NECROLOGY

Will E. Edington, DePauw University

Frank Marion Andrews

Vienna, Indiana
July 27, 1870

Bloomington, Indiana
November 26, 1940

At the close of the last century preparation for a life of scientific study was not considered complete by Americans until one or more years had been spent in Europe in specialized work under some one or more well known scientists, and when the time comes to write the history of science in Indiana this influence must be considered along with the many other factors such as the New Harmony movement, geological survey, and others. Undoubtedly the young scientists returning from such study in Europe brought back with them a certain zeal and enthusiasm that has done much to raise American science to the pinnacle on which it now rests. Frank Marion Andrews was such a scientist.

Dr. Andrews received his first schooling in the Salem, Indiana, schools, but from the fourth grade on his entire life, except for foreign study, was spent in Bloomington. Graduating from Indiana University in 1894, he continued his studies and received his Master's degree in 1895. Beginning as an assistant in the Department of Botany he advanced through the various ranks until he became professor of botany in 1922, which position he held until his retirement in 1940, a few months before his death. He went to Europe early in the century and received the Ph.D. degree in 1902 from the University of Leipzig. He returned to Europe in 1907 and spent the next two years in study in Amsterdam, Leipzig, the Smithsonian Table, Naples Biological Station, and Strassburg, and he also did some work at the Sorbonne in Paris. Among his teachers abroad were Goebel, Pfeffer, Jost, and deVries. He possessed a mastery of five languages and he wrote over one hundred scientific papers in English and German on physiological botany, protoplasm, plant chemistry, and the effects of centrifugal force on plants and plant movements.

As a teacher he imparted his enthusiasm to his students in lectures characterized by logical and orderly organization and discussions enlivened by apt illustrations and keen humor. He was an ardent collector of rare old botanical books and antiques, and on the walls of his office were the pictures of distinguished scientists, his teachers, whose influence he passed on to his own students.

Dr. Andrews was a life member of the Botanical Society of Lyon, Belgium, and a holder of a Charles Reid Barnes life membership in the American Society of Plant Physiologists. He was made a patron of the latter Society in 1938. He was also a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Botanical Society of America. At Indiana University he was active in the work of the

Society of Sigma Xi. A Fellow of the Indiana Academy of Science, Dr. Andrews served as its president in 1921.

In the passing of Frank Marion Andrews Indiana University loses another of that distinguished group of alumni professors who devoted their entire lives to its service, and the Academy of Science loses a devoted member and another distinguished past president.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS FICHT

Vandecar, Ontario, Canada — Auburn, Indiana
November 27, 1900 — July 29, 1941

Indiana agriculture and, in particular, the corn growers of this and other states lost a friend and scientific benefactor in the untimely death of George Augustus Ficht. Born on a farm in Canada he spent his early years on a farm and after graduating from high school he entered the Ontario Agricultural College where he received the degree of Bachelor of Scientific Agriculture in 1923. He immediately entered the service of the Dominion Entomological Branch as junior entomologist in corn borer research. In 1925 he began his graduate study at the University of Western Ontario and received the Master's degree in 1926. He continued his study at Iowa State College for another year as an assistant in entomology and then in March, 1927, he accepted an appointment with the Department of Entomology of the Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station to take charge of European corn borer research. He was in charge of the Purdue European Corn Borer Research Laboratory, at Auburn, at the time of his death.

Professor Ficht possessed unusual ability in the mastery of scientific principles and technical problems, and his research studies in the life history and habits of the corn borer and their significance in the cultivation of corn form the basis for the preventive and control methods used in Indiana. He also did valuable research on other crop pests, such as gladiolus thrips, cutworms, and tomato nematodes. His research was characterized by carefulness in planning, thoroughness in execution, and a keen appreciation of its resultant significance.

His research ability was early recognized by his election to Sigma Xi and Phi Kappa Phi. He was also a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Association of Economic Entomologists, and the Entomological Society of America.

Although only forty years of age at his death Professor Ficht had made scientific contributions of great economic value, and in his passing the State and the Academy suffer a distinct loss of one whose future scientific achievement seemed assured.

ARTHUR ERICH HAAS

Brno, Moravia — Chicago, Illinois
April 30, 1884 — February 20, 1941

The evil conditions that exist abroad have brought certain blessings to our nation, for numerous great minds have come to our shores in

order to continue their labors. One immediately thinks of Einstein, Thomas Mann, and many others. Our great universities have opened their doors freely to admit these leaders in science and thought, and their personalities and contributions are enriching the opportunities of American student life. Our own Notre Dame University was indeed fortunate in having the world renowned physicist Arthur Erich Haas.

