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DOCTOR AARON JOHN SHARP



NEW PRESIDENT OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Jack Sharp was born near Plain City, Ohio, on July 29, 1904. His early education was in the schools of this region and his college training (A.B., 1927) in Ohio Wesleyan University which school later (1952) was to confer upon him the Honorary Doctor of Science degree. The high quality of Sharp's scholastic record, especially in botany, enabled him to secure a graduate assistantship at the University of Oklahoma which granted him an M.S. degree in 1929. Several summers were spent studying at the University of Michigan, the Cold Spring Harbor Biological Laboratory, Yale University, and the Mountain Lake Biological Station of the University of Virginia. The studies at the Ohio State University resulted in the earning of the Ph.D. degree in 1938.

Just about the time that Aaron John Sharp was completing his work for the master's degree at the University of Oklahoma with a problem dealing with the Bryophytes of Oklahoma, the University of Tennessee was looking for a bright young bryologist to teach in their department of botany and to investigate the mosses and liverworts of eastern Tennessee. And so Professor Sharp came to Tennessee as instructor in botany at the University. Dr. Sharp has filled this position so successfully that he has been gradually raised in rank until he is now Professor of Botany and Head of the Department of Botany. The large amount of research done by him is indicated by a bibliography of his writing (through 1951) which lists 73 articles. The research interests of Dr. Sharp have been mainly in the field of taxonomy of the bryophytes. However, in recent years his studies of the flora of Mexico and of Guatemala, made while on a Guggenheim Fellowship (1944-1946) have attracted much attention. Currently, he and the other botanists at the University of Tennessee are working on a flora for all of Tennessee.

Dr. Sharp has been interested and active in more than twenty scientific organizations. In some of these organizations he has been an officer as follows: past president, American Bryological Society; past secretary and past president, Southern Appalachian Botanical Club; past vice president, Tennessee Academy of Science.

On July 25, 1929, Jack Sharp married Evelyn Bunch of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. They have five children: Rosa Sharp Brown, age 22; Katharine, age 19; Mary Martha, age 15; Fred P., age 12; and Jennie Lou, age 10.

ISABEL HANSON TIPTON, NEW SECRETARY OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Isabel Hanson Tipton was born at Monroe, Georgia, on June 17, 1909. She attended The University of Georgia at Athens, receiving