



Harry Scott Smith

1883-1957

Professor Harry Scott Smith, "Prof Harry" to his many close friends, died suddenly on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1957, at the age of 74. Known internationally as a teacher, scholar, an administrator, and a pioneer thinker in the field of population dynamics and biological control, he left behind a landmark in the history of entomology.

Prof Harry was born on November 29, 1883, at Aurora, Nebraska. He received an A.B. degree from The University of Nebraska in 1907 and a Master's degree a year later. From 1908 to 1912 he was employed as an expert in the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture. During this brief period he was closely associated with L. O. Howard, W. F. Fiske, W. R. Thompson, C. H. T. Townsend, F. Silvestri, J. D. Tothill, and P. H. Timberlake, all of whom were or later became distinguished in the field of the biological control of insect pests. In 1913 Prof Harry became associated with biological control work in California. In 1923 he became a member of the staff of the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside and was in charge of biological control activities until his retirement in 1951. Under his leadership a large staff was assembled and both he and the Division of Biological

Control became world famous for their leadership in biological control. Riverside became the major center for biological control work in the United States and their facilities and research findings have been generously shared with many students and visiting colleagues from various countries throughout the world. Within the Division a laboratory of insect pathology was established and subsequently the first formal course in insect pathology was given at the University of California.

Many honors have been bestowed upon Prof Harry, who was an honorary member of the Hawaiian Entomological Society. He served both as vice-president and president of the American Association of Economic Entomologists and on a number of important entomological committees sponsored by the Pacific Science Congress, National Research Council, and Navy Department. He was repeatedly invited to participate on insect population and biological control panels sponsored by national and international organizations. Following his retirement the University of Nebraska bestowed an Honorary Doctor of Science degree upon him in recognition of his scholarly and effective research in his chosen profession.

Few men have had as many close professional and personal friends as Prof Harry. Colleagues in other scientific areas constantly sought his advice in designing definitive experiments and in the interpretation of their data. His students and colleagues recognized his keen perception in the solution of problems and the ability to state in simplified form the seemingly complicated hypotheses and theories of other scientists.

Prof Harry is survived by his wife and five children. His devotion to his family and numerous friends was sensed by all who came to know him during his long entomological career. In his characteristically unassuming and generous attitude he was always willing to give freely of his time and himself to help his students and colleagues and then gave them credit for his contributions to biological control and population studies. —Henry A. Bess