

NECROLOGY

O. B. CHRISTY, Muncie

ALBERT REIFF BECHTEL

Royersford, Pennsylvania
March 21, 1882

Indianapolis, Indiana
December 11, 1955

Dr. Albert Reiff Bechtel, one of the distinguished botanists of Indiana, was born March 21, 1882 in the small town of Royersford, Pennsylvania and died at the home of his son in Indianapolis, December 11, 1955.

Dr. Bechtel began teaching after leaving high school and continued until he was able to enter the University of Pennsylvania. He graduated from this institution with both B.S. and M.A. degrees in 1912. Following graduation he taught botany at Pennsylvania State College for two years. Here he met and married Lenore Barton, a Swarthmore graduate. Two sons and one daughter were born to the Bechtels. They constituted a very happy and devoted family.

From 1914 to 1920 he was a graduate student and instructor in Cornell University. While there he obtained his doctorate in 1920. He came to Wabash College in September of that year as head of the department of botany and remained there until his retirement in 1951. His abilities and his admirable personality made him a beloved teacher and honored citizen of his college and community.

Dr. and Mrs. Bechtel were members of the Wabash Avenue Presbyterian Church where they gave much of their time and ability. He was for many years an elder and superintendent of Sunday School.

Soon after Dr. Bechtel came to Wabash College, he became a member of the Indiana Academy of Science. He was made a Fellow in 1933 and served as vice-president in 1947. He refused the presidency. The Proceedings include two of his papers, "Rare Gastromycetis," Vol. 44, and "Teaching Bacteriology," Vol. 49.

Dr. Bechtel held membership in the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was an associate in the Society of Taxonomists, the Botanical Society, and the Mycology Society.

Dean Kendall of Wabash College was closely associated with him and had the opportunity to know his abilities as a teacher, scientist, and a citizen.

No more fitting tribute can be given to Dr. Bechtel than to quote from Dean George V. Kendall's eulogy given on the occasion of a memorial service held in the chapel at Wabash College, Friday, December 19, 1955. To quote Dean Kendall—"The list is long of capable men whom he (Bechtel) lighted with enthusiasm for plants and sent on to courses in botany. But the list is much longer of men who took one

course with him as a requirement and no more, and who carried with them into all walks of life a respect for accurate observation and reverence for the ways of Nature.

"The very fine herbarium of Wabash College has his name or the name of Professor Coulter on the largest number of sheets. His delight in the trees and small vegetation of our campus was inexhaustible.

"Great as his direct service to the college was, however, his value as a citizen—as a man—will be, I think, as long or longer remembered. There are alumni of the Presbyterian Sunday School, graduated Boy Scouts, and club members without number in the community and elsewhere in Indiana, who will not forget the insights he gave them into nature nor the modesty, gentleness, and courtesy with which he always encountered his fellow men."

MR. WILLIAM LOWE BRYAN

Monroe County, Indiana

Bloomington, Indiana

November 11, 1860

November 21, 1955

In the death of William Lowe Bryan, this Academy, the state of Indiana, and the Nation suffered a heavy loss. His attainments as an educator, scientist, teacher, philosopher, and administrator brought him universal respect and affection.

The continuing influence of this great personality is clearly pictured in the events and varied interests of his life. He was born in the county in which we are now assembled, November 11, 1860. In this county of Monroe, Indiana, he received much of his education, found his life mate, the gracious Charlotte Lowe, and carried on his long life work.

He died November 21, 1955, ten days after his 95th birthday, in the President's House on the campus of his beloved Indiana University. He was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery of our Hoosier Capital. Here he rests with Mrs. Bryan and with many of the country's notables, including one president, three vice-presidents, authors, senators, governors, and his beloved friend, James Whitcomb Riley.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Bryan at the age of 92, three years before his death, handed to President Herman B Wells a statement to be used, so he said, "when the time comes." This modest statement interprets for us certain good fortunes which came to Dr. Bryan and influenced his life. These were read by President Wells at the funeral services of Dr. Bryan, November 23, 1955, after which he paid great tribute to his beloved predecessor.

In this autobiographical statement, Dr. Bryan pays great tribute to his parents who gave him a life capable of health, ambition, and longevity. They provided him with the necessities and many comforts. He was brought up through infancy and youth with wisdom, kindness, and firmness. He considered it his good fortune to have lived on a farm and near a college town. The best part of his early education was in his home where good English was spoken and many books were at hand. The Bible was read in a service of worship every morning and evening.

