

# Joseph A. Dye

*March 8, 1892 — December 17, 1966*

Dr. Joseph A. Dye was appointed Professor of Physiology, Emeritus, August, 1960, after having served Cornell for more than a third of a century. His death occurred in Ithaca, December 17, 1966.

Professor Dye was born March 8, 1892 in a one-room cabin at Basalt, Idaho. His academic career included attendance at Weber Academy, Ogden, Utah; Ricks Academy, Rexburg, Idaho; Brigham Young University; and the University of Chicago. Professor Dye joined the Cornell faculty in 1923 as an instructor and two years later was awarded a Ph.D. degree. He became an Assistant Professor in 1926. In 1933 he served for a year as a Physiology Fellow at Harvard Medical School and in 1941 was a resident in research at the Medical College at Cornell. For twenty years he taught physiology in the Ithaca Division of the Cornell Medical School. In 1939, when the teaching of the first year of medicine was discontinued on this campus, he moved to the Veterinary College as Assistant Professor of Physiology. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1941 and was named Professor in 1946.

He had a fine, analytical mind. This, together with his excellent training and wide experience in physiology, enabled him successfully to attack complicated problems in the field of intermediary metabolism. They included studies on fats, carbohydrates, proteins, experimental diabetes, ketosis, the pancreas, thyroids, parathyroids, the anterior pituitary, sympathin, the prevention and cure of rickets, and the *in vitro* metabolic investigations of rumen microorganisms in sheep.

He is credited with fifty-eight scientific papers. His book, *Human Physiology Syllabus*, was published in its third edition in 1955. He was co-author with A. D. Gould of the book, *Exercise and Its Physiology*, which appeared in 1932. He contributed to Dukes's *Physiology of Domestic Animals* and *The Vitamins*, a supplement to the *Book of Popular Science*.

Numerous scientific organizations as well as many honor societies and fraternities claimed Professor Dye as a member. He was listed in *Who's Who in America*, *American Men of Science*, and *Who's Who in the East*.

Along with the eminence that Professor Dye attained as an excellent teacher and scientist, he won the reputation of true kindness. His students were treated as individuals who deserved special attention and consideration and not as groups or masses to be met with briefly and dismissed. Those who knew Professor Dye agree that he would go to great lengths to help them in all situations, and the ones who worked with him are thankful that they had

the opportunity to do so. One of his special skills was his ability to make any type of equipment “fit the occasion.” He could take an ancient, long-paper kymograph instrument, wire it together, and make “classical tracings.” He always insisted that basic studies be complemented by clinical observations and trials. This enabled him and his graduate students to develop a broad understanding of both physiological and pathological processes. His scholarly studies on the metabolic diseases of large domestic animals were of marked significance to the members of the clinical departments of the Veterinary College and to practicing veterinarians.

Professor Dye was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Ithaca and had served as president of the Susquehanna district. He was active in Boy Scout work and other community organizations.

He will be remembered by his students and colleagues for his scholarship, his unassuming ways, his intellectual and personal integrity, his quiet devotion to duty, and his unswerving loyalty to Cornell.

Professor Dye is survived by his wife, Dorothy Young Dye, who is a great-granddaughter of Brigham Young; a daughter, Mrs. James W. Spencer; four sons, J. Gordon, Howard S., H. Wesley, and Richard W.; 17 grandchildren; two brothers, Warren E. and Lynn; and four sisters, Mrs. Florence Hanny, Mrs. Rachel Hale, Mrs. Alice Brewington, and Mrs. Ida Gardiner.

*P. P. Levine, S. J. Roberts, D. W. Bruner*