

William Truman Crandall

May 11, 1886 — November 3, 1959

William Truman Crandall, Professor Emeritus of Animal Husbandry, died November 3, 1959, following a serious illness. He was born in Lexington, Kentucky, May 11, 1886. His father, a faculty member of the University of Kentucky, was a nationally famous geologist and church worker. Thus ended two generations of outstanding educational contributions.

Truman, as he was known to his associates and friends, was an outstanding teacher. He used this particular talent to encourage dairy farmers to change their practices in order to improve their economic status and way of life. He served Cornell for thirty-two years.

Professor Crandall had a deep appreciation of the importance of the dairy cow to New York Agriculture. He looked upon her as a marvelous machine especially adapted to convert the products of the field into the best of human foods, milk. Therefore it was logical that his chief objective was teaching dairymen how to feed and care for their cows to obtain production at their fullest economic capacity. To this end, he developed two-day dairy cattle production and feeding schools, which were attended by thousands of dairymen.

Professor Crandall was also in charge of the dairy production records programs. He recognized that these records were a tremendous source of field data, which he used as teaching and demonstrational materials. He developed methods of analyzing herd production results which now are an integral part of the National Cooperative Dairy Herd Improvement program.

He was co-author of the Extension Bulletin, "Feeding the Dairy Cow Efficiently," a bulletin that has become the dairyman's textbook on feeding and is now in the eleventh printing with a circulation of 125,000 copies. He was also the author of "A Study Guide for Dairy Farming," written for the U.S. Armed Forces Institute in 1945. He was author or co-author of many other publications on dairy feeding and record keeping.

He attended Alfred Academy, received B.S. degrees from Milton College in Wisconsin and from the University of Wisconsin, and an M.S. degree from the University of Illinois.

In 1909-1910 he headed the animal husbandry department of Alfred State School of Agriculture and was an associate in dairy husbandry at the University of Illinois, 1911-1916. In 1920-1922 he was extension assistant professor of dairy husbandry at Kansas State Agricultural College. During these years he was a member of local,

college, and university orchestras. He was a talented violinist and skilled in other string and wind orchestral instruments.

He came to Cornell as Extension Assistant Professor in 1922 and served in that capacity until 1935 when he became Extension Professor and was Professor from 1945 until retiring in 1954. He was a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi, national honorary extension fraternity, and of the American Dairy Science Association.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Emma Anderson Crandall, Ithaca; one son, Truman A. Crandall, Manchester, Connecticut; two daughters, Mrs. W. Eugene Dennis, Ithaca, and Mrs. Frederick Garrett, Miami, Florida; a sister, Miss Alberta Crandall, Milton, Wisconsin; and nine grandchildren.

Professor Crandall not only was an outstanding extension teacher himself but also had the rare ability to guide and inspire his co-workers along similar lines. His associates valued Truman's good judgment, his friendly suggestions, and his willingness to assist in every way in carrying on dairy extension programs. His influence will be felt for years to come not only by his fellow workers but, in a broader sense, in the state and nation.

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