Dr. Haas came to Notre Dame in 1936 as professor of theoretical physics after having spent the previous year as Tallmann Visiting Professor at Bowdoin College. Descendant of an old and cultured family, he had received his secondary education in a famed Jesuit school of his native town and had then entered the University of Vienna where he received the doctorate in 1906. Except for some graduate study at Göttingen he remained at Vienna as post-graduate and privat docent until 1913 when he became professor of theoretical physics at the University of Leipzig. In 1926 he returned to Vienna as professor of theoretical physics where he remained until 1936 when he came to the United States. However, during his Vienna professorate he traveled abroad as visiting lecturer, once to England and twice to America. Dr. Haas had a wide acquaintance with physicists both here and abroad as his lecture visits included some eighty-six universities and colleges.

Dr. Haas had several notable research achievements to his credit among them the development in 1910 of a formula for Rydberg's constant containing only elementary constants, a formula differing from that of Bohr's, developed three years later, by a constant factor due to the use of a different atomic model based on later researches. This work drew the particular attention of Lorentz and Sommerfeld. He also developed in 1920 a theory of isotopic effect in band spectra simultaneously but independently of the theory developed by Loomis and Kratzer. In later years he discovered relations among the atomic and cosmic constants that were afterwards used by Eddington, Jordan and other workers in that field.

But conspicuous as he was in research he was also an excellent teacher and a charming and witty lecturer possessing that rare power of presenting the abstract and abstruse concepts of theoretical physics in such a way as to be intelligible to the average person. As a teacher he had given many physicists both here and abroad their first introduction to theoretical physics and he was the author of the first modern textbook on theoretical physics *Introduction to Theoretical Physics.* He was working on a new edition of this book at the time of his death. He was an authority on the history of physics and he published a work on the historical development of the fundamental concepts of mechanics. His pedagogic works had been translated into ten languages. He was editor-in-chief and contributor to the *Commentary on the Scientific Writings of J. Willard Gibbs,* published in 1936.

Dr. Haas was a Fellow of the American Physical Society, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Germanic Academy of Science in Prague, and the International Academy for the History of Science in Paris. He was a past president of the Physical

and Chemical Society of Austria, and an honorary member of the national physics society Sigma Pi Sigma. He was also a member of the Visiting Committee of Brown University.

Excellent scientist, teacher and lecturer that he was, Dr. Haas was intensely human and enjoyed his many friends. His home was a center of hospitality for scientists from all over the world and his kindliness, sincerity, and loyalty endeared him to his students and colleagues.

CHARLES BERNARD JORDAN

Morrice, Michigan — Chicago, Illinois
November 7, 1878 — April 22, 1941

To few men is given the opportunity to build a department of a great university into a school that merits and receives national recognition, but such was the happy privilege of Charles Bernard Jordan. Coming to Purdue in 1910, immediately following his graduation from the Michigan College of Pharmacy, as head of the Department of Pharmacy and professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, he guided the work of his department with such skill and foresight that it became the School of Pharmacy in 1924 and he was installed as dean.

Dean Jordan had early shown these qualities of leadership for, following his graduation from the State Teachers' College at Ypsilanti in 1904, he became and remained superintendent of the Morrice, Michigan, schools for four years. Becoming interested in pharmacy he served an apprenticeship with a local druggist and then entered the Michigan College of Pharmacy, graduating in 1910 and receiving the Master's degree in 1912.

Esteemed and highly respected as a teacher by his pupils, and recognized as an able administrator and scientist by his colleagues, Dean Jordan was able to wield an ever expanding influence in the field of pharmacy. He joined the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1909 and soon became a leader in the organization, served on many of its important committees and helped to direct its work and shape its policies. He presented papers frequently and regularly before the Scientific Section and the Section on Education and Legislation of the Association, and it was just after he had given an address before the Chicago Branch that he was stricken with the heart attack that led to his death a week later.

He was also very active in the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. He was its president in 1918-19 and served as chairman of its Executive Committee for thirteen years, which enabled him to help decide many questions pertinent to the rapidly advancing educational standards in American pharmacy. This was reflected in the development of the course in pharmacy at Purdue from a minimum of two years to a standard four years in 1930 and the addition of graduate courses in recent years. Dean Jordan was also a member of the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education, the highest tribunal in educational pharmacy.