Dr. Bryan became a teacher in the Bloomington Schools in 1884. One year later, David Starr Jordan, the newly elected President of Indiana University offered young William a position on the faculty as instructor. This marked the beginning of a long and intimate friendship of two great men. Later, Dr. Bryan twice refused to accept a position, under President Jordan, at Leland Stanford University.

It was under the inspiring influence of President Jordan that Dr. Bryan became a student of psychology which took him to Berlin and Clark University for further graduate work. He returned to Indiana to continue his teaching of psychology and his pioneering experimental work in the subject.

He made a study of the occupations of the graduates of Indiana University which covered the period of 1830 to 1900. He discovered that during the early part of the period most of the graduates became doctors, lawyers, or preachers, but almost no teachers. During the latter part of the period, great numbers of the graduates became teachers. He feared the school was ceasing to be a university and was becoming a normal school.

Dr. Bryant had just finished this study in 1902 when he became President of the University. He set about at once to reorganize the institution by establishing a central core of liberal arts studies surrounded by a number of professional schools and thus fulfill what had always been the ideal of the school.

Practically the entire life of Dr. Bryant was spent in the shadow of Indiana University and some 70 of his years were spent as a student, teacher, vice-president, president, or president emeritus. During the 35 years in which he served as president, the university made a tremendous growth. At the beginning of his administration, it was a college of nine buildings with teaching emphasis devoted almost entirely to the arts, sciences, law, and the classics. When he retired, the university had 27 buildings on the Bloomington campus and nine in Indianapolis. Many other changes were made such as the addition of the School of Medicine, a Graduate School, the School of Education, the Extension Division, the Training School for Nurses, the School of Commerce and Finance, the School of Music, and the School of Dentistry. Under his administration other expansions took place including the further development of the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital, the Robert W. Long Hospital, and the Coleman Hospital—all a part of the Medical Center at Indianapolis.

During the long and busy life of Dr. Bryan, he was always able to find time to express his thoughts in writing. These were always carefully written and expressed in simple and excellent language. He was the author of several books and many articles. He wrote a series of volumes about Plato with Mrs. Bryan as co-author. He was also a very effective speaker. His words of wisdom and philosophy were in great demand by educational groups.

The great contribution which Dr. Bryan has made to public education is understood and appreciated throughout the nation. He believed in education for the masses and worked constantly for the development

of the public schools. He served as president of the Indiana State Teachers Association. He became known as the "Grand Old Man of Education" and was often referred to as "Mr. Indiana in Education." Dr. Bryan joined the Academy of Science in 1893, and remained a member until he died in 1955,—a record probably not equaled by any other member. He was made a Fellow in 1914. He presented a number of papers before the Academy from the experimental work he did in his chosen field of psychology.

Dr. Bryan established at Indiana University in 1888 the second psychological laboratory in America. Here he began his extensive study of the learning processes. From these studies, he worked out the first "curve of learning" ever to be developed. These studies showed learning processes move first at a rapid rate then later at a slower rate. He also demonstrated the "plateaus of learning" which have been used so generally in text books on psychology. These studies were regarded as classic, and gained world wide recognition for him.

In the passing of the "Grand Old Man" of education, Indiana loses one of its most distinguished scholars, a keen philosopher, a noted scientist, a great administrator, a forceful speaker, and above all a great teacher. His influence has reached into all parts of the nation and his achievements symbolize opportunity in America at its best.

ALFRED C. KINSEY

Hoboken, New Jersey

June 23, 1894

Bloomington, Indiana

August 25, 1956

Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, professor of zoology at Indiana University, author, lecturer, authority on the gall wasp, and internationally known for his study of human sex relations was born in Hoboken, New Jersey on June 23, 1894. He died in Bloomington, Indiana, August 25, 1956. He was the son of an engineering professor.

Much of his first ten years was spent in bed beset with rickets, heart trouble, and finally typhoid fever. His parents moved to South Orange where his health improved. He spoke of his new environment as follows: "It was amazing to me that there were flowers to be had for the picking and there were birds more brilliantly colored than house sparrows." His father gave him a book on flowers which started his passionate curiosity about nature. Soon he was engaged in a research project. He wrote his first publication on "What Birds Do in the Rain," which appeared in a nature journal while young Alfred was still in the grades. He studied piano at the age of five and in college he loved to play Beethoven and Chopin for his fraternity brothers. He graduated from South Orange High School at the age of 16 with high honors.

