

# Frank Barron Morrison

*May 17, 1887 — April 7, 1958*

Frank Barron Morrison, Emeritus Professor of Animal Husbandry and Animal Nutrition, died unexpectedly on April 7, 1958. With his passing, agricultural science lost one of its greatest leaders.

Born at Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, Professor Morrison received a B.S. degree in Agricultural Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin in 1911. From 1911 until 1927, he served his Alma Mater as an instructor, Professor of Animal Husbandry and as Assistant Director of the Experiment Station. In 1927 he accepted the Directorship of the Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station and the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, but transferred to the Ithaca campus in 1928 as Professor of Animal Husbandry and Animal Nutrition and Head of the Department of Animal Husbandry. He served Cornell in this capacity until 1945 when he resigned as Head of the Department to devote more time to his writing assignments. He retired in June 1955.

In viewing Professor Morrison's accomplishments as an educator, an administrator and as an author, it is most difficult to single out any one role and assign it dominance. He probably took most pride in the large numbers of graduate students that came from dozens of different domestic and foreign universities to obtain advanced degrees in Animal Husbandry. Many of these men now occupy key positions in universities, governmental agencies, and agricultural businesses. Among these are three university presidents, two deans and several directors. As an administrator, and with the backing of a council of prominent livestock men, he guided the Department of Animal Husbandry to the point where it became one of the largest and best known in the country.

Many will probably remember him best as the author of *FEEDS AND FEEDING* and its abridged editions. This text and reference book has been so outstanding that it has never been seriously challenged in its field. Started by Dean Henry of the University of Wisconsin in 1898, Professor Morrison became coauthor in 1915 and then sole author in 1932. This book, now in its 22nd edition, has been translated into Portuguese, Spanish and Russian and is used the world over.

Professor Morrison was an avid traveller and lectured in almost every state and some half-dozen foreign countries. He served on several commissions to recommend improvements in the livestock industries of Germany, the Philippines, Argentina and Venezuela.

His vigorous leadership was recognized formally on several occasions. He served as President of the American Society of Animal Production. His portrait was hung among the great in the livestock industry at the Saddle and Sirloin Club in Chicago and another was presented to Cornell University at the time of his retirement. He holds honorary D.Sc. degrees from the University of Vermont and the University of Wisconsin.

Professor Morrison was a member of several scientific and fraternal organizations, among which were the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Animal Production, American Dairy Science Association, American Chemical Society, Alpha Zeta, Phi Kappa Phi, British Nutrition Society and the Rotary Club.

Through his generosity, the Morrison Award, given annually to a notable scientist in the field of Animal Production, was established in the American Society of Animal Production. In addition, he endowed a fellowship at Cornell University for worthy graduate students in the field of livestock feeding.

Two sons, Roger and Spencer, and his wife, the former Elsie R. Bullard, survive and will continue to publish his books.

Professor Morrison had many friends on this campus and elsewhere. To them his sterling character and enthusiasm for his field of work were a constant source of inspiration. They greatly respected him in particular for his accomplishments, his keen insight and his sound judgment. His passing has left a void in the fields of Animal Husbandry and Animal Nutrition which will not be easily filled.

*S. E. Smith, L. C. Norris, K. L. Turk*