

Dean Richmond Marble

1902 — April 17, 1966

After nearly forty years of service to education and to agriculture, Dean R. Marble died following a brief illness on April 17, 1966. He had spent twenty-eight years in academic work, fourteen each at Cornell and at Pennsylvania State University. He was a little more than a year short of an anticipated retirement.

Born on a farm near West Bloomfield, New York, in 1902, Dean Marble's contact with Cornell was as a winter course student in the College of Agriculture. Following that study he was employed at the college poultry farm for a year before enrolling as a freshman in the regular four-year course. He received the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees at Cornell in 1926, 1928, and 1930. He served as an instructor in Poultry Husbandry from 1926 to 1930. From 1930 to 1944 he was on the staff of the Poultry Department at Pennsylvania State University. From 1944 to 1952 he was geneticist for the Creighton Brothers Farm at Warsaw, Indiana, at that time one of the larger poultry breeders in the country. In 1952 he returned to Cornell as Associate Professor of Poultry Husbandry and was promoted to Professor in 1956. For a time following his return to Cornell he did extension work. For the last ten years he did resident teaching and was in charge of the New York Random Sample Poultry Tests. He had a deep interest in teaching and in students as individuals. His concern for them extended beyond the classroom, and many discussed personal problems with him. His interest included their student organizations, and he served as an adviser to several. He was particularly effective as a student counselor and advisor.

In addition to technical papers, extension publications, and articles and columns for trade publications Professor Marble was co-author of two books. *Judging Poultry for Production*, with two other Cornell authors, Rice and Hall, was widely used as a text. He was senior author of the second, *Commercial Poultry Production*, with Jeffrey, of the University of Massachusetts.

In 1955 he spent several months in Israel on a special assignment for ICA as a consultant to the Israel Ministry of Agriculture in planning poultry breeding programs for use in that country. In 1959 he was U.S. representative to an FAO Conference in Zurich on random sample methods of testing poultry breeding stocks.

Much of Dean Marble's professional effort, both in education and in industry, was spent working with the breeders and hatcherymen responsible for the quality of stock available for production. He had a unique combination of practical and theoretical knowledge of genetics which he used in counseling individuals and groups. He was

influential in improving the methods and procedures of breeding and the methods of testing the performance of the resulting stocks.

He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, Poultry Science Association and the World's Poultry Science Association. From 1942 to 1944 he was editor of the journal *Poultry Science*. He was also a member of Acacia Fraternity, Warsaw Lodge #73 F.&A.M., Warsaw Chapter #48 Royal Arch Masons, and Warsaw Commandery #10 Knights Templar.

A member of the Methodist Church of Jacksonville, New York, Professor Marble was an active worker in affairs of his own and other local and regional church groups. His time and effort were freely used in fraternal and civic activities.

He is survived by his wife, Ann, a son, David, and two daughters, Jean Pearson and Patricia Ward, and by three grandchildren.

Dean Marble's combination of the practical and the theoretical helped achieve a balance between the two in his own work and that of his department. He had an honesty and sincerity of thought and act which inspired an unusual degree of trust and which often acquired consensus without insistence. His quiet, willing counsel was regularly sought by students and co-workers. While his tasks must be assigned to others, none can replace him.

J. Herbert Bruckner, Randall K. Cole, Glenn H. Thacker