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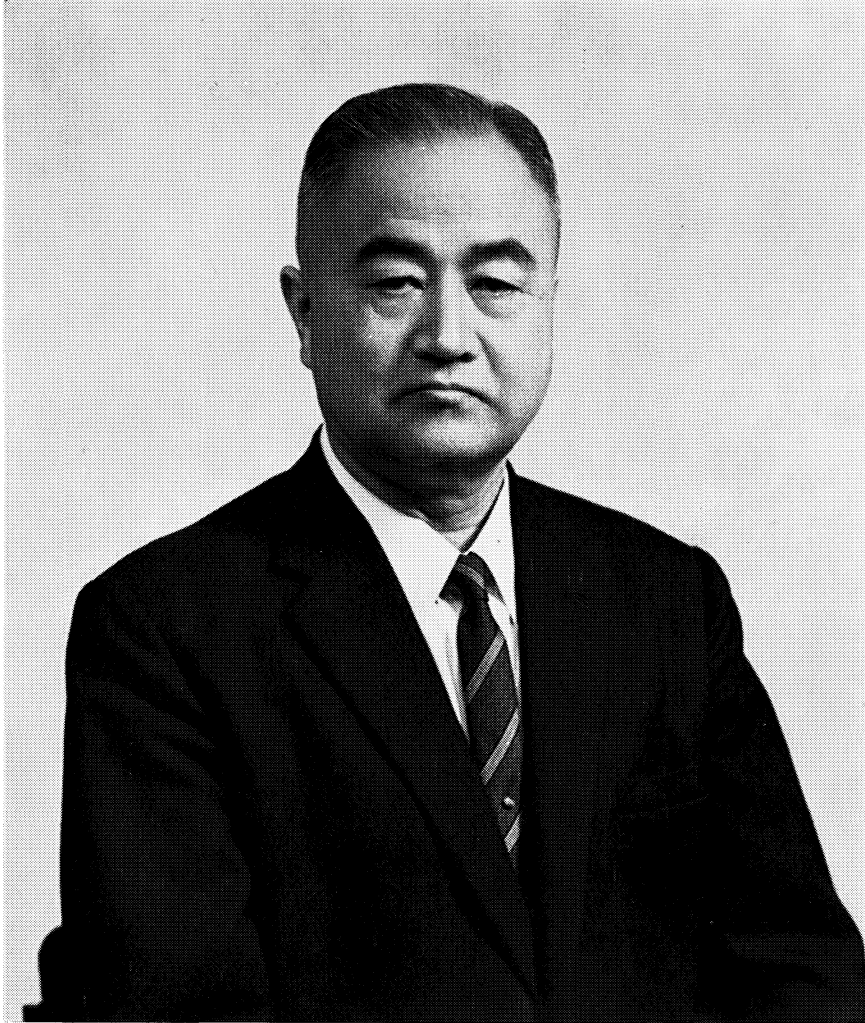
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小野 勝次

Katsuji Ono

Professor Katuzi Ono was born on April 10, 1909 in Tokyo, where he stayed until 1942. He was very feeble and shy in his boyhood, but his personality seems much influenced by the School Master Kenjiro Yamakawa of Musashi High School, Ex-President of Tokyo Imperial University, and by his character and ability as a sportsman in the latter half of his high school days 1922–1930. He was an undergraduate student at Tokyo Imperial University during 1930–1933, studying mathematics and philosophy as a student of the Mathematics Department. He was a member of the track and field team of the university. After his graduation, he studied mathematics under the guidance of Professors T. Takagi and Z. Suetuna and philosophy under the guidance of Professor G. Kuwaki at Tokyo Imperial University, teaching mathematics at Musashi High School as a lecturer. He obtained the degree Doctor of Science from the same university in 1939. Before being appointed to an associate professorship at Nagoya Imperial University in 1942, he had been a professor at Musashi High School (under the old system). In those days, he was studying mathematical logic and the foundations of mathematics, population problems, and computer sciences. He was also the general manager of the track and field team of Tokyo Imperial University for several years.

One year after changing his position from Tokyo to Nagoya, he was promoted to a full professor of mathematics at Nagoya Imperial University in 1943, which turned out to be simply called Nagoya University after the World War II, and he has kept the chair of the applied mathematics until 1969. He was much interested in mechanism of automaton in those days, noticing the close connection between the classical propositional logic, Boolean algebra, binary digital systems, and electric circuits. Cooperated with Professor H. Yamashita and Mr. R. Sato of the Faculty of Technology, Tokyo Imperial University, he tried to build up a simple computer for statistical sciences. Jointly with Yamashita and Sato, he was awarded the Academy Prize from the Japan Academy of Sciences in 1954 for the work.

As a Research Scholar of the Fulbright Exchange Program, he spent one year 1957–1958 at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, U.S.A.. During his stay in the United States, his main interest came back to the field of logics and foundations of mathematics. For several years, he sought after a basic set theoretical system standing on the classical logic, but afterwards he changed his mind to seek after a very simple logic, dreaming that every formal system

would be established purely logically in it. Indeed, he has introduced the primitive logic, and he has been successful in constructing a vast class of formal systems purely logically in his set up.

He has officiated the Mathematical Society of Japan, the Japan Association for Philosophy of Science, and also the Operations Research Society of Japan. He has taken care of sports circles, in particular track and field.

In February 1969, he was unexpectedly elected to the President of Shizuoka University, and he was appointed to the position in April 1969. He is still working on the mathematical logic in the Mathematical Institute of Nagoya University as a professor emeritus.

Editors of the
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