

NECROLOGY

WILL E. EDINGTON, DePauw University

ARTHUR THOMPSON EVANS

Wellington, Illinois

May 22, 1888

Oxford, Ohio

October 5, 1943

Arthur Thompson Evans, for fifteen years Professor and Head of the Department of Botany at Miami University, possessed that faculty of attracting to him students of unusual ability and imparting to them his own enthusiasm in the study of botany so that many of them continued their studies in graduate school and have since made enviable records in their chosen field. For many years he conducted tours by bus for students interested in botany where they camped out and studied nature first hand. One of these trips was made to Alaska. Obviously his untimely death at the age of fifty-five is to be deplored as a distinct loss to science.

He was born at Wellington, Illinois, and after completing his public school education he entered the University of Illinois from which he graduated in 1912. During the next two years he was principal of a high school in Michigan. In 1914 he went to the University of Colorado as an instructor in botany and he remained there three years during which time he secured the M.S. degree in 1915. He accepted a fellowship in botany at the University of Chicago in 1917 and the doctorate was conferred upon him the following year. The next year he spent as an assistant plant pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, being in charge of the cereal disease investigations in the Great Plains Region in 1918, and of the corn investigations in 1919. He then accepted the position of Professor of Biology and Dean in Huron College, but resigned the following year to go to South Dakota State College as Associate Professor of Agronomy and Associate in the Experiment Station. Three years later he was made Professor of Botany and Plant Pathology and Head of the Department of Botany. In 1928 he was elected Professor and Head of the Department of Botany at Miami University where he remained until his death on October 5, 1943.

Dr. Evans was the author of a number of research papers and college bulletins in morphology, cytology and ecology. He was joint author with R. J. Pool, of a *Laboratory Manual for First Course in Botany*. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and he held membership in the Botanical Society and the Ohio Academy of Science, being vice-president of the latter in 1930. He was also a member of Sigma Xi and was listed in *Who's Who in America*. He appeared on the general program of the Indiana Academy of Science

in 1941 where he presented a paper on "Some Thoughts on Origin and Evolution," characterized by very interesting and original thinking.

A man of wide interests and intense enthusiasm who sought and secured results in whatever he undertook, he has left an indelible impress on the many students who came under his influence and are now making science their life work.

FRANK VERN GRAHAM

Miami County, Indiana
October 18, 1887

Muncie, Indiana
May 19, 1944

The community of Ball State Teachers College was shocked and saddened by the sudden and unexpected passing of Professor Frank Vern Graham on the morning of May 19, 1944. Professor Graham had not been well for some time but he had met his classes as usual the day before his death.

Professor Graham was born on a farm in Miami County on October 18, 1887. He received his elementary education in the Galveston schools and graduated from that high school in 1905. He attended Marion Normal Institute and later Indiana University from which he received the A.B. degree in 1916 and the Master's degree in 1920. He also spent the summers of 1937 and 1938 in graduate study at the University of Colorado.

Following his graduation from high school he taught two years in township schools of Cass County and two years in the Galveston grade schools after which he became Principal of a township high school in Benton County where he remained two years. From 1911 to 1915 he was Head of the Science Department of Hartford City High School. After graduating from Indiana University he taught in the Marquette, Michigan, High School and the McKeesport, Pennsylvania, High School, and in 1920 came to Ball State Teachers College as Professor of Chemistry. While in McKeesport he worked during the summers in the research laboratories of the United States Steel Corporation in Pittsburgh.

Professor Graham was a good chemist primarily interested in the teaching of chemistry, in which he was unusually able and successful. He was interested in youth and their welfare, whether in college or in the public schools, serving as a troop committeeman in Boy Scout work, and at the time of his death he was a member of the college athletic committee. An active member and secretary of the church board of a Methodist Church in Muncie, he taught a Sunday School class and was a member of the Wesley Foundation.

He held membership in Alpha Chi Sigma, honorary chemistry fraternity, and Phi Delta Kappa, national education fraternity. Professor Graham joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1920 and was a regular attendant at its meetings.