He served as a member of the Committee of Revision of the United States Pharmacopoeia from 1920 to the time of his death, and he was chairman of the Subcommittee on Proximate Assays since 1930. He was also author of a textbook entitled *Qualitative Analysis for Students of Pharmacy and Medicine*, and he wrote many papers on drug assay, pharmaceutical education and professional pharmacy. For a number of years he edited the section on the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy which appeared monthly in the journal of the American Pharmaceutical Association.

In recognition of his outstanding work the degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon him by Ohio Northern University in 1933 and by Rutgers University in 1940.

Dean Jordan was also active in state, university and community affairs. Through his influence the first student journal of pharmacy to be published in the United States was started at Purdue in 1924. The pharmacy extension service was established in 1930, the Annual Druggists' Business Conference was begun in 1931, and in 1940 the annual Drug Clerks' Short Course was inaugurated. He was an honorary member of the Tippecanoe County Medical Association, and served as an instructor in St. Elizabeth Hospital School of Nursing in Lafayette, and for the past two years was president of its Nursing School Board.

Dean Jordan was a member of Sigma Xi, the American Chemical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Indiana Pharmaceutical Association, and several other organizations. He had been a member of the Indiana Academy of Science since 1924 and he was also a Fellow.

Charles Bernard Jordan served the State and Purdue well and his influence will be felt for many years in the improved standards and service of the profession for which he did so much.

WILLIAM NEWTON LOGAN

Barboursville, Kentucky — Bloomington, Indiana
November 4, 1869 — August 27, 1941

William Newton Logan, for twenty years professor of geology at Indiana University, passed away after a lingering illness. Before coming to Indiana Dr. Logan had graduated from the University of Kansas where he received both the Bachelor's and Master's degrees in 1896. He then became a superintendent of public schools for two years following which he received a fellowship in geology at the University of Chicago which enabled him to complete the work for the doctorate in 1900. He immediately accepted a position in St. Lawrence University in New York as Professor of Geology and Mineralogy. In 1903 he became geologist and mining engineer in the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College and geologist for the Experiment Station. Three years later he was made Dean of the School of Science in addition to his other duties. He also was geologist for the Mississippi Geological Survey from 1903 to 1916. He accepted a position as associate professor

of geology and mineralogy in 1916 in Indiana University and was made full professor three years later, at which time he also became State Geologist. He retired from active service in 1936 on account of ill health.

Dr. Logan had at some time been a member of the Kansas and New York Geological Surveys. Besides his reports as state geologist, he was author of many other papers on paleontology and geology of Kansas, Wyoming, Maine, New York, Mississippi and Indiana, and on various coal, oil, gas, and other studies including the conservation of natural resources.

He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Geological Society of America, the State Academies of Kansas and Mississippi, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He was also a Fellow of the Indiana Academy of Science.

Dr. Logan attended the meetings of the Indiana Academy regularly until his health failed, and he frequently presented papers on its programs. Somewhat retiring in nature he was ever the Southern gentleman. He was an able teacher and administrator, and successful as a geologist.

CLINTON ALBERT LUDWIG

Windfall, Indiana — Washington, D. C.
October 20, 1886 — January 7, 1941

Although a non-resident of Indiana for a quarter of a century Clinton Albert Ludwig ever remained a Hoosier at heart. Born on a farm near Windfall he finished his public school education at Brookville and he continued his interest in Brookville High School through the years by conducting the Peace Prize Contest there under the title of "Unknown Alumnus." He joined the Academy in 1911 and had maintained a continuous membership for thirty years.

Following his graduation from Brookville High School he taught school for two years and then entered Purdue where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in 1912. He made an exceptional record as a student at Purdue which secured for him an assistantship in botany at the University of Illinois. However, after one year, he returned to Purdue as an assistant in the Agricultural Experiment Station where he remained for two years during which time he received the Master's degree in 1914. He then attended the University of Michigan for two years, being a Cole Fellow the second year, and received the doctorate in 1917. The next year was spent at Lawrence College as an instructor, after which he entered the United States Army. Following the close of the war he accepted a position as associate botanist and plant pathologist at the South Carolina Experiment Station, Clemson College, where he remained until 1928 when he was appointed associate plant pathologist in the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. He held this position at the time of his death.

