

industries. The road materials survey ended in 1931 and Mr. Poindexter continued in the department as mineral economist working on mineral resources, especially of the non-metallic minerals, and in general geology. In 1931 he made a personal survey of the mineral resources of Alpena County, of Schoolcraft County in 1932, of the rocks suitable for rock wool for insulation purposes in 1939 and in 1940 he conducted a survey of the limestone areas of the Northern Peninsula potentially important for the production of magnesium. For six months during 1933 he was superintendent of a CCC camp, during which time he devised and carried out the project which made sets of Michigan rocks and minerals distributed to the schools.

Gradually as problems coming to the survey became more numerous, Mr. Poindexter devoted more and more time to the water resources of the state until in 1942 in recognition of his preeminence in the field he was made geologist in charge of water resources investigations, and his time was given almost wholly to the many economic, legal and scientific problems of lake level stabilization, stream flow and flood control and particularly of ground water supplies for individual homes, municipalities and industries. In this field his outstanding achievements were in location of adequate water supplies for war industries, notably for the Willow Run Bomber Plant.

The list of Mr. Poindexter's publications contains sixteen titles, studies in minerals, mineral resources, surface geology in Kentucky and Michigan, and of water supplies, in addition to abstracts of sixty articles on geology and mineralogy which he translated from the French. He was a member of the alumni associations of the Universities of Kentucky and Michigan, of the Michigan Academy of Science in which he was a past chairman of the Geology and Mineralogy Section, and he was a member of the national honorary scientific society Sigma Xi.

He was married on June 4, 1927, to Miss Helen McGurk, of Kentucky, who with two sons, Edward and James, survive him. In his home his life was one of quiet happiness, marked with devotion to and admiration for his wife and intense but calm pride in his sons.

In the field Jake Poindexter was a conscientious worker, considerate, patient, always working for the cub geologists, always anxious they should get ahead; he gave them standards, he was a developer of trained men. His junior geologists, men who were in his field parties and office associates loved and respected him as a bulwark of quiet kindness, sound judgment yet modest and chary in giving advice. They say of him, "He was an exemplar of the stability and integrity a servant of the state should have." A calm young man but an inspiring teacher.

In the office Jake was always quiet, dependable and efficient, speaking with a soft Kentucky drawl that belied his eager, active mind. He was slow to render an opinion until all sources of information were consulted and all phases of the problem considered and weighed. He never gave snap judgments; he could not be biased. He inspired confidence in the industrialist who sought his advice or sought out his information as well as in the associate working with him and the superior giving him a job to do.

His keen interest in research, his desire to solve some of its geologic problems and so serve the State placed O. F. Poindexter well over the threshold of a promising career in the solution of the pressing problem now confronting Michigan—the conservation of its water supply. By his death, the Geological Survey Division and the whole Department of Conservation have lost a servant whose place can not be filled. His associates have lost the stimulus of a brilliant mind, but, over all, have lost a friend.

HELEN M. MARTIN

DEATHS AND MEMORIALS

DR. HUGH ALEXANDER BROWN, professor of electrical engineering at the University of Illinois, died on February 25. He was fifty-five years old.

DR. JOHN D. BALL, since 1933 professor of physics and business administration at Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, died on February 10 at the age of sixty-two years.

DR. GEORG BARKAN, assistant professor of biochemistry at Boston University, died on March 7 at the age of fifty-five years.

DR. FRANKLIN C. SNOW, dean of the Georgia School of Technology of Atlanta, died on March 1 at the age of sixty-one years.

THE REVEREND DR. JOHN EDWARD RAUTH, associate professor of psychology at the Catholic University of America, died on March 5 in his fifty-ninth year.

DR. RAYMOND C. SHANNON, Trinidad, entomologist of the Rockefeller Foundation, died on March 7, at the age of fifty years.

HAROLD RYLAND SMALLEY, agronomist and director of soil improvement, emeritus, of the National Fertilizer Association, died on February 27 in his fifty-seventh year.

A MEMORIAL service for Lieutenant Colonel M. F. Morgan, chief agronomist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, who was killed in action on Leyte in January, was held at New Haven on March 10.