

Cedric Hay Guise

July 25, 1890 — November 23, 1982

Cedric Guise, professor emeritus of forestry, was a native of Findlay, Ohio, the son of Perry and Carrie Hay Guise. After attending the University of Michigan for two years, he came to Cornell in 1912 to start a forty-eight-year association as student, teacher, writer, and administrator.

Professor Guise studied in the Department of Forestry, receiving a B.S. degree in 1914 and a Master of Forestry in 1915. Immediately he assumed some of the extension duties as the successor to Frank B. Moody, one of the first extension foresters in the country.

After a two-year stint as instructor for the U.S. Army School of Military Aeronautics during World War I, Guise returned to the department in 1919 to start a teaching career in forest management. He became professor of forestry in 1933 and continued teaching until 1937. With discontinuation of professional forestry instruction, Guise spent the next seven years as professor of personnel administration for the College of Agriculture but returned in 1944 to head the reorganized department. Many forestry alumni returning to Fernow Hall recall Guise's great interest in forest management and his concern with the demise of professional forestry education at Cornell. Nevertheless, he gave wholehearted support to the new Department of Conservation from its inception in 1948 until his retirement in 1954. He taught a course in farm forestry, the forerunner of today's woodland management, and he helped teach the first general conservation course, now known as principles of conservation. Students recognized his teaching with the Professor of Merit award in 1954.

Professor Guise was the first director of the Arnot Forest and served intermittently in that position for seventeen years. He was responsible for obtaining a boundary survey, acquisition of new parcels, and planning work projects for a Civilian Conservation Corps camp. The latter included building and improving the excellent road and bridge network that remains in use today. Finally, he was responsible for hiring the first resident manager in 1952. Thus Guise provided the fundamental necessities for making the forest a viable research and teaching area.

The college took advantage of Guise's administrative ability, calling him from retirement to help coordinate the Cornell-Los Baños Project on a part-time basis from 1955 to 1960. This project eventually culminated in rebuilding the war-ravaged and poorly administered University of Philippine's Colleges of Agriculture and Forestry. Guise personally inspected the forestry situation and documented the need for a strong forest administration unfettered by politics, a new and improved physical plant, a curriculum directed more toward professional than technical

training, and better research. His efforts led to an eventual contract with the College of Forestry at Syracuse for implementation of reforms.

In furtherance of forestry education Professor Guise made numerous other contributions. He compiled forest school statistics on enrollments and degrees. They were published for sixteen years in the *Journal of Forestry*. He authored the text *The Management of Farm Woodlands* and coauthored two other texts. He collaborated with Dean Graves of Yale as cochairman of the Forest Education Inquiry, which led to closer ties with European foresters and educators. He was an active member of the Ostertag Committee, which had a broad impact on New York forestry. As one of his major goals he helped establish forest instruction areas as a part of the developing Cornell Plantations.

A lifelong bachelor, Guise had numerous civic and other interests. He helped in the development of the Village of Cayuga Heights and served many years as treasurer. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church. An avid and very good golfer, he was a charter member and, for many years, president of the Ithaca Country Club. He was fond of dogs and collected oriental rugs.

Age was slow in catching up with Ced Guise. He lost most of the sight from one eye and eventually gave up golf, but he walked his spaniels daily through the Heights. It was a pleasure to meet him on some byway a mile from home and reminisce. He was a gentleman and a friend.

William J. Hamilton, Jr., Fred E. Winch, Jr., Robert R. Morrow