An earnest, able and sincere teacher, he had during his twenty-four years of service at Ball State Teachers College trained a number of students in chemistry who have gone on to successful careers in that field. It is indeed to be regretted that he passed on at the comparatively early age of fifty-six.

RICHARD LIEBER

St. Johann-Saarbruecken, Germany
September 6, 1869

McCormick's Creek State Park
April 15, 1944

Many of the Founders of the Indiana Academy of Science were naturalists rather than specialists in narrow fields and the Minutes of the early years of the Academy have numerous resolutions and suggestions looking toward the conservation and preservation of Indiana fauna, flora and other resources. The names of Amos W. Butler, Stanley Coulter, Carl H. Eigenmann, Robert W. McBride and Willis A. Blatchley come to mind as men who were true Hoosier naturalists and who wrote and worked for conservation. But it remained for a young immigrant to direct the movement that brought about that phase of the conservation program which resulted in Indiana's State Park system. This immigrant was Richard Lieber.

Richard Lieber was born in western Germany where his ancestors were land owners and foresters. He received his education in the Municipal Lyceum and the Royal Lyceum in Dusseldorf, Germany. He came to the United States in 1891, while on a world tour, and went to Indianapolis to visit an uncle who came to America after the revolution in Germany in 1848. However, he decided to stay and first took employment in a hardware store. Being an accomplished pianist he later became music and art critic for the old *Indianapolis Journal* and the *Indiana Tribune* which position he held for eight years. He became a naturalized citizen in 1901. Leaving newspaper work he later became associated with an importing and jobbing firm, and continued this work until the conservation work required his full time.

In the first decade of this century President Theodore Roosevelt was active in conservation work and in 1908 he called a conference of governors of the states to discuss conservation. Indiana already had a State Board of Forestry at that time, Stanley Coulter being appointed a member of it in 1902. Mr. Lieber was deeply interested in conservation and became active in that work, and in 1912 he was chairman of the last meeting of the National Conservation Association which met in Indianapolis that year. Three years later he was made chairman of the Indiana State Park Commission. When the Indiana State Department of Conservation was created, he became its first director and retained this position until his resignation in 1933. Stanley Coulter was a member of the Conservation Commission during all these years so that the two men worked together in the development of the State Park system. During Mr. Lieber's tenure the Department of Conservation acquired control of three state forests, five fish hatcheries, three bird and game sanctuaries, two pheasantries, ten state parks, five historic and one natural monuments, with a total of 47,243 acres. In 1917 Governor Goodrich appointed him military secretary with the rank of colonel and made him secretary of the State Board of Forestry.

In 1921 Mr. Lieber became associated with Stephen T. Mather, Director of National Parks, in organizing the National Conference on State

Parks. Mr. Lieber served as chairman of the Conference from 1932 to 1939 and then became chairman of the Conference Board.

During all these years Mr. Lieber spoke and wrote for the furtherance of national and state conservation. He was a nature lover and sportsman and in his travels he visited forty-five of the States, Europe, Egypt, Canada and Mexico. He wrote one book, *America's Natural Wealth*, published in 1942, emphasizing the need for conservation.

He was the recipient of many honors. The Pugsley Gold Medal of the American Scenic and Historical Preservation Society was presented to him in 1933. Four years later the Chicago Regional Planning Commission presented him an illuminated scroll citing his contributions, and Wabash College conferred the Sc.D. degree upon him in 1938. A movement sponsored by twenty-one historic, educational, religious, civic and military organizations led to the unveiling in 1932 of a bronze bust of Mr. Lieber in the Turkey Run State Park.

Dr. Lieber was a consultant member of the advisory board of the United States national park service. He was a vice-president and director of the American Planning and Civic Association. He held memberships in the American Forestry Association, the national Audubon Society, the Indiana Nature Study Club, and others. He was listed in *Who's Who in America*. He became a member of the Indiana Academy of Science in 1919, and later was elected a Fellow and its vice-president in 1932.

A week preceding his death he had gone to McCormick's Creek Canyon State Park with Mrs. Lieber for a rest, and he passed away unexpectedly after a heart attack. His ashes were placed at his request in the Turkey Run State Park.

