

IN MEMORIAM
GLENN WARREN GOLDSMITH

Glenn Warren Goldsmith, son of Henry B. and Hannah McNary Goldsmith, was born in, Hutchinson, Minnesota, January 29, 1886, and died in Austin, Texas, October 29, 1943. He attended the Hutchinson high school, where he was salutatorian and class president of the graduating class of 1906. After a year spent at Hamlin University, 1906-1907, he entered the University of Minnesota in the fall of 1907. The death of his father necessitated his withdrawal within a few weeks, but he returned the following fall and remained for the next three years, being graduated in 1911 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. As an undergraduate he was a member of the honorary botanical club and of the Y. M. C. A.

His graduate studies were pursued at the University of Minnesota during 1911-1912; at the University of Chicago during two summer terms 1914; and at the University of Nebraska, 1919-1920. During these years he absolved all the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy excepting the completion of a thesis.

His professional life was spent in teaching and research. He was a fellow at Nebraska University in 1911-1912; Professor of Biology at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, Louisiana, 1912-1918, and 1920-1921, and Professor Biology at Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, 1918-1919. He resigned his position at Southwestern Louisiana Institute in 1921 to engage in research at the Alpine Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington at Manitou, Colorado, a position that he held until 1929. It was during these years that he completed his thesis, Some Field Instruments and their Application, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Nebraska in 1924. In 1929 he resigned to accept a professorship in botany at the University of Texas.

For the past eight years under a grant from Mr. Benjamin Clayton he had directed research at The University of Texas on cotton root rot. This research has yielded promising results on one of-the most difficult problem in the history of plant disease.

Elected to Sigma Xi at Nebraska during his graduate studies, Dr. Goldsmith's broad interests prompted him to maintain membership in nearly twenty national organizations sponsoring research in phytopathology, physiology, ecology, ornithology, mycology, mammalogy, forestry, bacteriology, and history. A complete list is appended.

Dr. Goldsmith's research interests were varied. For much of the period during which he was associated with the Carnegie Institution his investigations were concerned with soil aeration, with factors involved in the opening and closing of flowers, with the physical properties of plant sap, with soil algae, and with phytometer methods in ecology.

In connection with research on cotton root rot he made many thousands of plantings. His studies involved a breeding plan of cottons resistant to the root rot disease as based on the quantitative measurement of the resistance in individual plants. Analyses had to be made to determine the correlation between magnesium present in the soil and the severity of the root rot disease. His research included also a breeding program to increase the quantity and quality of cottonseed oil on the basis of individual quantitative analyses. Another problem in which he was interested was the biological control of the cotton boll weevil by the use of the insect, Microbracon, which parasitizes boll weevil larvae. On all these experiments he kept tabulated statistical data.

As a teacher he was kindly, genial, generous, and inspiring to his students. He seemed never too busy to listen with patience and sympathy to either professional or personal problems. Toward his colleagues his attitude was equally generous, kindly and sympathetic. He built up a valuable personal professional library, together with considerable personal equipment with which to further his investigations.

The large number of letters received by departmental members from professional friends and from former student employees attest the universal feeling of grief at his death.

He is survived by his wife Isabel Chase (Goldsmith) whom he married in Minneapolis,
May 30, 1904.

List of societies of which Dr. Goldsmith was a member:

- American Nature Association
- American Phytopathological Society
- American Society of Plant Physiologists
- American Ornithologists Union
- Mycological Society of America
- National Parks Association
- Texas Academy of Science
- Ecological Society of America
- American Society of Mammalogists
- Botanical Society of America
- Audubon Society
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- U. of Pennsylvania Bicentennial Conference
- Society of Science Research Council
- Society of American Bacteriologists
- Texas State Historical Association
- American Forestry Association
- Society of Sigma Xi
- Torrey Botanical Club
- American Microscopical Society
- Wilson Ornithological Club

Special committee on Goldsmith Memorial Resolutions

- Dr. Frederick McAllister
- Dr. Marie B. Morrow
- Dr. J. T. Patterson
- Dr. M. B. Porter
- Dr. Hilda F. Rosene
- D. B. C. Tharp, Chairman