

## A Bit of History ... by Mari de Wit

This month's spotlight is on Floyd C. Fairbanks who served as our local ROSA president in 1921. Floyd Fairbanks was born on November 27, 1873 in Williamson, NY. His work focused on the heat of vaporization of liquid air, the density of rocks from deep mines, and optics. Unfortunately, very little information is available on Fairbanks and although he is in the picture below (Courtesy of Carlos Stroud's book: a Jewel in the Crown), it is not clear which one is Fairbanks.



### **Biography:**

- 1901-1904: High school science teacher in Geneva, NY.  
1906: Undergraduate education at Rochester and Cornell, with AB degree from Cornell.  
1906-1918: Served as an instructor in Physics at Drexel University.  
1918: Appointed an Assistant Professor of Physics at U of R.  
1918 -1940's: Professor of Physics at the University of Rochester.

### **Links/Papers:**

- 1913 - Book: Principles\_of\_experimental\_physics\_for\_students\_of\_science\_and\_technology.  
[http://openlibrary.org/books/OL24189816M/Principles\\_of\\_experimental\\_physics\\_for\\_students\\_of\\_science\\_and\\_technology](http://openlibrary.org/books/OL24189816M/Principles_of_experimental_physics_for_students_of_science_and_technology)
- 1938 - Book: An Orientation in Science, Co-Author with 11 members of the U of R faculty  
<http://www.questia.com/PM.qst?a=o&d=85648819>
- 2004 - Book: A Jewel in the Crown. Essays edited by Carlos R. Stroud Jr.  
<http://www.osarochester.org/presidents.html>

*A curious bit of info regarding Fairbanks...*

- <http://cdsun.library.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/newscornell?a=d&d=CDS19070116.1.2&e=-----20--1----all or>
- <http://www.newspaperarchive.com/SiteMap/FreePdfPreview.aspx?img=102170825>

These newspaper articles are from 1907 from 2 different newspapers...



F. C. Fairbanks, son of the Vice-President, was indicted at Steubenville, Ohio, for perjury, the charge being false swearing as to residence when he procured a license to marry Miss Scott, of Pittsburg. Mr. Fairbanks denies having taken any oath, the same grand jury indicted two other bridegrooms from Pennsylvania for perjury.



SON OF VICE PRESIDENT  
CHARGED WITH PERJURY.

Alleged That He Swore Falsely When He Applied For License.

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, Jan. 15.—A sensation was created here today by the grand jury returning an indictment for perjury against F. C. Fairbanks, son of Vice-President Fairbanks, for perjury in an oath relating to his marriage to Miss Scott of Pittsburg. The charge is that Mr. Fairbanks went to Steubenville and disguised himself as a workingman and said that he was a workingman of Adams county and that Miss Scott was a resident of the county.

On this statement he secured a marriage license and they were married and left the town immediately afterward. The prosecutor says that the papers will be served upon Mr. Fairbanks as soon as it can be done.