In Memoriam

Robert G. Green
1895–1947

Robert Green was a naturalist-turned-doctor in the nearest sense. Loving the out-of-doors and its creatures, he gave his mind to their diseases. The unexplained death of an owl or snowshoe rabbit was enough to start him on a long, purposeful investigation, during which he exploited nature's resources as well as his own. By inoculating horned owls, barred owls, and screech owls, he showed that the dead bird had been victim to an unknown virus; and by watching " snowshoes" month after month in their forest domain he discovered "shock disease," a malady so depleting the blood sugar that the animal, if abruptly frightened, dies at its first leap. When litters of wild foxes, lately whelped, were needed for tests of the fox encephalitis he had discovered, he got the litters as a matter of course. It never entered his reckoning that they might be hard to come by.

There is much for the field naturalist in Green's papers, told because pertinent to his work—for example, his comparison of the habits of the ruffed grouse, snowshoe rabbit, and cottontail, as bearing on their relative infestation with the rabbit ticks which transmit tularemia, and his demonstration that the snowshoe lives its entire life within a quarter-mile of where it is born (a fact disclosed by the banding of thousands of rabbits as part of a study of the rythmical rise and fall in their numbers). Some of his work had immediately practical aspects. An encephalitis was ravaging the silver fox ranches of the Northwest when he revealed its virus cause and devised a vaccine which stopped it. Appealed to again by the ranch owners, because now another strange illness had appeared among their animals, he saw that the spastic paralysis which had developed was like Wernicke's polioencephalitis in man and traced it to a lack of vitamin B_1, as in the human case. The foxes had been kept on frozen fish, and this, he found, contained an agent so potent as to destroy the entire vitamin intake if the diet contained more than 10 per cent of it.

Green always had larger matters in mind. During the period of excited conjecture following crystallization of the tobacco mosaic virus, he put the case for viruses being retrograde organisms in a way which has not been bettered (*Science,* 1935, **82,** 2132). His speculations were often startling, but their outcome made plain repeatedly that they could not be ignored. Through his ponderings on virus and host-cell relationships he was drawn at last to the cancer problem, coming to it with unique views. When the tasks he planned are in time taken up by others, one may hope it will be with something of his own discernment, intensity, and delight.

Green was a shy, warmhearted man whom science emboldened. Patient in act, he was restless in thought, as becomes the discoverer. Jenner and John Hunter would have liked him well.

PEYTON ROUS
The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research

Robert Tracy Jackson
1861–1948

Robert Tracy Jackson, noted paleontologist and retired Harvard professor, died at his home in Peterborough, New Hampshire, at the age of 87.

He was born July 13, 1861, at Dorchester, Massachusetts. In 1884 he graduated from the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard with the degree of Bachelor of Science and received his Doctor of Science degree from Harvard in 1889. Three years later he joined the Harvard faculty, where, in 1911, he was named associate in paleontology, and subsequently, Curator of Fossil Echinoderms in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.

As a teacher Dr. Jackson was personally interested in his students. Once sensing a genuine and earnest interest, he gave of himself unstintingly. For him, such men were his friends, and he gave and received loyal support, which lasted throughout his life.

During his active years of research, he published numerous scientific papers, among which were those dealing mainly with fossil echinoderms, and larger publications, such as *Phylogeny of the Pelecypods, Localized stages in development in plants and animals,* and perhaps his most monumental work, *Phylogeny of the Echini.* His theory on evolution has been a valuable contribution to advanced science.

In addition to his life's work in science, he maintained a deep interest in horticulture, toward which he spent himself with enthusiasm and pleasure all his life. His garden, begun in his youth at his home in Dorchester, Massachusetts, was filled with a valued collection of plants and shrubs of many kinds. He specialized in the growing of peonies and irises.