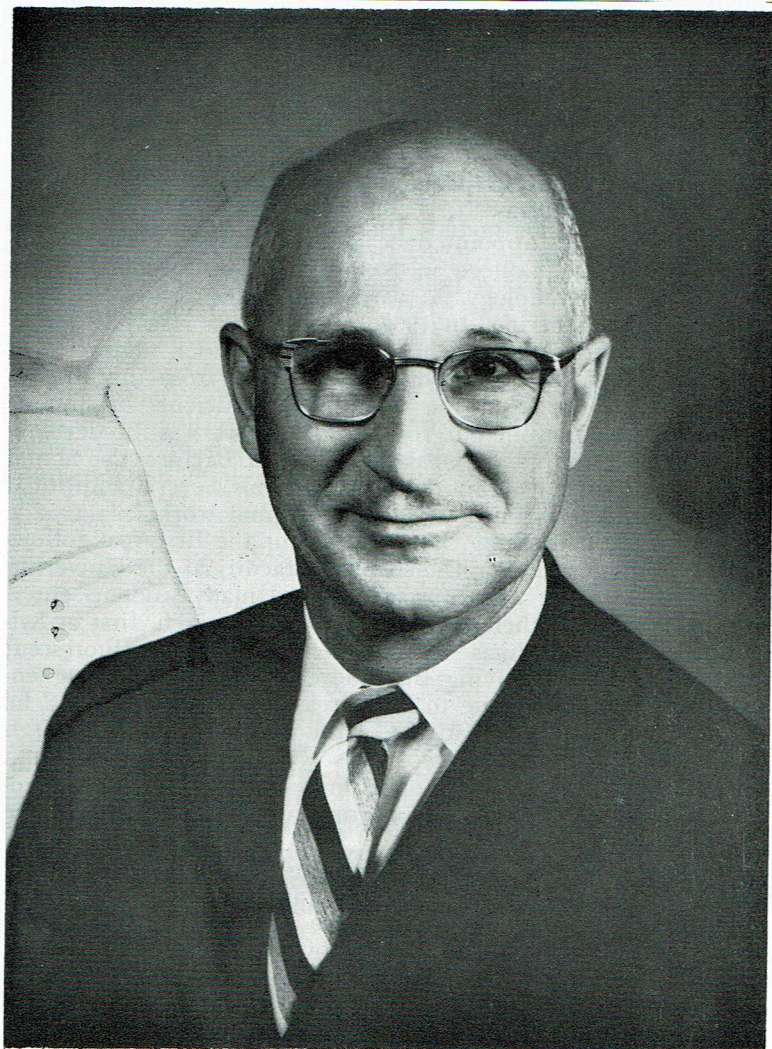


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DOCTOR CHRISTOPHER P. KEIM

DOCTOR CHRISTOPHER P. KEIM, 1960 PRESIDENT OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Christopher P. Keim was born April 6, 1906, in Tecumseh, Nebraska, and received his early education there. He was graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a major in mathematics, having been active in many campus activities. After one year at the University of Pittsburgh as a graduate assistant in physics, he spent three years in communications engineering. At the same time, he completed an M. Sc. degree in 1932 at the University of Nebraska with emphasis in physics and electrical engineering. His thesis dealt with the sparking potentials of metals in hydrogen gas.

In 1933 he was appointed head of the physical sciences department at York College in Nebraska where he pursued investigations in seismology. At various intervals he also engaged in highway engineering. In 1937 he received a research fellowship in chemistry at the University of Nebraska, and in 1940 he received his Ph. D. in physical chemistry from this institution. His thesis was on the spreading coefficients of organic materials on water; one outgrowth of this work was the development of a technique of measuring with a balance the actual spreading coefficients of monomolecular films. Several additional research projects stemmed from this original work.

Interested in teaching, Dr. Keim spent the first year following his graduate study on the chemistry faculty at the University of Tulsa. With the war approaching and many students entering the service, he then entered industrial research, first at Sylvania Electric Products in the development of fluorescent lamps. A patent involving the fluorescent surface coating enabled the production rate to be increased four-fold. In 1942 he was invited to Mellon Institute of the University of Pittsburgh where he remained only two years when Tennessee Eastman Corporation gave him the opportunity of entering the electromagnetic isotope separations program at Oak Ridge. He came to Oak Ridge February 4, 1944.

In late 1945 he was one of those instrumental in beginning a ten-year program of separating the approximately 260 stable isotopes of about sixty elements. These isotopes have contributed to nuclear physics research, the discovery and identification of new radioisotopes, and similar information. Dr. Keim has attended two international conferences in isotope separations, one in England and one in Holland. He has visited many laboratories in Europe. The stable isotopes program has resulted in the publication of hundreds of scientific papers by many users of these isotopes.

In 1957 Dr. Keim became director of a new technical information division at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Included in this division are the libraries, central files, graphic arts, report reproduction, and technical editing. Dr. Keim is host to several hundred foreign scientists who visit Oak Ridge each year. At Christmas he receives greetings from every corner of the globe.

Dr. Keim is a member of Sigma Xi, RESA, the American Nuclear Society, the American Physics Society, the American Chemical Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He received the honorary D.Sc. from Nebraska Wesleyan in 1959.

In community activities he is president of the Board of Trustees of The Oak Ridge Hospital, secretary of the Oak Ridge Utilities District, and a director of Management Services, Inc. He was chairman of the committee which constructed the First Methodist Church in Oak Ridge and is past chairman of the Community Chest.

While in college Dr. Keim met Lucille Parli whom he married in 1929. They are the proud parents of Virginia Ann, age 17, and Robert Christopher, age 12. As a family they provide a foursome at golf; they also hike in the Smokies and boat on the lakes. Mrs. Keim has her own career—in banking—which she follows as her home duties permit.

NEWS OF TENNESSEE SCIENCE

Dr. L. R. Hesler, Dean Emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Tennessee, is the author of a new book, **MUSHROOMS OF THE GREAT SMOKIES**, which is being published by the University of Tennessee Press. The book, which will be of interest to the layman as well as the biologist, deals with the common and less common, but interesting species of mushrooms in the Great Smoky Mountains and contains approximately 200 black and white illustrations. The book will be available in July, 1960.

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