Dr. Ludwig was recognized as an authority on plant problems, particularly in the specialized field of legume symbiosis. While at Clemson College he handled much of the correspondence of the Experiment Station having to do with plant diseases and he conducted research on cotton diseases and cotton physiology. His later researches were on plant nutrition and bacterial fixation of nitrogen, particularly as it occurs in leguminous plants. He also made studies of plant respiration, intermediate carbohydrate metabolism in plants, and the forms of nitrogen utilized by plants. The results of his investigations were published in some twenty-five papers appearing in various scientific journals.

While a student at Purdue Dr. Ludwig was elected to Sigma Xi and to the Indiana Academy of Science. He held membership in the Botanical Society of America, American Phytopathological Society, Washington Botanical Society, and the South Carolina Academy of Science. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Ludwig was a quiet, diligent, conscientious scientist whose work was characterized by thoroughness and accuracy. He was deeply interested in making the world a better place in which to live and he believed in and hoped for the achievement of world peace through world organization. Certainly the world has need of more scientists of his kind.

WILLIAM ALBERT NOYES

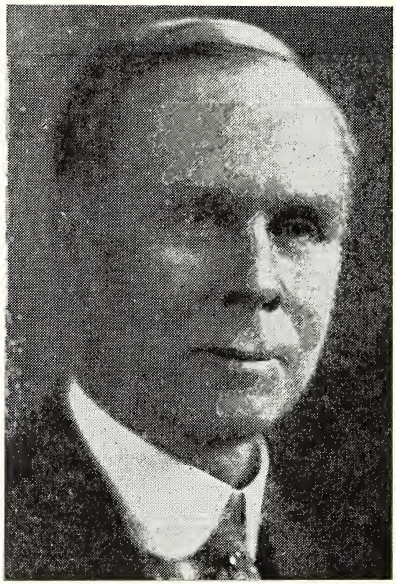
Independence, Iowa — Urbana, Illinois
November 6, 1857 — October 23, 1941

When the Indiana Academy of Science held its Fiftieth Anniversary Meeting in Indianapolis in 1934 ten of the then known living fifteen founders were present at the meetings. Among these ten founders was William Albert Noyes. Dr. Noyes with others made a brief address at the Founders' Banquet and received the Academy Certificate of Appreciation given to all the founders present. Since that memorable occasion eight of the then living founders are known to be no longer with us.

Dr. Noyes received his general college education at Grinnell College from which he received the A.B. and B.S. degrees in 1879 and the A.M. degree in 1882. After one year as an assistant at Grinnell he entered Johns Hopkins University and secured his doctorate in 1882. The next year he spent as an instructor at the University of Minnesota and he then went to the University of Tennessee as professor of chemistry where he remained for three years. In 1886 that great scientist Thomas Corwin Mendenhall became President of the Rose Polytechnic Institute at Terre Haute and Dr. Noyes was appointed professor of chemistry. There Dr. Noyes began that notable career that was to bring to him an international reputation as a chemist. He remained at Rose Polytechnic for seventeen years but during that time he went abroad and received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Munich. Also during that time several other outstanding scientists, Thomas Gray and Alexander Smith, were professors at Rose Polytechnic, so that the academic atmosphere

was excellent. In 1903 he accepted the position of chief chemist with the United States Bureau of Standards, and in 1907 he became professor of chemistry and director of the chemical laboratory at the University of Illinois. He reached the retirement age in 1926 and then became emeritus director.

Following his appointment at Illinois Dr. Noyes received frequent recognition for his outstanding research in chemistry. He received the Nichols Medal in 1908, the Willard Gibbs Medal in 1920, and the Priestley Medal of the American Chemical Society in 1935, and he was a delegate to the International Congress of Chemists in Rome in 1938.



However, while still at Rose Polytechnic, he was elected secretary and vice-president of the chemistry section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1890 and 1896 respectively, and he became editor of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* in 1902 which he edited for the next fifteen years. Dr. Noyes was probably one of the most active members of the American Chemical society for he was secretary for five years 1903-1907, editor of *Abstracts* for three years 1907-1909, president in 1920, editor of *Chemical Reviews* 1924-1926, and editor of *Chemical Monographs* from 1919-1941. He was honored with election to the National Academy, the Philosophical Society, and as a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was also a member of the German Chemical Society, the Illinois Academy of Science, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and a number of other professional societies. One of the greatest honors paid him was the naming of the Noyes Laboratory of Chemistry after him. The University of Pittsburgh and Grinnell College conferred honorary doctorates on him.