Richard Lieber was one of Indiana's staunchest citizens, and he left behind him a monument of civic and national service. His labors have brought and will continue to bring joy and happiness to millions who will be brought closer to nature and the realization of the importance of conservation and preservation of our state and national resources.

ARTHUR RENWICK MIDDLETON

Webster, New York
May 8, 1869

West Lafayette, Indiana
February 4, 1944

College and university faculties today are composed largely of specialists with very few scholars. The rapid development of the sciences and the tremendous amount of reading and study required to keep abreast has narrowed the specialization even to subdivisions of any given field of science. Hence it is rare that one finds an excellent scientist and a real scholar in one and the same individual. But such a man was Arthur Renwick Middleton, one of Purdue's grand old men, who retired in 1939 after thirty-three years of service, and passed away on February 4, 1944.

Dr. Middleton received his early education in the Webster Union school and then graduated in 1891 from the University of Rochester with the A.B. degree. Up to this time he had studied Latin, Greek, French,

German, mathematics, rhetoric, physics, geology, astronomy, psychology, ethics, history and political economy, and one three months course in chemistry. Following his graduation he taught for two years in the Collegiate Institute at Marion, New York, and for three years each in DeVaux College at Niagara Falls, and the Mellen School in Buffalo. During this time he had also been studying law, but finding that not to his liking, he decided to take up the study of chemistry. Accordingly he entered the Graduate School of Cornell University in 1899 and five years later received the Ph.D. degree. He then taught a year each in McGill University and the Central High School of Saint Louis before coming to Purdue University in 1906 as Assistant Professor of Chemistry. He was promoted to Associate Professor of Inorganic Chemistry in 1912, and to a full professorship in 1917. He served as acting head of the Department of Chemistry in 1925-1926 and again in 1930, and was Chairman of the Department from 1931 to 1936, retiring voluntarily from the chairmanship in order to devote his time to the preparation and publishing of a textbook.

In 1907 he volunteered as an abstractor for *Chemical Abstracts*, and in 1923 he was made an assistant editor and for the next fifteen years practically everything published throughout the world in inorganic chemistry passed through his hands. His training in the leading scientific languages enabled him to do this work successfully. With the reorganization and expansion of the Graduate School at Purdue in 1924 chemistry became one of the first fields in which work leading to the Ph.D. degree was offered, and with it came the foreign language requirements. Many graduate students were deficient in these languages and for years Dr. Middleton spent many evenings helping these students to acquire that proficiency in the essential languages necessary to carry on their research reading.

Besides being an active member of the American Chemical Society, Dr. Middleton was a member of the International Committee on Nomenclature in Inorganic Chemistry. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi and Phi Lambda Upsilon. He joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1906, was made a Fellow in 1918, and served on the Editorial Committee of the *Proceedings* for several years. He was author of a number of research papers and joint author with John W. Willard of a textbook *Semimicro Qualitative Analysis* published in 1939.

Dr. Middleton was an authority in his chosen field and he insisted on thoroughness in his students. It was a pleasure to listen to him conduct a doctorate examination, for his wide knowledge of his subject enabled him through his questions to suggest to the candidate topics for further study and research. He had little patience with superficial scholarship and he did much to bring the Department of Chemistry at Purdue to the high standard which it has attained. He pursued numerous hobbies with that same zeal and enthusiasm that characterized his scientific work. It has been well said of him that he was "A man high in the ranks of his profession, wide in his intellectual interest, an honest man, firm in his convictions and sturdy in his defense of them, loyal to his friends, conscientious and thorough in the performance of his duties, his serious-

ness tempered by a hearty sense of humor, his knowledge and personality firmly fixed in the lives of more than a generation of Purdue students and faculty."

