

Samuel Willard Harman

February 24, 1894 — March 17, 1948

S. Willard Harman, Associate Professor of Entomology in Cornell University, died peacefully in his sleep at his home at Kashong-on-Seneca Lake early in the morning of March 17, 1948. His decease was most unexpected, for the day before he died he showed no indication of illness either in his home or at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, the place where he worked. His untimely death was a great shock and loss to his wife, Mary Covert Harman, his son, 11 years in age, Wilson Nelson Harman, his parents and two brothers, his many friends, associates and numerous fruit growers.

Bill Harman, as he was known by all of his friends and associates, was born in Geneva, February 24, 1894. He graduated from the Geneva High School in 1913 and from the Michigan State College in 1917. From 1917 to 1919 he served in the United States Navy and rose to the rank of Ensign. After he was discharged from the Navy he became manager of the Southern Branch of C. S. Powell Lumber Company, Portsmouth, Va., and later he worked for the Davey Tree Expert Company, Kent, Ohio, and the Department of Parks, Brooklyn, New York.

In 1922 he was appointed as Assistant in Research at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. Three years later he obtained his M. S. degree at Cornell University. In 1929, he was promoted to the position of Associate in Research, in 1942 to an Assistant Professor of Entomology and in 1945 to an Associate Professor of Entomology, the position he held until his death. Nearly one-half of his life and the greater part of his productive years were thus devoted to the control of insect pests in the orchards of New York State.

Professor Harman possessed many attributes which contributed to his success. He was approachable no matter how busy he might be, cooperative and thoroughly unselfish. He never considered any personal inconvenience and enjoyed being of service to others. He appreciated the difficulties of the fruit grower and gave him the greatest possible aid. The many fruit growers who became acquainted with him followed his recommendations and advice closely for they knew he understood their problems and would not hesitate to tell them whether he could or could not aid them. Director A. J. Heinicke aptly said, "He was not easily discouraged in research by insurmountable obstacles. He was always conservative in his conclusions to the end that his opinions were valued as practical by the fruit grower."

Professor Harman was in constant demand as a speaker at gatherings of fruit growers and was a regular speaker on the programs of the New York State Horticultural Society of which he was an honorary member. He was the

author of more than 75 scientific papers relating to his work at the Experiment Station. He was a member of Alpha Zeta, Gamma Alpha, and Sigma Xi honorary societies, the American Association of Economic Entomologists, the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, the Geneva Lodge of F. & A. M., and the Winnek Post of the American Legion.

Hugh Glasgow, C. B. Palm, Richard Wellington