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Doctor Arlo Irving Smith

**DOCTOR ARLO IRVING SMITH, 1958 President of The
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Dr. Arlo Irving Smith was born July 23, 1911, at Fort Smith, Arkansas. He received his early education at Fort Smith and Conway, Arkansas, where his father moved so his last two sons would have a better opportunity to attend Hendrix College. Both sons did attend and chose a career in college biology teaching.

After graduating from Hendrix College in 1932 Arlo went back for another year as a laboratory assistant. He then accepted a botany teaching assistantship at Northwestern University and while there was awarded the Marcy Scholarship in Biology which enabled him to study marine algae for a summer at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. His master's thesis at Northwestern was on "the Origin of Adventitious Roots in Stem Cuttings of *Begonia maculata*".

Still interested in algae, he accepted a teaching assistantship in 1935 at the University of Washington, Seattle, where he studied cryptogamic botany under Dr. Theodore C. Frye. His Ph.D. thesis was "a Comparative Histology of the Laminariales". Since receiving his Ph.D. in 1938 he has taught at McMurry College, Abilene, Texas, Texas Technological College at Lubbock, and at Southwestern at Memphis where he is Professor of Biology. From 1942 to 1945 he served as Training Officer and Director of the Synthetic Devices Section for the Army Air Forces Flexible Gunnery Training School at Harlingen, Texas.

While at the University of Washington, he married Noreen McDonald, a botany major who completed her next degree in Librarianship while her husband finished his thesis. They have three children, Gerald, Lynn, and Pamela in grades 11, 7, and 5, and all belonging to the Tennessee Ornithological Society in which they are active participants along with their mother. Mrs. Smith has been a seed analyst for six years but last year returned to her first love and is now Circulation Librarian at Southwestern.

Dr. Smith has done research in lake plankton, plant morphology and biological photography. His current activities include directing the Southwestern Arboretum organized in 1956, working with public school science teachers in their in-service training, and giving talks to, and being horticulture judge for, several Memphis Garden Clubs.

Dr. Smith was president of the West Texas Division of the Texas Academy of Science in 1940; secretary in 1950, 1951, and president-elect in 1957 of the Tennessee Academy of Science; is a fellow in the AAAS, and a member of many other professional organizations. He was president of the Memphis Sigma Xi Club and charter member of the University of Tennessee Medical Units Chapter of the Sigma Xi.

His hobbies include golf, bowling, nature photography, and civic club activities in which he has held several offices.