

a considerable time. It was during this period that he was Editor and Publisher of "The Plant World", and, in addition to the research papers and general articles that he has written, produced his works "Botany in the Teaching of Biology in the Secondary Schools", "Comparative Embryology of the Rubiaceae", and "Physiology of Stomata"; he also found time to accompany the New York Botanical Garden Expedition to Dominica (British West Indies, 1903).

In 1906 he was appointed Investigator at the Carnegie Institute of Washington, in the Desert Laboratory, proceeding the following year to the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station; he was also appointed Director of the Department of Investigation of the Continental-Mexican Rubber Company. The following year (1908), still gaining experience, he moved on again, this time to be Professor of Botany at Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Whilst here he published "Guayule, a Rubber Plant of the Chihuahuan Desert". It was from there that he went, in 1912, to McGill University to take the Macdonald Chair of Botany, and, possibly wishing to study moss, and aware that rolling stones do not gather it, he has been there ever since, at any rate officially. Actually he has always been a traveller, and was wandering as far afield, for example, as Java, Sumatra and Malaya in 1919.

It would take too long to enumerate his Societies; probably a distinction that speaks more than any other for his recognised position in the world of science was his election to be President of the Botanical Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1933; besides being a Fellow of the British Association, he is Fellow of the American Association, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Fellow of the Linnean Society, and of many other well-known organisations; and he is known to many younger students as an author of the text book "Elementary Course in General Physiology" (Lloyd and Scarth, 1930). He is now Consultant to the United States Rubber Company.

He married, in 1903, Mary Elizabeth Hart, of Northfield, Mass., U.S.A., and has two sons. Mrs. Lloyd is accompanying him on this voyage, so they will celebrate their wedding day (May 18th) in Hobart. (Hobart scientists please note.)

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## Professor F. E. Lloyd: An Appreciation

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IN being afforded an opportunity of attending a series of lectures by such a renowned figure in the botanical world as Emeritus Professor F. E. Lloyd, biologists in general, and botanists in particular, are indeed fortunate.

Professor Lloyd recently retired from the Chair of Botany in the McGill University, Montreal, and, accompanied by his wife, is shortly to realise his long cherished project of a visit to Australia where, *inter alia*, he proposes to pursue investigations which will result in additions to his already extensive list of research publications.

At present he is engaged on a world tour, and has already left Britain and South Africa in his wake. His arrival in Sydney is timed for mid-April, and there is no doubt that his introduction to the Continent of Australia will be marked by the ready

welcome so generally vouchsafed to distinguished men of science from overseas. His itinerary includes Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth, and his programme is so arranged that he will encounter the Western State decked in all the glory of its spring blooms. While in Sydney he will be afforded an opportunity of studying the more attractive phases of the vegetation of New South Wales, and will visit such outstanding regions as Botany Bay, National Park and the Blue Mountains, including Mount Wilson.

During the past quarter of a century the Professor's steady stream of invaluable contributions to our knowledge of the morphology and physiology of plant life has secured, and preserved for him, a place in the forefront of leading botanists. Of more recent years his investigations into and exposition of the details of the mechanisms possessed by plants—culled from the flora of the world—have attracted very widespread interest and resulted in his being recognised as *facile princeps* of modern researchers in this most elusive field. His present hope is to add to our knowledge of such mechanisms by making a detailed study of certain forms of insectivorous plants peculiar to Australia. For this purpose Western Australia will be his most prolific field.

The signal honour of being elected to the presidential chair of the Botanical Section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was accorded him in 1933. Those privileged to be present on that occasion will not readily forget the warm and enthusiastic reception of his scholarly address, which was delivered in a theatre specially procured, firstly to accommodate the huge audience, and secondly to permit of the projection on a suitable screen of his renowned series of cinematograph films depicting the marvellous and varied methods employed by insectivorous plants in the capture and digestion of their prey. The moving pictures exhibited had been prepared by the speaker himself, and the excellence of the illustrations bore striking tribute to his ingenuity, skill and perseverance. In addition, numerous coloured slides of still life betrayed the hand of the expert. Other subjects of outstanding botanical moment, such as the actual movement and transfer of the gametes in the reproduction of Spirogyra, were demonstrated with equal lucidity. Throughout the proceedings the lecturer must have been gratified by the almost continuous ripples of involuntary applause from the entranced concourse. Subsequently Professor Lloyd was invited to lecture in the capital city of Scotland, where scientists, stimulated by reports emanating from English centres of learning, were avid to satisfy their curiosity as to what manner of man this might be. He came and he conquered. Even the placid temperament of the Scot was roused from its traditional calm, and the response evolved was one somewhat unusual in the normally staid and decorous attitude of an Edinburgh audience.

But Professor Lloyd's success is not altogether traceable to his pre-eminence in exposition. He possesses, in addition, something which is hard to define, but none the less real—a stimulating presence. The audience is instinctively poised. His manner is unaffected, though not lacking in mannerisms, while his sly and often unpremeditated interpolation of witty and humorous remarks causes bursts of merriment.

Professor Lloyd's matter, original methods, genial manner and inspiring personality must make a profound impression on Sydney audiences.