Obituary

John Lewis Sheldon

1865–1947

John L. Sheldon, former professor of botany at West Virginia University, died at his home in Morgantown on January 15, 1947. He had passed his declining years in seclusion, but retained to the last an active interest in his chosen science.

He was born at Voluntown, Connecticut, on November 10, 1865. He was educated in the elementary schools of Connecticut and was a teacher in the school system of the state from 1885 to 1890. From 1892 to 1894 he was an instructor in the Mt. Hermon School. After receiving the B.S. and B.Pd. degrees from Ohio Northern University in 1895, he again became a teacher in the Connecticut public schools, continuing in this position until 1898, when he began teaching in the preparatory school of the University of Nebraska. Proceeding with graduate work, he received the B.S. degree from Nebraska in 1899 and the M.S. degree from Ohio Northern the same year. During 1899–1900 he was a teacher in the Nebraska State Normal School. From 1900 to 1903 he was an instructor of botany at Nebraska, where he continued his graduate work, receiving the A.M. and Ph.D. degrees in 1901 and 1903, respectively. He was appointed professor of bacteriology at West Virginia University in 1903 and professor of botany and bacteriology in 1907. In 1913 he was designated as professor of botany, which position he retained until his retirement in 1919.

While at West Virginia University, Dr. Sheldon made many trips over the state, carefully studying the plant life and making extensive collections. His field work added a large number of species to the previously known flora of the state, many of which were published in Millspaugh's *Living flora of West Virginia* (1913). Although he was especially interested in cryptogams, he found time also to collect thousands of specimens of phanerogams. He was a collaborator of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, from 1902 to 1903 and from 1905 to 1922. A long bibliography of his botanical writings was published recently in *Castanea* (1939, **4**, 72–74). At the age of 74 he completed an exhaustive study of the lichens of West Virginia (see *Castanea*, 1939, **4**, 75–126).

He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Phytopathological Society, the Genetic Association, the Sullivant Moss Society, the Southern Appalachian Botanical Club, Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, and Phi Epsilon Phi.

He was a teacher of the classical school, and his enthusiasm was an inspiration alike to his students and associates. Throughout the long years of his retirement when failing health interfered with his normal pursuits, he retained his interest in his former students, and his friends were always heartily welcomed at his home.

EARL L. CORE

West Virginia University, Morgantown

Philip W. Schutz

1908–1947

Philip W. Schutz, professor of chemical engineering at the University of California, died at Permanente Hospital, Oakland, on March 7, 1947.

Dr. Schutz was born in St. Louis and received his education there through B.S. and M.S. degrees in chemical engineering at Washington University. He received the Ph.D. degree from the University of California in December 1933 and served as instructor at that institution until June 1934. After a year with the Shell Oil Company at Martinez, California, he returned to the University to serve as research associate to the late Gilbert N. Lewis for the period 1935–37. Then for three years he was instructor of chemical engineering at Washington State College, Pullman.

In 1940 Dr. Schutz went to Columbia University as assistant and later associate professor of chemical engineering. During the war years he served as consultant to the National Defense Research Committee and to the Manhattan Engineering District on several important projects. In 1946 he returned to the University of California as professor of chemical engineering.

The fields in which Dr. Schutz made his major scientific contributions and in which he was regarded as a leader were chemical and chemical engineering thermodynamics and dielectric heating. In the former field he published several papers with Wendell M. Latimer on the entropies of aqueous ions and with Gilbert N. Lewis on heavy water and deuterium compounds. Later he contributed to the general theory of azeotropic solutions and detailed data for several systems. Most recently he undertook a fundamental study of dielectric heating.

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