
EDWIN BOOTH POWERS, 1880-1949

Dr. Edwin Booth Powers, a former president of the Ecological Society, died very suddenly at his home on August 25, 1949. He had been in good health until the moment of his death, caused by coronary thrombosis.

He was born on August 6, 1880, in Ellis County, Texas, the son of William Wilson and

Evaline Woods Powers. In 1918 he married Pauline Watkins; they had two children, William W. Powers, now of Philadelphia, and Edwine, now Mrs. Williston Cox of Louisville, Tennessee. His widow and children survive him.

He graduated from Trinity College, Texas,

in 1906. In 1913 he received the Master of Science degree from the University of Chicago and in 1918 the Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Illinois. In between the times engaged in graduate study, he taught in high schools and later in his alma mater, Trinity College. After receiving his doctor's degree, he taught successively at Colorado College, the University of Nebraska, and The University of Tennessee. In 1925 he was appointed head of the Department of Zoology at The University of Tennessee, a position he held until 1947 when he retired from teaching and administrative work to full-time research. Several of his summers were passed at the Puget Sound Biological Station, the Franz Theodore Stone Laboratory, and similar institutions.

In 1948 he prepared a list of his publications which serves well to illustrate where lay his research interests. The list numbers sixty-one titles; by far the majority deal with these topics: oxygen and carbon dioxide tensions in both fresh and salt water, the respiration of fishes, migration of salmon, and causes of fish mortality. The largest number of titles concern the respiration of fishes. The tenacity of his re-

search interest is indicated by the fact that he published papers in each of the four topics mentioned above throughout the approximately twenty years of his active publication. His interests, however, were not limited to these topics; one published note is on the behavior of a mammal, another on birds.

At The University of Tennessee he taught courses in physiology and in field zoology, the latter being primarily a course in animal ecology. Further evidences of his interest in ecology are his memberships in the Ecological Society of America and in the Limnological Society of America, as well as in several other scientific societies. He was president of the Ecological Society of America for the year 1933-34, Associate Editor of *ECOLOGY* from 1925 to 1930, and Associate Editor of *Ecological Monographs* from 1935 to 1939.

An outstanding characteristic of Dr. Powers was his diligence and capacity for hard work. He was at his desk working on a manuscript when he died.

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