

# Clinton Beaumont Raymond

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Clinton Beaumont Raymond, professor of vegetable crops emeritus, was born in Penfield, New York, attended elementary and secondary school there, and graduated from the College of Agriculture at Cornell University in 1913. From 1930 until his retirement in 1954, Beau was a faculty member of the Vegetable Crops Department. He was appointed extension assistant professor in 1930, was promoted to associate professor in 1942, and became professor emeritus in 1954. He was a charter member of the Lambda chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, the National Honorary Extension Fraternity.

After graduating from Cornell, he returned to his home farm and two years later began teaching agriculture in high school. In early 1918 he became assistant county agricultural agent in Steuben County and a year later, county agricultural agent in Allegany County. He remained there four years before moving to a similar position in Yates County.

In the summer of 1930 Beau came to Cornell to take advanced courses in vegetable crops and plant physiology. He was asked to stay on to conduct extension work with New York's canning crop growers. He made field studies on vegetable crops to determine practices that would produce the best yields and qualities of canned vegetables. Among his many studies were those on the problem of dry rot in beets caused by boron deficiency, the causes and importance of defects in tomatoes, and methods of getting canning peas with high yields and quality. To get information to vegetable growers and processors, he was active in the production of motion picture films dealing with improved production and harvesting practices. These were usually made in close collaboration with colleagues from related disciplines. Films dealing with production of tomato transplants and harvesting tomatoes to maximize quality were in great demand and were shown far beyond the boundaries of New York State. He also wrote many bulletins on vegetable production and storage that were helpful to both commercial growers and home gardeners.

During World War II Professor Raymond spent much time working on the "victory garden" program, especially with urban groups who used vacant lots in cities and nearby farmland for community gardens. He cooperated with the New York State Grange in organizing and preparing teaching materials for their "Better Gardening for Better Living" project. He prepared slide sets and other teaching aids for a victory garden train that traveled throughout New York State and spent much time on the train giving information to the thousands who visited it.

During the last few years before his retirement Professor Raymond was asked to devote himself entirely to extension work with home gardeners. Using the experience gained in the earlier victory garden program, he undertook this responsibility with all the vigor and enthusiasm of a young man beginning his first job. One of his early efforts was to develop a correspondence course for gardeners. Another important program was the conducting of demonstrations of the use of sawdust, chips, and shavings as a means of improving soils, conserving moisture, and controlling weeds. In 1953 he established an herb garden at Cornell for the training of staff and students. For many years Beau was in charge of the department's radio program. He prepared much of the material himself. Not only was this effort highly regarded by his colleagues, but also he was cited by ABC for his outstanding public service, particularly to home gardeners.

Beau Raymond's career was marked by complete dedication to his work, whether it was aimed at improving the commercial vegetable industry of New York State or helping home gardeners. He was intensely loyal to his constituency, to his department, and to Cornell University. He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ithaca, served as an officer in it for many years, and maintained his interest in it after leaving Ithaca. He was devoted to his family and is survived by his wife, Lonelle Lovejoy Raymond; two daughters, Lonelle Joy Hammers and Gayle R. Kennedy; and five grandchildren.

After retiring, Professor Raymond and his wife returned once again to his home farm in Penfield, New York, where he was active in gardening and in civic affairs. For three years he was town assessor. When that became too strenuous, they moved to Florida and later to Minnesota to be near one of their daughters. A few months before his death they moved to Bethesda, Maryland, to live with their other daughter.

*Henry M. Munger, Arthur J. Pratt, Robert D. Sweet*