

Murray F. Buell, President 1962

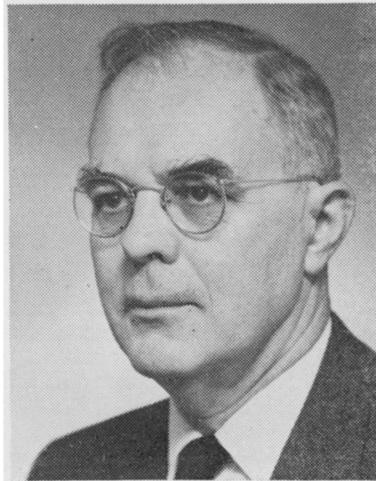
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President Murray F. Buell

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PRESIDENT MURRAY F. BUELL

Our new President is professor of Botany and Director of the William L. Hutchinson Memorial Forest at Rutgers University. Born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1906, he grew up in the New England states and received his Bachelor's degree from Cornell University in 1930. His advanced degrees were received from the University of Minnesota, completing the M. A. in 1934 and the Ph. D. in 1935. Although his research was in the field of developmental morphology, the teaching of Dr. W. S. Cooper helped to stimulate an interest that has guided his research and teaching since leaving Minnesota. While a graduate student he married Helen Foot who completed her Doctor's degree in Algology at Minnesota. They have collaborated in a number of enterprises including several publications and the raising of two talented children.

Murray began his professional career at North Carolina State College in 1935. As instructor and later Assistant Professor, he initiated his research in ecology specializing in the vegetation and paleoecology of bogs. His published work on peat formation, fossil pollen and succession in the "Carolina Bays" as well as that on surface level fluctuations of Cedar Creek Bog in Minnesota were carried out during this period. In 1946 he accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Botany at Rutgers University and attained the rank of Professor in 1956. Between 1937 and 1959 he served many summers on the staff of the University of Minnesota Biological Station. His interest in the vegetations of Minnesota and New Jersey has materialized as publications on the prairie-forest margin, the conifer-hardwoods tension zone, effects of fire on and the hydrology of the New Jersey Pine Barrens and many other topics. His list of publications includes over 50 titles.

A dedicated conservationist, he has been instrumental in the setting aside of several important research preserves, one being the Wm. L. Hutchinson Memorial Forest which was chosen by Life Magazine to represent the "Woods of Home" in the series "The World We Live In".

As a teacher Murray Buell has few peers. A steady stream of undergraduate students has been flowing to graduate schools over the country as a result of stimulation derived from the ecology and geocology courses initiated at Rutgers by him. Graduate students who received their advanced training there are sprinkled liberally over the country with a wide variety of research interests but uniformly showing the mark of this stimulating professor.

Other facets of this productive scientist are his contributions to professional and governmental organizations. Examples are: Associate Editor of *ECOLOGY* 1948-50; Secretary, Ecological Society 1950-53; Vice-president 1954-55; Associate Editor of *ECOLOGICAL MONOGRAPHS* 1953-56; Editor of *TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB MEMOIRS* 1958—; Editorial Board *TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB BULLETIN* 1951 - ; President, Torrey Botanical Club 1954; Council Member of Nature Conservancy 1960-62; AAAS Council 1953-56; and N.S.F. Panel on Environmental Biology 1955-58.

Although quiet both by nature and his early New England training, Murray Buell has a lively sense of humor, a personal warmth and a deep and understanding interest in people that make for warm and lasting friendships. I feel privileged to welcome our new President and take pleasure in introducing him to those members who have not already met him.

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