

and, from 1941 until his death, served as editor of *The American Journal of Pathology*. He was acting president of the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists in 1938 and president in 1939. He was a founder of the Michigan Pathological Society and served as its first president in 1931; he was president of the American Society for Experimental Pathology in 1933 and of the International Association of Medical Museums in 1938. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

He was an active writer on medical subjects and was the author of approximately 100 publications, which deal chiefly with mustard gas poisoning, neoplasms, tuberculosis, lead and alcoholic blastophthoria, and the history of medi-

cine. His last major contribution was a monograph on *Causal Factors in Cancer of the Lung* (Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1955).

Weller was noted as a great teacher. In 1956 he was honored, by the Galens Medical Society of the University of Michigan, by the establishment of the Weller award for scholarship in pathology.

Other honors included the Mellon lectureship at the University of Pittsburgh in 1941 ("The inheritance of retinoblastoma and its relationship to practical eugenics"); the Macgregor memorial lecture at the University of Western Ontario, London, in 1951 ("The causes of cancer"); and the Beaumont lecture before the Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit, in 1955 ("Causal factors in cancer of the lung").

A recent honor came to Weller with the establishment, in 1956, of the annual Carl V. Weller lecture by the Michigan Pathological Society. Howard T. Karsner delivered the first of these lectures on 8 December 1956; his subject was "The place of pathology in biomedical research."

Weller was respected by medical students, by his departmental staff members, and by his colleagues in the medical school and university and, throughout the nation, as a leader devoted to duty and to the highest ideals of ethics in medicine and in life. The profession of medicine and the field of pathology have lost a truly great teacher, diagnostician, writer, and editor.

A. JAMES FRENCH
University of Michigan Medical
School, Ann Arbor

K. Shiga, Bacteriologist

When the American occupation forces landed in Japan in 1945 and their Medical Corps officers began to inquire into the state of microbiology in that country, they were surprised to hear that Dr. Kiyoshi Shiga, discoverer of *Shigella dysenteriae* 1 (Shiga), which was formerly considered the most important cause of bacillary dysentery, was still alive. A visit to Dr. Shiga, who was then living in retirement on his estate near Sendai, was rather easy to arrange at that time. He was very anxious to meet and talk with American physicians, whose respectful attention he enjoyed.

Shiga was a pleasant, polite, and dignified man. A chat with him, spiced with reminiscences, was always a treat, especially for us old-timers. He liked to dwell on his youth, on his studies in Germany, and on his trials, tribulations, and triumphs in that country.

Shiga attained world fame at a relatively early age. Born in 1870, he was graduated from Tokyo University in 1886, immediately started working under Shibasaburo Kitasato at the Japan Institute for Infectious Diseases and, as early as 1897, published his paper on the dysentery bacillus in the *Japanese Journal of Bacteriology*. Four years later he went to Germany to study, an experience which deeply influenced the rest of his life.

In Germany, Shiga worked under Ehrlich, discovered trypan red, and picked up a slogan, which he attributed to Ehrlich, as the motto of his life: *Geld, Geduld, Geschick, und Glück* (money, patience, fate, and luck). He kept repeating this saying of Ehrlich's and insisted that it governed all his decisions. Shiga, however, was not a money hunter.

In Germany he acquired an interest in immunology and chemotherapy and continued to work in these fields after his return to Japan. He was a delightful raconteur, especially when telling of his debate with Kruse, who, 3 years after Shiga's article was printed, published a paper on the same dysentery bacillus that Shiga had described. Although Shiga considered his bacterium to be motile, Kruse found it nonmotile, and for this reason Kruse, supported by various workers, claimed priority for the discovery of the dysentery bacillus. According to Shiga, Kruse was a big, tall man, with an apparently dominating personality, while Shiga had a complex about his short, slight build, for which he tried to compensate by his dignity. Kruse did not pay much attention to Shiga in the beginning, but later he had to concede his importance. The organism was called the Shiga-Kruse bacillus until the genus *Shigella* became established; this ac-

knowledgeed, with finality, Shiga's priority.

Shiga was loyal to his teacher Kitasato. When the Japanese Government tried to transfer the Institute for Infectious Diseases to the Ministry of Education, in 1914, Kitasato seceded from it and founded his own independent research institute, now known as the Kitasato Institute. Shiga declared his allegiance to Kitasato and, together with other staff members, followed him into an uncertain future. The Kitasato Institute, however, later became the most famous research institute of Asia.

Shiga received numerous honors, including the highest civilian medal of the Japanese Government, but when he retired to his native village, during the first part of World War II, literature and painting became his main interests. He was an accomplished water-color painter, a follower of the Japanese style in this art. His textbook on bacteriology and immunology was still in great demand when he died, early this year, on 25 January.

Shiga lived a full life; he had an active youth, a sedate middle age, and a serene retirement. Although he was a distinguished scientist, he appreciated the fine arts and had an immense number of cultural interests. He believed in the Japanese philosophy of life, which teaches that neither joy nor sorrow shall ever be overwhelming. One wonders whether adherence to Dr. Shiga's principles might not save many a candidate from a coronary attack.

OSCAR FELSENFELD
406th Medical General
Laboratory, U.S. Army