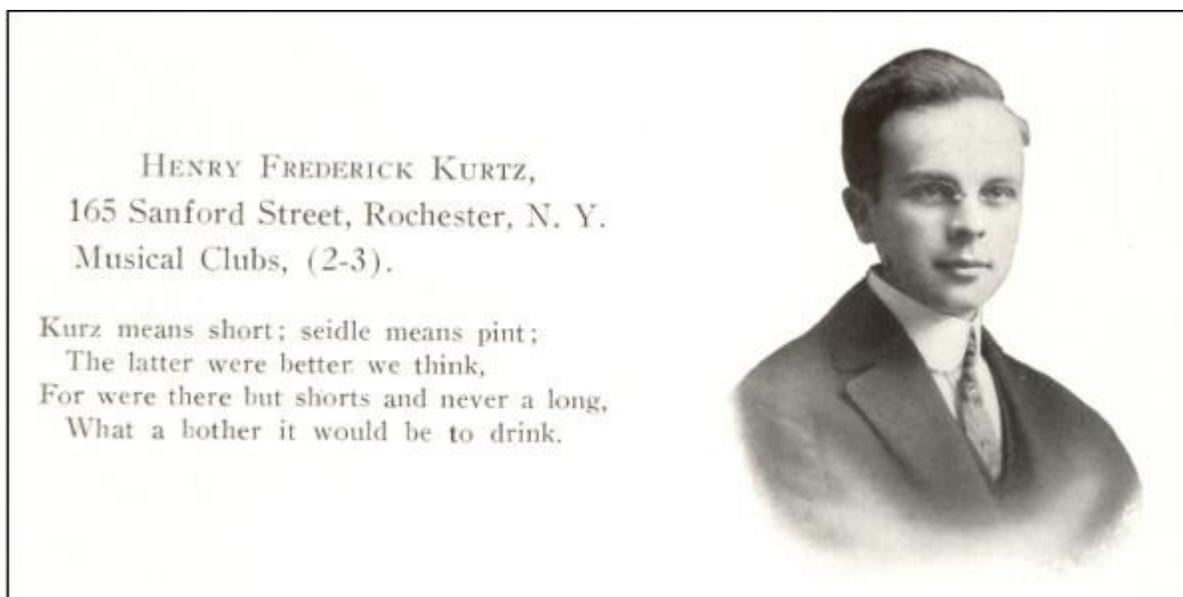


A Bit of History ... by Mari de Wit

This month's spotlight is on Henry F. Kurtz who served as our local ROSA president in 1923. Mr. Kurtz was born March 3, 1888 and died on January 7, 1958. He lived at 31 Highland Parkway in Rochester. He married Erma Jane Sweeting on May 11, 1935. They had no children. He has many patents to his name, has written many papers, and was Secretary for the National OSA for 9 years. From an excerpt from the 1942 issue of the Journal of the Optical Society of America regarding his resignation:

"One other matter to be mentioned is that of the resignation of Mr. Henry F. Kurtz as treasurer, effective January 1, 1942. To him, for his efficient and careful services in that office for the past nine years, the Society is extremely grateful. It recognizes, however, that the demands made on his time, freely given, have been heavy and that it is appropriate that the task shall now be assumed by another. In his successor, we shall look for the same high ideal of service to the Society."



A special thank you to Nancy Martin from the Univ. of Rochester library who helped provide this photo and other information for this article from the alumni archives!

Short Biography:

1913: UofR class member (non-graduate), studied at UofR from 1909-1912

He prepared at the Mechanics Institute (now called RIT)

1923: Service rendered as a civilian: "Design and control in the construction of range finders, gunsights, periscopes and other fire-control and observation instruments."

1928+: Optical Engineer in the scientific bureau at Bausch & Lomb Optical Co.

1932: Member in Sigma Xi: Scientific Research Society.

1949: Retired

Other Achievements/References:

- It also appears that he was involved with the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League at which time he may have been either an officer or member of the local Lyric Theatre. Theater programs show that this theater was showing double features from 1929 through the early 1930's and that it was still operating as a movie theatre in 1950.
- 1922 The dioptrimeter, an apparatus for measuring the power of commercial lenses: Henry F. Kurtz, Bausch & Lomb. Also see: "<http://www.museum.org/detail.php?t=objects&type=all&f=&s=kurtz&record=0>"

Small Telescopes for Military Use

The Functions and Properties of Telescopic Apparatus

By Henry F. Kurtz*

PRACTICALLY all military optical instruments are telescopic in nature. It is the purpose of this article to lay the fundamental theory of the telescope before the

THE diagram, Fig. 1, represents the astronomical telescope. The objective O and the eyepiece E are represented as single lenses for simplicity. They are separated a

Links/Papers:

- 1923: Henry F. Kurtz, "The Dioptrimeter," J. Opt. Soc. Am. **7**, 103-123
<http://www.opticsinfobase.org/abstract.cfm?URI=josa-7-1-103>
- 1929: National Defense Vol.10: Small Telescopes for Military Use The Functions and Properties of Telescopic Apparatus By *Henry F. Kurtz** - (see image below)
- 1932: Kurtz, Henry F. Optical Glass in America, and important thread in the fabric of National defense. Army Ordnance 12 (Jan./Feb.) 251-254.
- 1937: Henry F. Kurtz, "Orthostereoscopy," J. Opt. Soc. Am. **27**, 323-336
<http://www.opticsinfobase.org/abstract.cfm?URI=josa-27-10-323>
- 1938: American Machinist Vol.82: "Scope and Limitation of the Projection Method for Shop Measurement," by *Henry F. Kurtz*.

A few of his patents can be examined here:

- [Projection apparatus \(15-Dec-1936\)](#)
- [Substage lamp \(10-Mar-1936\)](#)
- [His microscope patent](#)

* http://www.silentfilmstillarchive.com/rochester_lyric_oct_19_1930.htm