Dr. Noyes was the author of a number of textbooks in chemistry, the first appearing in 1888 and the last in collaboration with his son W. Albert Noyes, Jr., appearing in 1932. He was deeply interested in social and economic problems. He served from 1917 to the time of his death as secretary of the Illinois State Board of Natural Resources and Conservation. The international problems having to do with peace concerned him greatly and he wrote several books and numerous papers on that subject. He was the author of many scientific research, economic, and religious papers.

Many great scientists have been members of the Indiana Academy of Science and just as David Starr Jordan, John M. Coulter, John C. Branner, Barton W. Evermann, and others maintained their interest and membership in the Academy to the time of their deaths, so did William Albert Noyes, and the Academy honors him as a great chemist and its president in 1894.

SAMUEL ELLIOTT PERKINS III

Indianapolis, Indiana
May 8, 1878

Indianapolis, Indiana
January 31, 1941

Samuel Elliott Perkins III bore the unusual distinction of being very successful in law, his profession, but enjoying greater recognition and fame as an expert on ornithology, his avocation. A great lover of nature, he had few equals in field work in bird study and his record of eighteen years of bird banding, during which time he banded thousands of birds, made him an authority in this phase of nature study.

He came of a distinguished family of lawyers, his grandfather Samuel E. Perkins I being a Judge of the Indiana Supreme Court and his father a prominent attorney in Indianapolis. Educated in the Indianapolis public schools, he attended Wabash College and graduated in 1900. He then took up the study of law and graduated from the Indiana Law School in 1902. He carried on an active practice of law in Indianapolis except for three years which he spent in Maryland as a field lecturer for the National Association of Audubon Societies and the state game division and the state board of Education in Maryland. He served as treasurer of the Indianapolis Bar Association for thirteen years from 1906 to 1918. Ill health forced his retirement from active law practice three years before his death but he kept up his work in ornithology as long as he was able.

Mr. Perkins was an honorary member of the Nature Study Club of Indiana and served as its president for six years. He was at one time president of the Indiana Audubon Society, and he held membership in the Wilson Ornithological Club, the American Ornithologist's Union, the Inland Bird Banding Association, and the Indiana Historical Society. He was the author of some three hundred articles which appeared in newspapers and scientific journals.

Samuel E. Perkins had a charming personality, a keen sense of humor, ready wit, and boundless enthusiasm which he was able to

communicate to others. An interesting speaker and writer he was ever active in working for the protection and conservation of bird life.

Mr. Perkins was a most valued member of the Academy and he had rendered notable service in arranging and taking charge of the Academy Exhibit at the Fiftieth Anniversary Meeting in 1934. He also served on the Academy committee to cooperate with the Indianapolis committee in arranging for the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Indianapolis in 1937. His passing is keenly regretted by all bird lovers and nature study enthusiasts of the state.

ALBERT LIVINGSTON RABB

Indianapolis, Indiana
January 13, 1893

Indianapolis, Indiana
September 13, 1939

Owing to the swift tenor of American life the professional man is frequently found pursuing an avocation seemingly far removed from his special interests and often little known to any but his closest friends. Albert Livingston Rabb, a prominent attorney of Indianapolis, was a lover of roses and probably had the largest individual rose garden in the state, his garden containing some 850 rose bushes. Thus his interest in science was somewhat specialized.

He was born in Indianapolis and his home was there all his life. His father was also a prominent lawyer being United States Referee in Bankruptcy for many years, and his mother was the well known author and authority on Indiana history, Kate Milner Rabb. Mr. Rabb graduated from Shortridge High School in 1909 but owing to his youth he did not enter Indiana University until the following year. He graduated from Indiana University in 1914 with Phi Beta Kappa honors. Entering the Harvard Law School he completed his course in 1917 and then became secretary to the Honorable Merrill Moores at that time Representative in Congress from the Indianapolis district. In 1918 he became associated with a prominent law firm in Indianapolis and six years later became a member of the firm. In 1937 he and one of his associates, Mr. William H. Thompson, formed the firm of Thompson and Rabb.

Mr. Rabb was a very able lawyer and took a large part in much of the important litigation before the federal and state courts in Indiana in recent years. He drafted important pieces of legislation for the Indiana General Assembly. He was at one time a member of the State Excise Board, and he was secretary of the State Police Board at the time of his death. He held membership in the American, Indiana State, and Indianapolis Bar Associations. His reputation as a lawyer was national.

He was a loyal alumnus of Indiana University, being one of the incorporators of the Indiana University Foundation, and he became a member of the Board of Trustees in 1936. He was also active in the direction of the Park School for Boys in Indianapolis and was president of its Board of Trustees.

