

Leland S. McClung

Professor Leland McClung's long and distinguished career at Indiana University has been punctuated by numerous awards and widespread recognition of his skills as a teacher and administrator. As a very young faculty member in the Department of Botany he was charged with the responsibility for establishing and administering a new Department of Bacteriology. He started that department and led it admirably for 25 years. During those years when he was the first and only Chairman of Bacteriology he spent his considerable energies developing a model curriculum, organizing a highly efficient physical operation, and building an outstanding faculty. It is a tribute to his judgment of quality and his knowledge of microbiology that he was able to bring to Indiana scientists who would ultimately achieve the highest distinction in their field. Among these recruits whom he brought to Bloomington were two Nobel laureates and a list of researchers that reads like a Who's Who in Microbiology. After the establishment of the Division of Biological Sciences Professor McClung served as its first Associate Director.

Professor McClung's administrative talents were widely recognized, appreciated, and sought after outside Indiana University, and he unselfishly has given of himself in the service of his discipline. He was Vice President of the Society of Industrial Microbiology in 1958 and in 1965 served as President of the National Association of Biology Teachers. For many years he conducted a highly acclaimed summer institute supported by the National Science Foundation for the training of high school biology teachers in microbiology. As an outgrowth of this activity the National Science Foundation sent him to Taiwan in 1969 and India in 1970 to serve as a consultant in teacher training in microbiology. In 1966 he was a United States delegate to a Binational Conference on Biological Education held in Japan and in 1971 he represented the United States in a similar conference held in India. For over 50 years he has been an active member of

the American Society for Microbiology. In that time he has served the Society in a variety of capacities. From 1958 to 1962 he was on the Committee on Education and from 1942 to 1954 on the Committee on Bacteriological Technique. From 1944 to 1958 he was a member of the Editorial Board and from 1941 to 1948 on the Program Committee. For six years, 1961 to 1967, he was on the Board of Governors of the American Academy of Microbiology. Possibly his most visible service has been as a member of the Archives Committee and as the Archivist of the American Society for Microbiology, posts he has held for the past 28 years.

Professor McClung has developed an international reputation in research on anaerobic bacteria. He was the first to identify *Clostridium perfringens* as the causative agent of a new kind of food poisoning. It has been a comfort to the many guests that have partaken of the smoked turkey, caviar, and marinated mushrooms for which the McClung dinner parties are famous to know that Mac is a world authority on bacterial food poisoning and the microbiology of foods. This year his latest scientific work, a multi-volume, comprehensive survey of the complete world literature on the activities of anaerobic bacteria in nature and disease, will be added to his already extensive list of publications.

It is particularly fitting that in Professor McClung's last year prior to retirement the American Society for Microbiology has chosen to bestow Honorary Membership, one of its highest distinctions, on its good and faithful servant. The Society, which now numbers over 33,000 members, has in its 80-year history awarded this honor to fewer than 100 persons. No more fitting tribute could be paid to this scientist-teacher-administrator who has meant so much to the field of microbiology in the nation and at this university.

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