ZENO PAYNE METCALF

1885 - 1956

Dr. Z. P. Metcalf, past-president of the Ecological Society of America and a former editor of ECOLOGY, died suddenly at his home in Raleigh, North Carolina on January 5, 1956.

Dr. Metcalf was born in Lakeville, Ohio on May 1, 1885. He was educated at Ohio State University where he received his A.B. degree in 1907, and at Harvard University which awarded his Sc.D. degree in 1925. He taught entomology at Michigan State University for one year, 1907-1908, and then joined the staff of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture as assistant entomologist where he remained until 1912. Dr. Metcalf first became associated with the faculty of North Carolina State College in 1912. He devoted his entire professional life to that institution. From 1953 he held the title of William Neal Reynolds Professor of Zoology and Entomology.

Aside from his teaching duties, Dr. Metcalf served North Carolina State College in a number of research and administrative capacities. He was Entomologist with the Experiment Station from 1912 to 1953; Head of the Department of Zoology and Entomology from 1912 to 1950; Director of Instruction in the School of Agriculture from 1923 to 1944; Director of Graduate Studies from 1940 to 1943; and Associate Dean of the Graduate School from 1943 to 1950. On various occasions he served as visiting professor at Ohio State University, the University of Michigan and Duke University.

Dr. Metcalf retired from administrative duties in 1950 and devoted his remaining years to teaching, research, and writing. The author of 9 books and some 96 professional publications, he was also engaged in the preparation of a 42 volume catalogue of the Homoptera of the world. Fifteen volumes had been or were in press at the time of his death and several additional volumes were nearly ready to go to press. An attempt is being made to provide means of completing the series. Dr. Metcalf visited all the principal libraries in the United States and England in the course of this study; his catalogue of the order Homoptera contained over half a million references, probably the greatest catalogue of any order of insects to be found anywhere in the world. He was a tireless worker and pushed himself to the very last, having spent until noon of the day he passed away working on his studies.

Dr. Metcalf was an active member of numerous learned and professional societies. He served as president of three major national scientific organizations, the Ecological Society of America (1949), the American Microscopical Society (1927), and the Entomological Society of America (1949). In addition, he served on the editorial boards of four national professional journals.

Dr. Metcalf was married to the former Miss Mary Luella Correll of Wooster, Ohio, on October 20, 1909. He is survived by his wife and by his daughter, Mrs. Katherine Brown.

New Orleans, La. February 25, 1956

C. C. Hoff A. J. Sharp W. G. Moore, Chairman, Committee on Resolutions

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