He led nature hikes at summer camps and he tutored. This helped him to pay his way through Bowdoin College. He received his A.B. degree from Bowdoin in 1916 with a major in biology and zoology. He received his Sc.D. in 1920 from Harvard University with a major

in zoology. While at Harvard he studied wild food plants and became an expert in this subject. He wrote a book with the late Merritt Lyndon Fernald on "Edible Wild Plants of Eastern North America." At Harvard Dr. Kinsey began his research on insect life; this he continued after coming to Indiana University and it culminated in his famed report on the gall wasp. This work has been published in two volumes and has added much to the knowledge of genetics and evolution. His data for this monumental work were obtained from a careful study of 28 factors of 150,000 specimens.

Soon after coming to Indiana, Dr. Kinsey became convinced that the high schools were in need of a biology text, which students could study with more interest and which at the same time, presented the necessary fundamental principles. He set about to write such a text and the result was his noted "An Introduction to Biology." This text was written and illustrated in a manner which appealed to students. This book with its revisions and its accompanying "Workbook in Biology" met with a hearty response and was widely adopted throughout the country.

However, world wide recognition of Dr. Kinsey came through the publications of "Sexual Behavior of the Human Male" in 1945 and "Sexual Behavior of the Human Female" in 1953. According to President Herman B Wells, President of Indiana University, the sale of these two books have run into the hundreds of thousands and they have been published in a dozen different languages. They may be considered as pioneer studies of great significance.

Dr. Kinsey had laid out a schedule of future work to continue his study of sex which would require many years to complete and result in the publishing of several volumes.

He joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1920 and was made a Fellow in 1927. He appeared on several Academy programs and had two papers published in the Proceedings. The first "Biological Sciences in Our High Schools" which appears in Volume 35. The second "New Mexican Gall Wasps" appears in Volume 47. In addition to these two papers he has an abstract in Volume 35—"The First Results of the Indiana University Mexican Expedition."

We are perhaps too close to Dr. Kinsey's day to make a fair appraisal of his place in history and in science. However, he always will rank among the great and is one of the most widely known personalities of our times.

DR. SAYERS J. MILLER

Indianapolis, Indiana
July 30, 1898

West Lafayette, Indiana
December 18, 1955

Dr. Sayers J. Miller, director of Purdue University Health Service, died at his home in West Lafayette, Indiana, December 18, 1955. His death ended a remarkable career of service to Purdue and to thousands of his students over a period of 29 years as a member of the health staff.

Born in Indianapolis, July 30, 1898, Dr. Miller was graduated from the Manual Training High School and attended Butler University before enrolling in the Indiana University School of Medicine, from which he graduated in 1924. Two years later, he joined the Purdue Medical staff and became its director in 1935, a position held until his untimely death.

During the long period of service which Dr. Miller gave to the University, he became one of the most beloved members of the faculty and endeared himself to thousands of students who visited the health service every year. His figure became familiar to thousands of spectators who attended the Purdue athletic events. He was always on the sidelines ready to care for the Boilermakers. He was truly their guardian of health.

During World War II, Dr. Miller, as medical director, filled a unique place in the lives of Purdue students. It was his responsibility to examine and treat the thousands of students in the various programs on the campus. This assignment was so well done that no major epidemic occurred. For this excellent record, he was cited by various official organizations.

Dr. Miller was affiliated with many civic, fraternal, church, and professional organizations. He was a member of the Methodist Church, the Kiwanis Club, Masonic groups, Indiana Medical Association, American Legion, Public Health Association, and the American Medical Association. He became a member of the Indiana Academy of Science in 1926. With his many duties and varied interests it would have been difficult for him to have attended the meetings of the Academy or to have been an active member, but it is enough to say that Dr. Miller has made a valuable contribution toward the betterment of mankind and all revere the high principles for which he stood.

The lofty esteem which the students, faculty, and alumni of Purdue held for this worthy character was manifest in the founding of a Sayers J. Miller Scholarship Fund that was started immediately after his death.

BERT R. MULL

Putnam County, Ohio
July 2, 1890

Monticello, Indiana
January 31, 1956

Dr. Bert R. Mull passed away at his home at Monticello, Indiana, January 31, 1956. He was primarily a pharmacist. He spent many years of his early life in various drug stores as clerk, partner, manager, and owner.