LOUIS JOHN RETTGER

Huntingburg, Indiana
October 19, 1867

Bedford Village, New York
December 1, 1943

One of three brothers, all distinguished in American science, and brother of the wife of a past president of the Indiana Academy of Science, Louis John Rettger was distinctly an Indiana product. Born at Huntingburg, he attended the public schools there and then entered the Indiana State Normal School, now Indiana State Teachers College, from which he graduated in 1886. He spent the next three years at Johns Hopkins University, receiving the A.B. degree in 1888 and continuing another year as a graduate student and assistant in biology. He became an instructor in Indiana University in 1889 and received the Master's degree the next year. Following one year of teaching science in South Bend High School he returned to the Indiana State Normal School in 1891 as Professor of Physiology, where he remained until his retirement in 1938 as Emeritus Professor. During this period he spent one year, 1895-1896, in graduate study at the Universities of Heidelberg and Berlin, and later, in 1909, he received the Ph. D. degree from Johns Hopkins University. Following the reorganization in 1915 that changed the Normal School to Indiana State Teachers College, Dr. Rettger became Head of the Department of Physiology. In 1923 he was made Dean of Science, and in 1931 Vice-President of the College. After his retirement he had planned to travel but the war prevented this and he then made his home with his daughter in New York.

Dr. Rettger was the author of two textbooks, *Studies in Advanced Physiology*, 1898, and *Elements of Physiology and Sanitation*, 1916. He also wrote several research papers on the coagulation of the blood and a number of articles on physiology and educational topics. Several of these were published in the *Proceedings of the Academy of Science*.

He became a member of the Indiana Academy of Science in 1893 and was made a Fellow in 1896. He was Editor of the *Proceedings* for 1911 and 1912. He was elected vice-president of the Academy in 1926 and president in 1929. Dr. Rettger was also a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and he held membership in the National Educational Association. He was an associate member of the Terre Haute Academy of Medicine.

An earnest and inspiring teacher and a spirited and forceful lecturer, Dr. Rettger was widely known to teachers throughout Indiana, a very large number of whom had been in his classes. He had lectured one or more times at teachers' institutes in nearly every county in the State. A man of strong personality, but gracious and charming, he wielded great influence over students and faculty at Indiana State Teachers College and he did much to give his college the excellent reputation it has attained

as a teachers training center. Dr. Rettger is one of that distinguished group of educators who have rendered such splendid service to the State of Indiana during the past half century.

GEORGE HUME SMITH

Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis, Indiana

March 1, 1896

February 7, 1944

George Hume Smith had just about completed his work on the fifty-year cumulative index of the *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* when he was stricken with a serious illness that brought his life to a close at the comparatively early age of forty-seven. He apparently realized the seriousness of his illness for he requested his mother to send the *Index* to Dr. Friesner at Butler University and also to deliver his teaching records to that University and to mail certain biological abstracts which he had completed. This recognition of duty and conscientiousness in its performance was characteristic of the man, and his end was probably hastened by his insistence on meeting his Army classes when he was really physically unable to do so.

Born in Indianapolis, he received his public school education there and graduated from Shortridge High School. He intended studying the classical languages but after taking a course in botany he became intensely interested in the plant sciences. He entered Wabash College and upon his graduation in 1918 immediately went to Cornell University as a graduate student and assistant plant pathologist. He received the A.M. degree from Cornell in 1919 and the Ph.D. four years later. He spent the next four years as an instructor in botany at the University of Illinois. In 1927 he joined the editorial staff of *Biological Abstracts* and devoted his full time to this work for the next two years. He continued to do some of this abstracting up to the time of his death. He served as acting Assistant Professor of Botany at the University of Missouri for one year and then became Seessel Research Fellow at Yale University for a year. He was field assistant in the Elm Disease Survey in 1934. Following a year as a professor of biology and chemistry in the Passaic, New Jersey, Junior College, he became an assistant botanist in the division of cotton and fiber crops, Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, for a period of time. Returning to Indianapolis he began teaching mathematics to Army classes at Butler University and was engaged in this work at the time of his death.

Dr. Smith was a member of the Botanical Society and the Phytopathological Society and a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1940 and was active in its work. He had written and published several research papers in botany.

A thorough, conscientious, painstaking worker, he was deeply interested in the success of his students and gave freely of his time to help them in their work. During his association with the Academy he had assumed the responsibility of making a complete *Index* of the first fifty volumes of the *Proceedings*, and he had almost completed this work when he was stricken. His passing is a real loss to science and to the Academy.