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## In Memoriam

### RALPH VANDERWORT BANGHAM, 1895–1966

The council notes with regret the passing of Dr. Ralph Vanderwort Bangham who died at his home in Wooster, Ohio, on 26 February 1966 at the age of 71. Dr. Bangham was one of the pioneers in the field of fish parasitology in the United States.

He took his A.B. degree at Wilmington College, Ohio in 1915, his B.S. and A.M. at Haverford College in 1916 and 1917, respectively. He was granted the Ph.D. in parasitology under the late Dr. Raymond C. Osburn at Ohio State University in 1923. His teaching career began at Haverford College, Pennsylvania where he was an assistant in biology, 1916–17 and instructor, 1917–18. He served as professor at the Agriculture and Mechanical College of Texas, 1918–19; and as Assistant Professor of Anatomy at Baylor University Medical School, 1919–22. He then moved to Wooster College as assistant professor and rose to professor in 1924, head of the department in 1926, and Danforth professor in 1963 when he became Emeritus. He was visiting professor at Winthrop College, 1963–64; Southwestern at Memphis, 1964–65, and Southern Illinois University the summer of 1965.

Dr. Bangham's main research consisted of a survey of freshwater fish parasites in many parts of the United States and Canada.

In 1925 he reported on the parasites of black bass in Ohio; 2 years later he reported on the diseases of fish in Ohio hatcheries. Further studies included the parasites of bait minnows (1929), parasites of bass (1933), fish parasites of Lake Erie (1932, 1933, 1936, 1939), parasites of fishes of Florida (1939, 1940, 1941), parasites of fishes of Ohio (1937, 1941, 1948, 1952), parasites of fishes of Algonquin Park, Ontario (1941, 1946), parasites of Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee (1942), parasites of Wisconsin fishes (1944, 1945), parasites of fishes in Wyoming (1951), parasites of freshwater fishes of British Columbia (1954), and parasites of Lake Huron (Ontario) fishes (1955). In press is a resurvey of the parasites of fishes of Lake Erie.

During the summers Dr. Bangham was associated with many laboratories in the course of his fish parasite survey work: He was parasitologist for the Ohio Division of Conservation Lake and Stream Survey and a member of the Ohio Biological Survey Board. He was associated with the Ontario Fisheries Laboratory, University of Toronto (1938, 1941, 1942); Stone Laboratory, Put-in-Bay, Ohio State University (1939, 1957); University of Wisconsin (1943–48); Jackson Hole Wyoming Biological Station (1949, 1950); University of British Columbia (1953, 1954); Institute of Biology, University of Wyoming (1955); and in 1957 he taught the course in parasitology at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory at Gothic, Colorado.

In collaboration with Dr. G. W. Hunter, III, Dr. C. E. Venard, Dr. W. M. Tidd, and the late Dr. H. J. VanCleave he described four new species of acanthocephala, three new trematodes, two new cestodes, two new parasitic copepods, one new nematode, and one new pentastomid.

As long ago as 1927 at the annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society Dr. Bangham recommended that black bass, infected with the dangerous bass tapeworm, not be used for distribution by state fisheries personnel; this is still one of the best procedures in dealing with the control of the bass tapeworm.

From 1929 to 1953 44 scientists, headed by the late Dr. V. A. Dogiel, in the USSR made fish parasite surveys on 66 bodies of water. Dr. Bangham must have been aware of their extensive work, because it would appear that he, practically alone, tried to keep up with all 44 Russians. His work does make it possible to establish some preliminary comparisons of our fish parasites with those of Russia. His pioneering work in the field of fish parasitology will long be remembered. He was a charter member of the American Society of Parasitologists and a member of Council (1959–62). The Society has lost a valued member.

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