BALLANTINE, Constance (Rummons). August 15, 1896–January 14, 1974. University of Nebraska (BA 1916, MA 1919), University of Chicago (PhD 1923).

Constance Juliet Rummons was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, the daughter of Clara (Schroeder) (1871–1964), born in Illinois, and Nestor Rummons (1869–1929), a native of Missouri. Her mother was a homemaker and legal secretary; her father was a lawyer, who had graduated from Central Wesleyan College in Missouri in 1887 and from the College of Law at the University of Michigan in 1890. A year or two after their 1895 marriage, the family moved from Lincoln to Elwood, Nebraska, and in 1901 to Hobart, Oklahoma. Her father was a member of the Oklahoma State Supreme Court Commission 1915–19. She had two younger sisters, Lucy (1898–ca. 1901) and Helen Lacy (1906–1988), who graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1925, received a master's degree in classical studies from the University of Chicago in 1927, and became a teacher of Latin, Greek, and English in a Chicago high school. Census records indicate that her parents were living apart in Hobart, Oklahoma, in 1910 and that they were divorced by 1920, when Clara Rummons and her daughters were living in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Constance Rummons entered the University of Nebraska in 1912 and received her bachelor of arts degree at the midwinter commencement of 1915–16. She also took some teachers' courses and in the summer session of 1916 earned the teachers' college diploma and the university teachers' certificate. She was a graduate student in 1916–17 and an assistant in philosophy 1917–19 before receiving her master's degree in May 1919 in philosophy and English literature. She was a member of the honorary literary society Chi Delta Phi, and her master's thesis appeared in the series University of Nebraska Studies in Language, Literature, and Criticism. Three years later, a year before she received her PhD in mathematics, Rummons published a lengthy article in a poetry journal. Rummons was a graduate student, presumably in mathematics, at Nebraska 1919–21 and was also an assistant instructor in mathematics 1920–21, having studied at the University of Chicago in the summer of 1920. She returned to Chicago for summer 1922 and the three quarters of the academic year 1922–23. She received her PhD from Chicago in 1923.

While Rummons was at Chicago, she met John Perry Ballantine, a fellow graduate student there; they were married at her mother's home in Lincoln, Nebraska, on September 21, 1922. J. P. Ballantine was born February 23, 1896, in Rahuri, India. His father was a medical missionary and his mother was a teacher who had taught in South Africa. He received a bachelor's degree from Harvard in 1918 and was an instructor at the University of Maine 1919–20, at Pennsylvania State College 1920–21, and at the University of Michigan 1921–22. He, too, received his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1923, with a dissertation, "A Postulational Introduction to the Four Color Problem," directed by E. H. Moore.

In 1923 the Ballantines moved to New York City, where J. P. Ballantine had a position as instructor at Columbia University 1923–26. Constance Ballantine was an instructor at Washington Square College, New York University, 1924–25. On August 31, 1926, the first of their three children, Julia Gay, was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. That same year they moved to Seattle where J. P. Ballantine began his work at the University of Washington. He was assistant professor 1926–30, associate professor 1930–38, and professor 1938–66, before his retirement in 1966.

During World War II, he served with the US Army at American military schools in England and Germany.

The second child, Frederick Winthrop, was born September 18, 1927, and the third, Charles Standish, on August 27, 1929, both in Seattle. All the children subsequently had professional careers. Julia B. Zalokar became an epidemiologist and homemaker after receiving her education at the University of Washington; Columbia University Medical School; University of Washington Medical School; San Diego State University, where she earned a master's degree; and the University of California, San Diego. She died in 1997.

Frederick W. became a computer programmer after attending the University of Washington and the University of Illinois and earning a master's degree. He died in 2006. Charles S. became a mathematician, having received his BS from the University of Washington and his PhD from Stanford. He retired from Oregon State University as professor emeritus. He died in 2008.

Within two years of moving to Seattle, Constance Ballantine was given the title of associate at the University of Washington. She held the title, which appears to have carried no specific duties, at least until 1950. Although she taught some correspondence courses, according to her younger son, anti-nepotism practices, especially during the Great Depression, played an inhibiting role in her pursuit of professional work. However, she did write a review for the *Monthly* in 1939. When the children were in school she was active in the PTA. Her hobbies were gardening, reading, word puzzles, bridge, and Scrabble. She was a member of the University Unitarian Church.

J. P. Ballantine died of Hodgkin's disease on March 11, 1970, and Constance R. Ballantine died in Seattle in January 1974, at age seventy-seven, of complications of cardiovascular disease.

Organizational affiliations: AMS, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi.

Thesis and dissertation:
1919 [Rummons, C.] Ethnic ideals of the British Isles. MA thesis. University of Nebraska. See also **1920**.
1923 Modular invariants of a binary group with composite modulus. PhD dissertation, University of Chicago, directed by Leonard Eugene Dickson. Typescript. Printed version, 1923, reprinted from *Amer. J. Math.* 45:286–93.

Publications:
1920 [Rummons, C.] *Ethnic Ideals of the British Isles*. University of Nebraska Studies in Language, Literature, and Criticism. No. 3. Lincoln, Nebraska. Published version of MA thesis.
1922 [Rummons, C.] The ballad imitations of Swinburne. *Poet Lore* 33:58–84.
1923 Modular invariants of a binary group with composite modulus. *Amer. J. Math.* 45:286–93. Published version of PhD dissertation. Reviews: *JFM* 49.0105.02 (E. Noether); *Rev. semestr. publ. math.* 31, pt. 2: 2 (E. B. Cowley).
1939 Review of *International Encyclopedia of Unified Science*, "Encyclopedia and Unified Science," vol. 1, no. 1, by O. Neurath, N. Bohr, J. Dewey, B. Russell, R. Carnap, and C. W. Morris; "Foundations of the Theory of Signs," vol. 1, no. 2, by C. W. Morris; and "Procedures of Empirical Science," vol. 1, no. 5, by V. F. Lenzen. *Amer. Math. Monthly* 46:162–63.

Other sources: Authors' questionnaire completed by Charles S. Ballantine 1992; New York University Archives; Center for Research Libraries College Catalog Collection; communications with University of Nebraska Alumni Association and University of Chicago,

Office of the University Registrar; "Judge Nestor Rummons," (Necrology) *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 8 (March 1930): 134–35; WhoWest 23 (Zalokar, Julia Ballantine); US Census 1900 NE, 1910 OK, 1920 NE, 1930 IL, WA SSDI.

Last modified: August 4, 2009.