goode received many and varied recognitions of his work. His outstanding ability on the lecture platform brought him invitations to speak before Chambers of Commerce, geographic societies, state educational associations, and many other organizations. He served a term as general secretary for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1923 the Geographic Society of Chicago awarded him its Helen Culver Gold Medal for "distinguished achievement in cartography." He was a charter member of the Association of American Geographers, serving as vice-president in 1916 and as president in 1926.

Many students and scientists are indebted to Dr. Goode. He truly was a pioneer in geography, a leader in cartography, and a stimulating influence to his fellow men.

CHARLES C. COLBY