

RESOLUTION OF RESPECT

Charles Christopher Adams

1873-1955

Dr. C. C. Adams, a pioneer in ecology in America, one of the founders of the Ecological Society of America and a past-president of the Society, has died at the age of eighty one.

Dr. Adams was born in Clinton, Illinois, on July 23, 1873. He received his B.S. degree from Illinois Wesleyan in 1895, and an honorary Sc.D. degree from the same institution in 1920. He received the M.S. degree from Harvard in 1899 and the Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1908.

From 1896 to 1898, Dr. Adams served as assistant entomologist with the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History; he held a fellowship at the

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University of Chicago from 1900 to 1903; served as Curator of the University of Michigan from 1903 to 1906 and as Director of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History during 1906-1907. From 1908 to 1914, he served as associate in animal ecology at the University of Illinois. In 1914, he became Assistant Professor of Forest Zoology at the New York State College of Forestry, and was appointed Professor in 1916. In 1919, he became Director of the Roosevelt Wildlife Forest Experiment Station, and he served in this dual capacity until 1926. From 1926 to his retirement in 1943, he held the position of Director of the New York State Museum.

One of Dr. Adams' first papers, published in 1892 while still an undergraduate, bore the title "Mollusks as catfish food." One of his last contributions (1940) was the introduction to a "Symposium on the relation of ecology to human welfare." The two titles, published nearly fifty years apart, illustrate the breadth of the man's interests and his conviction that in the ecological point of view lies the key to the understanding of the world of nature. He early became interested in plant and animal geography and between 1902 and 1905 published several papers on "centers of distribution" in North America. Later came papers on specific problems of ecology on Isle Royale. As time went on his interests turned also to problems of human ecology. "At present ecology is a science with its facts out of all proportion to their organization or integration," Dr. Adams wrote in his well-known **Guide to the Study of Animal Ecology** which appeared in 1913. His half-century of work in the field accomplished much in the organization of the science and the development of dynamic concepts.

Dr. Adams was a member of the Ecological Society of America and served as president in 1923. He was one of a group of about twenty plant and animal ecologists who met in Philadelphia late in 1914 and laid plans which resulted in the establishment of the Society the next year. He was also a member of the Society of Naturalists, the Society of Mammalogists, the History of Science Society, the Association of Geographers, and the British Ecological Society.

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New Orleans, Louisiana
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