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IN MEMORY OF DR. DALTON MILFORD BROWN  
(1898-1952)

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Dr. Dalton Milford Brown, Professor of Biology and Head of the Department of Biology at East Tennessee State College, and past-



President of the Tennessee Academy of Science, died at Veterans Administration Hospital, Mountain Home, Tennessee, on November 4, 1952, at the age of 54. Dr. Brown had been in failing health for several months.

Dr. Brown was born on March 11, 1898, at McMinnville, Tennessee. He was the eldest son of Minnie F. and Henry L. Brown. He received his early training in the rural schools of Warren County, Tennessee, and in the Dibrell, Tennessee, High School. He graduated from the University of Tennessee with a B. S. in Agriculture in 1923, and received his M. S. in Education from that institution in 1926. Later he attended the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan. He received the Ph. D. degree from Duke University in 1939. His doctoral dissertation was "The Vegetation of Roan Mountain: A Phytosociological and Successional Study."

For two years he taught in one-teacher rural elementary schools, and for two years in the high schools of Tennessee. In 1926 he came to East Tennessee State College, where he remained until his death. During his years at this institution he organized the Department of Biology and directed its growth to its present form which includes offerings for a graduate minor in the field.

Dr. Brown was a member of Phi Sigma Biological Fraternity, Alpha Zeta Agricultural Fraternity, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Ecological Society of America, the Torrey Botanical Club, the Association of Southeastern Biologists, the East Tennessee Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, and the American Orchid Society. Dr. Brown was active in the Tennessee Academy of Science for over twenty years. He was instrumental in the organization of the Junior Academy, which came into being during his term as President of the Academy in 1942. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Southeastern Biologists. He was author of "Laboratory Directions for General Biology" (Wm. C. Brown Co., 1950), and several scientific papers. His doctoral dissertation (*Ecol. Monog.*, 11:61-97; 1941) is considered a classic in the field of plant ecology.

Dr. Brown's interests were many. Although a Middle Tennessean by birth, he considered East Tennessee his home. He loved its mountains, its flora, and its people, and it was largely through his efforts that Roan Mountain was acquired by the United States Forest Service. To his friends and colleagues, Roan Mountain is Dalton Brown's monument. He enjoyed many and varied hobbies. He was an expert photographer and had accumulated an excellent library of slides and films dealing with the flora of the Southern Appalachians, particularly the Rhododendron Gardens of Roan Mountain. In his later years he became interested in orchid culture and had acquired a collection of excellent orchid plants. During the summer of 1951 he toured the Southeast, visiting orchid growers, and speaking before garden clubs and orchid clubs. His last published paper was an outgrowth of these talks: "The Scientific Approach to Orchid Culture" (*Amer. Orch. Soc. Bull.* 21:235-239; 1952).

Dr. Brown was married to Thelma Patterson. He has two young sons, Steven and David.

As an ecologist, Dr. Brown contributed what is probably the most plausible explanation for the existence of the grassy balds that occur

in the Southern Appalachian mountains. He held that the Roan baids were of natural origin and that the recent invasion of the coniferous forest into the grassy areas was possibly caused by a change in climate, resulting in less xeric conditions for seedlings at critical times. To test this hypothesis Dr. Brown transplanted conifer seedlings into exposed grassy areas and noted their response over a ten-year period. At the time of his death he was preparing a report of his findings.

As a department Head, Dr. Brown was intensely interested in developing and maintaining a strong department. He stressed quality of instruction, friendly relationships with students, and harmony among the staff. He was forthright in dealing with his colleagues and admired that trait in others. As a teacher his best efforts were not always immediately appreciated: he required his students to think for themselves. He was devoted to his school, always placing the interests of the College above those of Department or of individuals. Dr. Brown was as devoted to his family and friends as he was to his college and profession.

#### NEWS OF TENNESSEE SCIENCE

The staff of the Biology division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory published 67 papers during 1952, with 57 more in press. In addition 43 abstracts were published with 11 others in press. Included among these were 14 papers in which research participants or Oak Ridge graduate fellows were authors or co-authors. Titles of these papers have been noted in the Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science.

The Central Scientific Company, Chicago, will offer two scholarships for graduate study in the academic year 1953-54: an award of \$1000 for a student working for a degree at the Master's level, and \$1500 for a student at the doctor's level. Address, Scholarship Committee, Central Scientific Company, 1700 Irving Park Road, Chicago 13, Ill.

A joint meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Geological Society of America was held at the Hermitage Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee, on April 2, 3 and 4, 1953. This meeting was under the joint sponsorship of the Department of Geology, Vanderbilt University and the Tennessee Division of Geology. This meeting featured two half days of general papers and discussion, two half days of symposia and several field trips.

Eddie Coates, Route 1, Union City, was the Tennessee state winner of the first annual National 4-H Entomology Awards Program sponsored in 1952 by the Hercules Powder Company.

Robert Daryl Elliott, an Isaac Litton High School student and son of a Nashville physician has been designated as topranking Tennessee entrant and winner of national honorable mention in the Westinghouse Science Talent Search competition. His theme was concerned with the separation of rare earths.

The Department of Bacteriology of the University of Tennessee has been awarded an \$8730, two year contract by the Office of Naval Research to find out more about the specific changes which the germ, *Bacillus tularensis*, can make. Project leader is Dr. John M. Woodward, associate professor of bacteriology.

The University of Tennessee's Chemical Engineering Department has been awarded a \$6700 grant from the National Science Foundation to support fundamental research on the transfer of materials to and from gas bubbles in a moving column. Project coordinators will be Prof. H. J. Garber and Assistant Professor F. N. Peebles.

(Continued on page 191)