Herbert Spencer Jackson: 1883–1951

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AMERICAN BOTANISTS lost a recognized leader and the field of systematic mycology one of its great men of all time in the sudden death of H. S. Jackson on December 14, at his home in Toronto.

Herbert Spencer Jackson was born in New York state in 1883 and received his college education from Cornell, Harvard, and Wisconsin universities. He held posts at the universities of Delaware and Oregon and was chief in botany at the Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station for thirteen years before coming to Toronto University in 1929 as professor of mycology in the Department of Botany, of which he was the head from 1941 on. He had long been deeply interested in problems associated with the origin, development, and classification of fungi. Before coming to Toronto he was recognized as a world authority on the rust and smut fungi, and to our knowledge of these groups he contributed thirty-one journal articles.

In the Toronto area Professor Jackson found conspicuously few rust species, the study of which could be counted on to elucidate further the problems in rust phylogeny and relationships in which he was interested. Consequently, he gradually shifted his emphasis to the Thelephoraceae, a neglected group of great basic significance, and important as well in the carbon cycle as wood-destroying fungi. To a better understanding of this group, he and his students have contributed some sixteen articles, and it is hoped that several more are sufficiently advanced to be completed by his colleagues. Dr. Jackson was largely instrumental in building up the fungus herbarium in his department, until it now numbers some 94,000 accessions and includes an unusually complete collection of the fungi occurring in a unique region, the Temagami Forest Reserve.

Although he was a modest and retiring gentleman, Professor Jackson was a man of ready understanding and of broad sympathy, with whom friendship developed slowly but was an exceedingly rewarding experience. He will be universally mourned as a scholar and a stalwart of his science, and deeply and lastingly so by all who called him friend. Iris and his stamp collection were his hobbies, and in connection with the former, during his last year, he built himself a fitting memorial by bringing together at the Glendon Hall Botanic Garden in Toronto a collection of nearly 500 of the newer iris varieties of distinction, to found the finest collection of its sort in Canada. He is survived by his wife, Edythe Doyle Jackson; by a daughter, Mrs. C. D. Barrett, of Imlay City, Michigan; and by a son, K. K. Jackson, of Ithaca, New York.

Harry Federley: 1879-1951

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IN HARRY FEDERLEY, Finland has lost her greatest geneticist and cytologist. The science of genetics mourns one of the founders of modern cytogenetics, which was started on its new path (after Boveri) by Federley, together with Rosenberg, Gates, and Sakamura between 1910 and 1920.

Federley's external life was not very eventful. He studied at the University of Helsinki, where he received his Ph.D. in 1907, became an instructor in zoology in 1909, an instructor in genetics in 1915, and professor of genetics and head of the newly founded Genetics Institute in 1923. In between he worked for periods of up to two years in Berlin, Jena, and Stockholm, and he was a permanent secretary of the Finnish Science Society. He received honorary degrees from the universities of Lund and Copenhagen.

Federley's scientific work started in mycology, but he soon turned to the Lepidoptera as material for his investigations. He was an excellent ecologist and taxonomist of this group, and besides his genetical and cytological work, he published numerous papers on all phases of the biology of the Lepidoptera, including also very interesting temperature experiments and studies on geographic variation. Most of his papers, however, dealt with the chromosomes of Lepidoptera and with hybridization in this group. All these papers were models of good observation, clean technique, and theoretical understanding. They firmly established his place in the history of the genetics and cytology of the past 40 years. But his magnum opus was the work from 1911 to 1913 on species hybrids in moths and their cytology. Here he discovered in certain crosses numerous variations in synapsis between homologous chromosomes, ranging from complete synapsis to complete asynapsis. This

discovery enabled him to produce triploids and to conclude that true-breeding allotetraploids (a later term) could be originated from species crosses. His work enabled Standfuss soon afterwards to find the correct explanation for the triploid intersexes that he had produced in moths. Furthermore, this brilliant piece of work, together with Rosenberg's work on *Drosera* and Winge's theoretical analysis, has been the basis of all cytogenic work on species hybrids.

Federley, who was the first to start genetical and cytological work in his country, naturally exerted an immense influence upon Finnish biology and university life. His school has been very successful, and he was beloved and revered by his students and colleagues. In his later years he devoted much time to human heredity, especially to an effort to make the general population conscious of its importance. During the difficult war period, when his institute was bombed, he remained a pillar of freedom. In his private life he was a quiet, charming, family man, who loved fun and the good things of life. Those who knew him intimately have lost in him a fine, noble, upright, and courageous friend, in addition to a brilliant investigator.

News and Notes

Research Laboratory, The Carver Foundation

THE new $250,000 research laboratory building of the George Washington Carver Foundation, science research organization of Tuskegee Institute, was dedicated on February 12. The dedicatory address, entitled "Fantasy in Prophecy," was delivered by Henry Gilman, professor of chemistry, Iowa State College. Dr. Gilman was introduced by Roy C. Newton, vice president of Swift & Company, and trustee of the Carver Foundation, who sketched the progress in research made by the Carver Foundation during the past few years. Dr. Gilman also gave a talk to a seminar group on the subject "Organometallic Chemistry," as an added feature of the dedication.

The building, constructed of steel and concrete block with brick veneer, is U-shaped and has a frontage of 129 feet and a depth of 96 feet. It has 21 laboratory modules, $10' \times 22'$, with relocatable partitions, offices for the administrative and senior staff personnel, and general utility rooms that include a library-seminar room, incubator room, refrigerated and ice storage rooms, darkroom containing a section with controlled temperature and humidity, special apparatus room, and stock and storage rooms. The concrete block used is a type developed and made by Tuskegee Institute; the architect, engineer, and superintendent of construction were members of the Tuskegee Institute staff, and the skilled labor was furnished by students in the School of Mechanical Industries during their industrial apprentice practice periods.

The Carver Foundation is Tuskegee Institute's organized unit for the administration of research sponsored by outside agencies. The research staff consists mainly of members of the faculty in the various science departments in the several schools of the institute, and research fellowships are awarded to graduate students. During the current year research in the pure and applied sciences is being sponsored through grants and contracts with the following agencies: Continental Can Company, Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research, Inc., International Minerals and Chemical Corporation, National Distillers Products Corporation, National Institutes of Health, Nutrition Foundation, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics (USDA), Office of Naval Research, The Parker Pen Company, Research Corporation, Swift & Company, and the Upjohn Company. Since this activity was initiated in 1945, approximately $150,000 for research has been received from off-campus agencies, and fellowships totaling approximately $50,000 have been awarded to 39 graduate students.

The Carver Foundation was established by the late George Washington Carver, and his life's savings represent the original endowment. The funds for the building were received as donations from foundations, industries, and individuals.

R. W. BROWN
The George Washington Carver Foundation
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

Scientists in the News

Samuel J. Ajl, assistant professor of bacteriology at Washington University Medical School, has been appointed chief of the Microbiological Chemistry Section in the Department of Bacteriology, Army Medical Service Graduate School.

Paul R. Burkholder, chairman of the Department of Plant Science at Yale, has been designated a Sigma Xi national lecturer to discuss "Cooperation and Conflict among Primitive Organisms" before seven clubs and chapters of the Society of the Sigma Xi and Resa in Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.

David Marion Delo has been appointed president of Wagner College on Staten Island and will assume his new post in July. He succeeds **Walter C. Langsam,** who leaves July 1 to become president of Gettysburg