He was born July 2, 1890 in Putnam County, Ohio. He graduated from high school in Continental, Ohio in 1905 and attended Ohio Northern University. This institution conferred upon him an honorary doctorate in pharmacy administration in 1952.

Dr. Mull joined Eli Lilly and Company in 1927, as the Columbus, Ohio representative. After one year, he was transferred to Indianapolis to the advertising department of the company. Later, he became manager of the trade relations department and was active in the advertising

functions of the company. This position he held for many years. He was director of special assignments in marketing which he held at the time of his retirement from the company in 1955. He was associated with Eli Lilly Company for 28 years.

Dr. Mull was associated with Butler University as professor of pharmacy administration and taught classes in the school of pharmacy. He was holding this position at the time of his death.

He was a forceful speaker and often represented Eli Lilly Co. at conventions and pharmaceutical meetings. He organized and served as moderator of the All American Pharmacy Seminar, which appeared on drug programs from coast to coast.

Dr. Mull belonged to a number of organizations representing various phases of his chosen field. He was long active in the American Pharmaceutical Association serving as chairman of the House of Delegates, public relations committee, and section of pharmaceutical economics. He was a member of the National Association of Retail Druggists and the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

He joined the Indiana Academy of Science in 1951. We regret that the brief time he was a member of the Academy was too short for many of us to know him personally. However, we join with his many friends and associates in expressing appreciation for the devoted service he rendered to humanity through his chosen field. Dr. Mull is survived by his widow, the former Lena E. Biglow and a daughter, Mrs. Ray A. Houghton of Indianapolis.

WILLIAM MOTIER TUCKER

Holton, Indiana

Fresno, California

November 18, 1877

October 12, 1955

William Motier Tucker, long a member of this Academy, was born in Ripley County, Indiana, near Holton, November 18, 1877. He received his early education in that community. He became a farmer and then a teacher.

While a student in the Holton non-commissioned high school and the Ripley County Normal School he came in contact with three excellent and inspiring teachers who, according to young William, aroused his ambition to become a teacher.

After teaching for one term in a one room rural school near his home he entered the Indiana State Normal School in 1900 and graduated in 1905. During this time he taught three terms in his native county and the following year he taught eighth grade in Goodland, Newton County, Indiana.

While a student in Indiana State Normal School he was laboratory assistant in physical geography for Dr. Charles R. Dryer. It was my good fortune to be a student in one of these laboratory sections. I remember well my admiration for the young Mr. Tucker, who taught us how to identify the common rocks, and the location of the chief physical features of the North American Continent. We had great

respect for our young instructor. We learned with interest that there were many kinds of rocks—each with its own characteristics and history. It was reported among members of the class that he knew so much about rocks because they had been his hobby since boyhood.

Mr. Tucker's experience with Dr. Dryer was no doubt, a guiding influence in helping to direct him to enter Indiana University and to choose geology for his major work. He received his A.B. from Indiana University in 1908, his A.M. in 1909 and his Ph.D. in 1916.

After teaching science in several high schools of Indiana and California, Dr. Tucker taught physical geography in Moorehead, Minnesota State Teachers College from 1913 to 1915. He then joined the faculty of the University of Texas and later Ohio State University. In 1920 he joined the geology staff at Indiana University. This position he held from 1920-1927 until he was appointed head of the Geography and Geology Department at Fresno State Teachers College at Fresno, California. This position was held until his retirement in 1942. He remained in Fresno until his death October 12, 1955. He married Truly B. Ray of Bloomington in 1916, a few days after he received his doctorate. Mrs. Tucker passed on in 1935.

Dr. Tucker was a member of the Gimbel Expositions to British Guiana in 1910. He was appointed State Hydrologist of Indiana in 1920 and served until 1927. Among his publications were *Hydrology of Indiana*, *Pyrite Deposits in Ohio Coals*; and *Tertiary Volcanic Activity in the Valley of the San Joaquin River*.

He became a member of the Indiana Academy in 1910, and was elected a Fellow in 1923. He appeared on the Academy program many times and had four papers published in the *Proceedings*. It is a fine tribute to this Academy that a man of the ability of Dr. William M. Tucker would become a member and retain his membership for nearly a half century when much of the time he was unable to attend the meetings because of his residence in other states. His memory will be cherished long by those of us who knew him.