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NAVY RELIEF COURSE In Memory: Professor Walter Jennings

by Gerry Carter

Navy and Marine Corps wives, you know how hard your husbands work for their branch of the service, and you also know that they bring home a pay check periodically. But are you aware of the many benefits to which you and your family are entitled? How much of that pay is taxable? Where can you turn for aid when college costs mount, you need legal help or have an unexpected medical problem? What survivor's benefits are available to you?

The answers to these and many other questions will be provided in the 1975 Navy Relief Course. Plan to attend the classes that will be held from November 3rd through the 14th, 1975, from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Mrs. Lavina Roske, the Secretary of Navy Relief's San Francisco Auxiliary will conduct the course.

An invitation with a registration form for each Navy and Marine Corps family will soon be sent through the SMC boxes. For each of you attending the informative classes, free child care will be provided at the Children's Waiting Room (Navy Annex). For additional information do not hesitate to contact the Navy Relief office at their new number, 373-7665.

Mark your calendars for November 3rd through the 14th for a more thorough understanding of your benefits and privileges. You will be a better member of your military community and a more knowledgeable wife.

by Ladis D. Kovach

Walter Jennings, Professor of Mathematics, died unexpectedly of a heart attack after a short illness on 10 July 1975. He was born on 8 May 1911 in Belle Valley, Ohio. He received his education at Ohio State University, where he was awarded the A.B. degree in 1932, the B.S. degree in 1934, and the M.A. degree in 1934. He did part-time graduate study at the Ohio State University from 1934 to 1938, majoring in mathematics



and minoring in physics.

His teaching experience has been in mathematics at Ohio State University from 1934 to 1938; Texas A. and M. College from 1938 to 1942; Virginia Polytechnic Institute from 1946 to 1947. He became a member of the faculty of the Naval Postgraduate School, as Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Mechanics in 1947 when the School was located in Annapolis. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1950 and to Professor in 1960.

At the Naval Postgraduate School he taught a variety of courses with special emphasis on statistics and numerical analysis. In 1958 he participated in a short course at UCLA entitled, "Advanced Course in Industrial Statistics Methods."

He was appointed a Lieutenant (j.g.) in the U.S. Naval Reserve in May 1942. He trained at Notre Dame and the Naval Gun Factory. He was assistant to Exterior Ballistics Officer, U.S. Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia, from August 1942 to August 1946. For his work there he received a citation from the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance which read, in part, "His performance of duty was outstanding and in accordance with the best traditions of the United States Naval Service." He held the rank of Lieutenant Commander at the time of his release from active duty.

He received a Fulbright-Hays grant and spent the 1964-65 academic year teaching at Al-Hikma University in Baghdad, Iraq. This was a Jesuit University associated with Boston University. In the fall of 1964 Professor Jennings had a class of Iraqi sophomores in a course in engineering mathematics. He taught three sections of the course and to his surprise there were eleven girls. He wrote, "What a contrast with the veiled women we often see on the streets." He and his wife, Mausita, traveled extensively in Europe, the middle East and the Orient on this occasion.

He was the author of "First Course in Numerical Methods," Macmillan 1964, and of several technical papers. He was working on another text at the time of his death. He was a member of the Mathematical Association of America and his biography appeared in "American Men of Science." At NPS he served for two three-year terms on the Faculty Retirement and Insurance Committee.

In addition to his professional interests he was an accomplished pianist and an orchidologist. He was particularly interested in helping young people who had musical talent. In this connection he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Carmel Music Society and supported their Young Musicians' Fund.

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