cient by the bedside and in the laboratory as on the beach-heads of the Pacific and the Mediterranean.

Professor Sedgwick, in whose memory this medal is awarded, devoted his life to the application of science in the service of the state. He would hail this outstanding example of such application. One of his last major addresses was delivered during the first World War under the title "From Peace to War, from War to Victory, from Victory to Just Judgment." He would exult that public health science has, through General Simmons, made so important a contribution to the completion of the task which we left unfinished twenty-five years ago, but which we now propose to push on to completion.

### ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES STEVENS SIMMONS

Mr. President, Dr. Winslow, fellow Members of the American Public Health Association, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I appreciate deeply the great honor which you have shown me and the Medical Department of the Army, by this public expression of your approval of our efforts in the fields of military preventive medicine.

Your gracious invitation to attend this meeting and receive the Sedgwick Memorial Medal, reached me by radio a few weeks ago at our military headquarters in New Delhi, where I had arrived after surveying the Army's health activities in the European, North African and Middle East Theaters. Naturally it came as a welcome surprise. As I flew back over the long air highways to join you, I experienced a feeling of deep satisfaction and humble appreciation. My pleasure was in part personal, but I was even more pleased with your recognition of the medical department's achievements in the prevention of disease.

The far-flung forces of the U. S. Army are now scattered throughout many parts of the world where they are exposed to a great variety of crippling diseases. In some of these areas—especially in combat zones, the incidence of certain infections has at times been a matter of concern, but considered as a whole the health of our troops has been remarkably good. In fact, during this war the incidence rates for many serious diseases in the Army have been lower than at any time since the battle of Lexington.

This remarkable triumph in military preventive medicine can not be ascribed to any single person or organization. It has resulted from the combined effort of all the health agencies of the nation functioning as a finely coordinated, efficient team, united for war. The Surgeon General of the Army has been responsible for the establishment of an effective health program, and the officers of the Medical Department have carried it out. However, at every step in the development and execution of this program the Army has received and utilized the advice and assistance of the entire public health profession of the United States.

Advantage has been taken of the existing large fund of information concerning the control of disease; and, when indicated, studies designed to improve old control methods or to develop new ones have been undertaken. The U. S. Public Health Service working through state and other health agencies, has carried out an enormous program of extra-military sanitation and disease control in order to protect troops from infectious diseases occurring in the civil population. The National Research Council, the Committee on Medical Research, the Department of Agriculture and other governmental agencies have contributed materially to the Army's health program. Innumerable civilian agencies and scientific organizations, particularly the American Public Health Association, have played an active role in furnishing a host of scientific advisers and investigators who have helped the Army in the solution of its many health problems.

I regret that I did not have the privilege of knowing Dr. Sedgwick and of working with him. I am sure that it is the deep regret of all who are assembled here that he is no longer with us in person. However, we have a keen sense of his being here in spirit and believe that he must take profound satisfaction in knowing that many of the advances which have been made in the prevention of disease in the Army are due to his vision and influence. These achievements are the outcome of the development of basic principles established by this great pioneer in public health and preventive medicine.

Again I wish to thank you for selecting me to receive the Sedgwick Medal. I am delighted to accept it with the full realization that in so doing I am only acting as its custodian for the Medical Department of the Army and for the health workers of the United States.

# OBITUARY

## ELMER DARWIN BALL

ON October 5, 1943, in Pasadena, California, there passed from life a well-known scientist and administrator, whose scientific career had been brought to an abrupt termination more than five years earlier, when Dr. E. D. Ball, in February, 1938, suffered a cerebral hemorrhage at his home in Tucson, Ariz. Since then he had been on extended leave from the University of

Arizona, where he was professor of zoology and entomologist of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

Elmer Darwin Ball was born in Athens, Vt., on September 21, 1870, the son of Leroy A. and Mary A. (Mansfield) Ball. The family removed soon after to Iowa, with which state Dr. Ball was identified during his early life and the beginning of his career. In 1899 he married Mildred R. Norvell, who survives him.