Versatile, keen and extremely well read not only in law but in general literature, he was nevertheless modest, unassuming and thoughtful of others. He frequently aided young people in acquiring an education. He was a devotee of detective fiction and intensely interested in all forms of athletics although denied general participation on account of impaired eyesight. Loyal and devoted to his friends his death is a real loss.

JAMES TROOP

Bennington, New York — Champaign, Illinois
March 14, 1853 — October 14, 1941

The history of horticulture in Indiana is very interesting. The first Indiana Horticultural Society was organized in 1842 and perished a few years later on account of the difficulties and loss of time in travel and because of the pear blight. In 1860 the Indiana Pomological Society was formed and this became the second Indiana Horticultural Society in 1864. Twenty years later, in September, 1884, James Troop came to Purdue University as head of the Department of Horticulture and Entomology. There was at that time only one other teacher on the agricultural faculty at Purdue. That winter sub-zero weather killed most of the fruit trees in the state, and in order to help meet the demand for trees to replant the orchards, Professor Troop obtained one hundred trees from Russia and started research work in horticulture.

Professor Troop was graduated from Michigan State College in 1878, and among his associates there were Clarence P. Gillette and Liberty Hyde Bailey. He then did a year of graduate work at Cornell University which was followed by another year at Harvard University. He returned to Michigan State College in 1880 as a teacher and remained there four years, receiving his Master of Science degree there in 1882. Coming to Purdue in 1884, he was head of the Department of Horticulture and Entomology for twenty-eight years, or until 1912 when the department was divided and he became head of the Department of Entomology which position he retained until 1920 when he was retired as professor emeritus. However, he remained active about the University and retained his connection with the University up to the time of his death, or for a period of fifty-seven years.

He was State Entomologist from 1899 to 1907, in which position he had charge of the regulatory work in the state including nursery inspection. From 1896 to 1901 he was secretary of the Indiana Horticultural Society, and he was its president in 1933. He was the author of several textbooks and numerous papers and bulletins on horticulture and entomology. He did outstanding research work on the control of the apple worm. Being a pioneer in horticulture and to a large degree responsible for the development of this industry on a scientific basis in the state, he was affectionately known as the "Grand Old Man of Indiana Horticulture."

Professor Troop was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Entomological Society of America, the

Association of Economic Entomologists, and the Pomology Society. He was a charter member of the Purdue chapters of Alpha Zeta, agriculture fraternity, and Acacia, Masonic fraternity. At the time of his death he was the second oldest living member of the Indiana Academy of Science, being junior only to his long time colleague, Dr. J. C. Arthur.

Not only was he an excellent teacher, but he was also a sympathetic and wise counsellor, and a good friend of his students. For many years he was superintendent of the West Lafayette Baptist Church Sunday School. He was past commander of the Lafayette Commandery of the Knights Templar, of which he was also a prelate for thirty-three years.

The State of Indiana owes much to James Troop, for through his teaching and research he undoubtedly made a tremendous contribution to the fruit growers and orchardists of the state. Much of his work was of the enduring kind from which future generations will benefit.

ARTHUR ALBERT WEDEL

Moundridge, Kansas — Los Angeles, California
February 16, 1898 — May 7, 1941

Arthur Albert Wedel was a prominent young geologist associated with the Pacific Division of the Pure Oil Company and his untimely death at the age of forty-three, following an operation, cut short a most promising and useful career. He received his early education in the Moundridge, Kansas, schools and then entered Bethel College. Becoming deeply interested in geology and paleontology, following his graduation from Bethel College, he studied at Oberlin, DePauw and Cornell Universities, and received the doctorate from Cornell in 1930. While preparing as a geologist he taught for seven years at different times in the public and high schools of his native state. He entered the service of the Pure Oil Company in 1930. On account of the nature of his work as a field and sub-surface geologist he carried on his studies in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Missouri, Kentucky, Mississippi and New Mexico, and thus acquired a wide acquaintance among workers in his field.

Dr. Wedel was respected as a leader in geological research and many of his ideas were followed out by oil geologists. The results of his researches appear for the most part in reports filed with his Company and are characterized by careful, thorough, painstaking work. He was a member of Sigma Xi, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Paleontological Research Institution, and the Mineralogical Society of America.

He was somewhat retiring in nature but intensely loyal to his friends and associates. His interest in geology was more than professional for he was also deeply interested in any interpretations of philosophy that might be derived from geology and paleontology. His work was carried out in the spirit of contributing to the welfare of his fellowmen.