
In Memoriam

WILLIAM HENRY TWENHOFEL 1875-1957

We record, with a deep sense of loss, the death of William Henry Twenhofel, an Associate Editor of this Journal since 1935. He succumbed to a brief illness on January 4, 1957, after a long and uncommonly active career as teacher, scientist, and administrator.

Born in humble circumstances on a farm near Covington, Kentucky, he taught in the country and village schools until he could afford to come to Yale where he earned his way and received the degrees of B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in 1908, 1910, and 1912 respectively.

In 1910 he joined the faculty of the University of Kansas where he served as Assistant Professor of Geology and later as Associate Professor, and in 1915 he became State Geologist of Kansas. In 1916 he accepted a call to the University of Wisconsin where he held a professorship in geology for 29 years before his retirement in 1945. During the last five years of his term he served also as Chairman of the Department of Geology. Since retirement he held visiting professorships at Yale, Stanford, and Tulsa Universities, and in 1947 he received the honorary degree of D.Sc. from Louvain University, Belgium.

He was an inspired teacher with the gift of imparting his own enthusiasm to students, many of whom, like the writer were drawn by his magnetism into the geological profession. To a host of friends and former students he came to be known affectionately as "Twen".

He was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and a Vice-President in 1930. He was also a Fellow of the Paleontological Society of which he was Vice-President in 1924 and President in 1930. He was an honorary member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and of the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists of which he was President in 1935. In 1952 he received an honorary award from the Society of Exploration Geophysicists. He was chairman of the Division of Geology of the National Research Council from 1931 to 1934.

His many publications include *The Geology of Anticosti Island*, *Invertebrate Paleontology* (with R. R. Shrock), *Principles of Sedimentation*, and the monumental *Treatise on Sedimentation* of which he was editor and collaborator.

In 1924 Twenhofel organized the Committee on Sedimentation of the National Research Council of which he served as chairman from 1924 to 1931. He was also a moving spirit in launching the Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, and served as its editor from 1933 to 1950. In thus pioneering in, and stimulating the study of sedimentary processes he has earned an enviable position among the leaders of American geology.