

# Clifton W. Loomis

*January 28, 1914 — December 2, 1994*

Clifton W. Loomis, Professor Emeritus of Farm Management, died December 2, 1994, at the age of 80. He was born and raised in the rural New York community of Burlington Flats. Much of his professional life was spent in educational work with farm families in Upstate New York communities similar to the one where he grew up.

Clif received his Bachelor's degree from the College of Agriculture at Cornell in 1937. His first employment was as an Assistant County Agriculture Agent in Delaware County, New York. He was called to active military service in 1940 and returned to Agricultural Extension work in 1946, serving five years as County Agriculture Agent in Schenectady County, New York.

Returning to Cornell for graduate study, he received his M.S. degree in 1951 and Ph.D. degree in 1953. Part of the degree requirements were fulfilled at the University of Illinois. From 1953-55, he was a member of the faculty of Agricultural Economics at the University of Missouri. Clif was appointed Assistant Professor of Farm Management at Cornell in 1955, was promoted to Associate Professor in 1957, and became Professor in 1964. He served as Department Extension Leader in Agricultural Economics from 1971-75.

In 1964-65, while on sabbatical leave, Professor Loomis taught and conducted research at The American University of Beirut in Lebanon. In 1970-71, while on leave, he served as Advisor to the President of The Agricultural Development Fund of Iran.

Work in Cooperative Extension was at the center of Clif's professional career. He spent most of a decade as a County Extension Agent. From the time he joined the faculty at Cornell in 1955 to his retirement in 1975, the bulk of his time was spent teaching and counseling with County Extension Agents and farm families. He was extremely effective in helping farmers recognize business problems and improving their management skills.

Professor Loomis provided the leadership in developing the electronic farm accounting system known as CAMIS (Cornell Agricultural Management Information System), used by the New York State Extension Agents in their work with farmers and agribusiness persons. CAMIS proved to be an efficient computerized accounting system and management tool. He shared his experiences with CAMIS with other professionals who were developing similar computerized systems for farmers and agribusiness persons in the Northeast and throughout the United States.

Clif had a long and deep rooted commitment to the military. When he graduated from Cornell in 1937, he was commissioned an R.O.T.C. officer and was called to active duty in 1940. From 1940-42, he served as an Instructor in Military Science at Cornell. During World War II, he was an operations officer with a field artillery battalion in France and Germany, receiving decorations including The Purple Heart and The Bronze Star and rising to the rank of Colonel. Following World War II, he remained active in the Army Reserve. As late as 1969 and 1970, he spent leave time with the New York State Headquarters of the Selective Service System. With an ongoing commitment of his own time, he backed his belief that a strong military is essential to the well being of the Country.

Professor Loomis, a bachelor, is survived by a brother, two sisters, nieces, and nephews.

*C. Arthur Bratton, James C. Pratt, Robert S. Smith*