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Phycological Literature for 1956 (concluded)
Compiled by P. C. Silva

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Necrology

Dr. Kathleen M. Drew Baker of the University of Manchester died September 14, 1936, in the course of an unusually successful botanical career during which she made many significant contributions to our knowledge of the morphology, cytology, and life histories of red algae. Mrs. Baker was born November 6, 1863, and entered the field of research in which she was later to distinguished herself during the tenure of a Commonwealth Fellowship at the University of California (1905-1907), where she studied under W. A. Satchell and N. L. Sargent. Her first major work, which appeared in 1908 in the University of California Publications in Botany, was a taxonomic study of the marine species of the Nostocaceae Rhodochorton complex of the Pacific coast of North America. In this paper she treated 34 species, of which 21 were newly described and are still accepted. Her work on the cytology of Spermatozoan algae and Rhodochorton has been widely recognized for its significance and is a model of meticulous investigation. In a series of beautifully written papers Mrs. Baker elucidated the problem of the occurrence of polyplontic in R. scoparia and the problem of the occurrence of both tetraploids and sexual organisms on the same plant of R. terrae. She showed that the polyplontic and octoploids are homologous with the tetraploids of other red algae, the only difference being that the spermatophytes of R. scoparia contain several diploid nuclei instead of one. In R. terrae she established the presence of stages with both octoploids and endoploids and diploid plants. The tetraploid plants were discovered by her. She showed that diploid plants produce functional diploid gametes in addition to tetraploids. The absence of tetraploid plants in nature suggests that these cells may not be viable. In Phaeophyceae, in which spermatophytes as well as tetraploids and sexual organisms are known, Mrs. Baker discovered that the plants with polyploidy are homoploidal and that they reproduce by means of tetraploid propagules, which are active as sexual cycle independent of the normal sexual cycle involving the alternation of haploid and diploid plants. The genetic and evolutionary implications of this work excite the imagination and call for further investigation of these plants. Mrs. Baker is perhaps best known for her recent work on the life histories of Rhodogama and Rhodochorton. For discovery that the Rhodochorton shell-building algae known as Chordodesmus is a phase in the life history of Rhodochorton immediately attracted worldwide attention. This discovery is not only of great biological interest but has far-reaching practical applications in these marine animals. "Rhodochorton is extensively cultivated for food, stimulated by Mrs. Baker's work, a large group of investigators are rapidly closing the gap in our knowledge of the life history of this important animal. In recent years Mrs. Baker applied herself with characteristic thoroughness and caution to the unraveling of certain anatomical morphological elements in the red algae. With the unswerving faith of Kathleen Steve Baker, physiologists and a statistician guided colleagues, a productive scholar, and a deeply loved friend.

Hugh F. Hall, Executive Professor of Botany, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, died October 25, 1937. Professor Hall was born in Halifax February 22, 1880, and was educated at Dalhousie and the University of Toronto. In collaboration with C. M. MacFarlane he published a significant study on the marine algae of the Maritime Provinces of Canada. (Can. J. Res. 29: 265-285).

Richard Lee Caylor, Professor of Natural Science at the West Side Teachers College, Cleveland, Mississippi, died recently. Professor Caylor was born at Union Springs, Alabama, January 11, 1889, and was educated at Mississippi College and Western College, at George Washington University, and Louisiana State University. He was a charter member of the American Society of American who was interested in the marine algae of the Gulf coast.

Mr. E. G. Cooper, Curator of the Acta Ceterum at the State Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, died September 26, 1937, thus ending a comensively full life. He was, before his re-
tirement, a noted artist and engineer, and came to this country from his native England in 1909. He interest in the natural sciences came largely through his meeting the late William T. Darrah in 1931. Mr. Cooper will be remembered not only as a careful and highly skilled creator of botanical and entomological collections, but also as a warm and beloved friend. He was keenly interested in the cultivation of alpines and was a charter member of the Physiologi- cal Society of America.


Dr. Herbert Kauffman of Broadway died December 15, 1932. He was especially interested in physiological aspects of algal cultures.

Miss Josephine E. Tilson, Professor of Botany, University of Minnesota, died May 14, 1932, after a year’s illness, at her home near Lake Waba, Florida. She was born in Denmark, Iowa, March 24, 1869, and was edu- cated at the University of Minnesota. She joined the faculty of that university in 1898, holding a professorship from 1931 until her retirement in 1932. Miss Tilson devoted her life to physiology with methodical perseverance and was unusually successful in inspiring and stimulating students during her long teaching career.

Together with Carney MacMillan and other botanical colleagues, Miss Tilson was largely responsible for the founding of the Minnesota Seaside Station at Port Royal, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Much botanical work was carried on at this station and published in its year book, "Pendels" (1902, 1903), and in various journals. Unfor- tunately, this station was discontinued, but Miss Tilson turned her attention to the development of the Lake Itasca fill station. She greatly admired William Henry Harvey, the eminent Irish physi- cotist, and hoped to return to her native land. Toward this goal she made two extensive collecting trips to Australia, New Zealand, and the South Sea islands. On the first trip, 1924-1925, she led a group of ten graduate students overseas toward the宗旨. The expe- dition resulting from Miss Tilson’s trips are especially important in that they in- clude new typepox material. Her text- book, "The algae and their life roles" (1932), provides interesting and informative reading today. Ex- specially sought-provoking are the chap- ters dealing with classification and evolution of algae with particular refer- ence to pigmentation, food reserves, and evolution of the environment. Miss Tilson was keenly interested in physiological biology and prepared a special index, the Index Algarii Universitatis (popularly called the "Tilson Index"), which is of considerable usefulness. In research, her contributions were proportionately smaller. She was especially interested in blue-green algae and published exten- sively on algae group. In the history of American physiology, Josephine E. Tilson was awarded an important, although perhaps somewhat controversial, role.
Professor William Randolph Taylor has received the high honor of being elected a foreign corresponding member of the Institut de France, Académie des Sciences.

Dr. D. K. G. Irvine of Cambridge University will be Research Associate at the University of Illinois for two years, engaged in a project sponsored by the National Science Foundation entitled, "The Preparation of an Index of Scientific Names of Algae: Determination of Magnitude and Procedures." Dr. Irvine will be accompanied by his wife, Linda M. Newton, formerly curator of marine algae at the British Museum (Natural History).

Mr. Koss Inukai of Kanazawa University is at the University of Rhode Island for two years, working with Dr. R. D. Wood on a project sponsored by the National Science Foundation entitled, "Revision of Chlamyde.

A request for collections of epizoic freshwater algae has been made by William C. York, Jr., Department of Botany, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California, and Phillips J. Venable, Department of Botany, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Contributions are requested to send material to either of these investigators in the northern, if possible, and to include systematic identification of the host as well as habitat notes. Likely hosts include gastropods, snails, and turtles.

Preparations are being made for the Physiology Section of the Ninth International Botanical Congress, to be held at Montreal, August 18, 1928.