In the public schools of Iowa and Iowa State College he received his early education and teaching experience, receiving the B.S. and M.S. degrees from the college in 1895 and 1898. After teaching in the common schools of his state and serving a year as assistant principal of Albion Seminary, he began his scientific teaching career as assistant in zoology and entomology at his alma mater, transferring from there to a similar position in the Colorado Agricultural College in 1897 for four years. Next he accepted a professorship in the Utah Agricultural College and completed, during this period of his career, his graduate work under guidance of Professor Herbert Osborn, becoming a specialist in the leafhoppers and related families and receiving the Ph.D. degree from Ohio State in 1907. He has been for years an outstanding authority on the taxonomy of these groups of insects.

In 1907 also he was appointed to be dean of the Utah Agricultural College and director of the Experiment Station, and it was while he served in this capacity that the writer first met him and formed a friendship of many years standing. He could always be counted upon for support of local scientific organizations, as well as national, as evidenced by his holding membership in the Academies of Science of Iowa, Ohio, Utah, Wisconsin, California and Washington, D. C., in addition to the usual memberships in professional organizations.

In 1916 Dr. Ball became state entomologist of Wisconsin, but after two years returned to teaching as head of the department of zoology and entomology at Iowa State College. Since this position entails also the duties of state entomologist, teaching may have been largely curtailed by administration. The last two years of his incumbency at Iowa State he was on leave to serve as assistant secretary of agriculture under secretaries Meredith and Wallace. From 1921 to 1925 he was director of scientific work in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Here he backed legislation raising salaries of scientific workers in the department to enable it to obtain and hold better research men.

From 1925 to 1928 Dr. Ball was in charge of celery insect investigations for the Florida State Plant Board. The resulting publication by Ball and coworkers is outstanding in its emphasis on the ecological phases of the problem, and shows in fact that the celery leaf tier is effectively prevented by ecological conditions from doing damage most years and that artificial control is only occasionally necessary and can be anticipated in time to prepare.

In the fall of 1928 he became dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Arizona, and in 1931 transferred again to teaching and research in the position held at the time illness overcame him.

Dr. Ball throughout his career was known as an indefatigable investigator. In Utah he pioneered in development of the driving spray method of codling moth control, did the genetics work on a long-time poultry breeding experiment, and first clearly recognized and pointed out the probable transmission of curly top of sugar beets by the beet leafhopper, later proven, and now unquestioned. The third discovered instance of insect transmission of plant disease, tipburn of potato, was first suggested by him. While in the Wisconsin work, he suggested and organized methods of eradication of American foul brood of bees and in Arizona engaged in a major project on range grasshoppers.

Throughout his career he used every possible hour and vacation period in collecting and taxonomic study of those small but often economically important little insects known as leaf-hoppers, tree-hoppers, frog-hoppers and some related forms. His unrivalled private collection of these insects is now a part of the National Museum collection. His contributions number some two hundred papers, of which over one hundred are taxonomic, more than sixty economic, and the remainder in general science and administration.

Dr. Ball was an enthusiastic teacher, helpful with counsel and financial assistance to worthy students. The writer has known him as a colleague in scientific organizations, as a dean and director, and finally as a member of the writer's department and in all these capacities as a cheerful co-worker and loyal friend.

CHAS. T. VORHIES

## DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. MALCOLM D. BRODE, professor of zoology at the University of South Carolina from 1927 to 1929 and at Beloit College from 1929 to 1935, lost his life on November 1 in a fire at Berkeley, Calif. He was forty-three years old.

LIEUTENANT CHARLES F. BOWERS, on leave as professor of architectural engineering at Iowa State College, is reported to have lost his life on October 21 in an airplane accident in the South Pacific.

PROFESSOR ROLLAND D. FOX, associate professor of bacteriology at the University of Akron and director