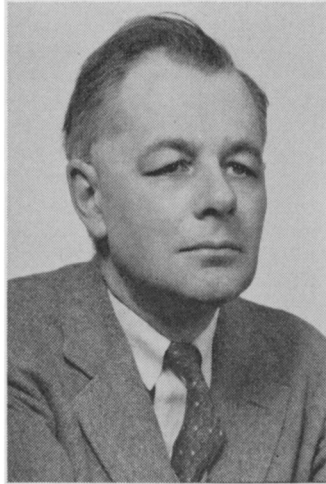


## EMINENT ECOLOGIST FOR 1962



**GEORGE EVELYN HUTCHINSON**

The Eminent Ecologist Award for 1962 was awarded to George Evelyn Hutchinson, Sterling Professor of Zoology at Yale University. Professor Hutchinson was born in Cambridge, England. He was educated at Greshams School, Holt, Norfolk and Emmanuel College, Cambridge (B.A. 1924, M.A. 1928). He became a naturalized U. S. citizen in 1941. He was a Senior Lecturer in Zoology at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg from 1926 to 1928 before beginning his career at Yale University. He is a member of many professional societies and has received many awards in recognition of his scholarly activities. The following tribute was prepared by his colleague, Dr. Edward S. Deevey, especially for this citation:

"More than once in his scientific essays Hutchinson has alluded to the legend of the golden bough or to its lineal descendant, T. S. Eliot's **'Waste Land.'** Most recently in the **'Enchanted Voyage,'** shortly to be published by a certain university press of which he is a longtime advisor, Hutchinson has discussed the symbolism of the hanged man and the drowned man in explicit relation to aquatic ecology and the racial unconscious, or water content, of aquatic ecologists. Ritual murder, the insistence that the king must die that the king must reign, has a fascinating if not altogether honorary history, and it is fortunate that the award of Eminent Ecologist for 1962 does not require Hutchinson, or anyone else, to slay his distinguished predecessors. Neither in the grove at Nemi, nor around this banquet table that bears so little resemblance to it, will members of this society catch glimpses of Charles Elton, Walter Cottam, or Henry Gleason anxiously scanning the undergrowth through which Hutchinson murderously slinks. Indeed the Society has a right to be proud, not only of the eminence of its officially eminent members, but of the fact that its accolade typically insures, not death in a burst of transient glory, but great and productive longevity.

"Born in Cambridge in 1903, son of the mineralogist Arthur Hutchinson and nephew of the zoologist Sir Arthur Shipley, Hutchinson's career has bridged Earth Science and Biology in a way that has seemed impossible since the death of Louis Agassiz. If Osvald made Physics and Chemistry one, which readers of **JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS** and **JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY** may doubt, Hutchinson has accomplished the far more difficult task of making Biology, Geology and Chemistry one. There are few indications in his early career that this achievement was in the making. Youthful papers on the water bugs of Wickenfen, on the magnesium tolerance of *Daphnia*, on osmoregulation in hagfishes, and on the Freudian implications of reciprocal sadomasochism in snails, give some hints of the astonishing range to come. But the main outlines of Hutchinson's interests became clear in the long series of fundamental limnological papers beginning with the Monograph on South African puddles in 1932 and climaxed by the brilliant study in 1950 of the radiophosphorus that someone (guess who) put into Linsley Pond. It was as limnologist that he was led to become a biogeochemist; as limnologist he was able to see the atmosphere and the oceans as larger and somewhat special kinds of lakes; and as limnologist he is today dividing his time between the second volume of the treatise and a virtuoso study of the history of lakes in Guatemala and Italy. In his hands the jungles of the Maya area are coming remarkably close to the grove at Nemi.

"These are some of the distinctions that have brought Hutchinson the Naumann Medal (and this week the Presidency) of the International Association of Limnology. His work in theoretical and population ecology brought him the Leidy Medal of the Philadelphia Academy in 1955. One or another facet of his career or personality—it is hard for a Yale man to know which—was honored by Princeton University in 1961. But Hutchinson's first honorary degree, and first Doctorate, was the LHD from Lawrence College, 1954. And probably many ecologists, like most other people really know him not as limnologist, biogeochemist, or theoretical ecologist, but literally as Doctor (**Malgre Lui**) of Humane Letters—the prodigiously learned and witty essayist, scientific humanist in the great tradition of Sir Thomas Browne and D'Arcy Thompson. Ecologists are pleased, if somewhat startled, to realize that all human culture, including art, is an aspect of General Ecology. No other ecologist, and certainly no other man of letters, has done so much in our lifetime to make general ecology more general.

"The Ecological Society of America has no Nobel Prize, and would hesitate to administer a golden bough if it had one; but it honors itself and the world of learning by conferring on George Evelyn Hutchinson its Eminent Ecologist Award for 1962."