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## In Memoriam: Thomas Huston Macbride; Henry Fredrick Wickham; Herbert Grant Campbell; Omar E. Lowman; Floyd August Nagler

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**In Memoriam: Thomas Huston Macbride; Henry Fredrick Wickham; Herbert Grant Campbell; Omar E. Lowman; Floyd August Nagler**

**Authors**

B. Shimek, Frank A. Stromsten, T. C. Stephens, R. M. Hixon, F. E. Brown, and S. M. Woodward

## IN MEMORIAM

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THOMAS HUSTON MACBRIDE

1848 - 1934

The passing of Dr. Thomas Huston Macbride at Seattle, Washington, March 27, 1934, removes one of the most outstanding members of that group of naturalists who, on the basis of a broad knowledge of natural history, were able to develop highly specialized fields in which they were

recognized as authorities. In his case the achievement was all the more remarkable because he had no early scientific training. His early preparation and experiences were chiefly in literary and linguistic fields, and they were strongly impressed upon all his subsequent efforts as a public speaker and a writer on various subjects, including those of a scientific character, for no man of his period excelled him in felicity of expression and beauty of diction.

The foundation of his intellectual training was laid largely in the cultured atmosphere of his own home, and in 1864 he entered Lenox College, Hopkinton, Iowa. There he was a student in one of the classes of the late Dr. Samuel Calvin, who was then a student, and also instructor in mathematics, in that college. When in 1869 Mr. Calvin was called to a position in the public schools of Dubuque, Iowa, his former student, the subject of this memorial, took his place as instructor, teaching mathematics and languages, where he remained until 1878. Immediately thereupon (in 1870) Drs. Calvin and Macbride entered upon that series of summer vacation field trips which continued for several years, and which firmly cemented their life-long friendship. These expeditions were devoted to the study of geology, botany and zoology, and gave to both participants that extensive first-hand knowledge in these fields which had such a distinctly broadening influence upon both their teaching and research work.

In this work Dr. Macbride had shown such keen interest and such unusual ability that in 1878 Dr. Calvin, who had become professor of natural history in the State University of Iowa in 1874, secured his appointment as assistant professor in his department. The wisdom of this choice was soon shown. He developed interest and methods in plant histology at a time when the subject was still in its infancy, and was far in advance of his time in applying refined histological methods to plant work; he was one of the pioneers in the study of fungi in the Mississippi Valley, and he soon became a world-authority on slime moulds; he introduced and developed experimental bacteriology in his department several years before it was known in the Medical College of the University; and he was distinctly the father of conservation in Iowa, his paper on County Parks, published in 1896, initiating the campaign which resulted in our present state-park system, while his numerous papers and addresses kept the subject before the people of the state for many years. It is interesting to note that four of the six areas specifically recommended in that first paper have become state parks.

As a teacher Dr. Macbride endeared himself to thousands of students not only because of the charm with which he invested every subject which he presented, but because of the magnetism of his personality, the purity and uprightness of his character, and his kindly and helpful attitude towards all with whom he came in contact. A scholar, a poet, a scientist of unusual ability,—but above all, a man of character, of high ideals and of deep understanding, he was a splendid model for the youth of the state,—of all states,—for more than half a century. Older students of the University especially recall this beloved teacher, with his inseparable life-long friend and associate, Dr. Calvin, as among the finest and most lasting influences of their lives.

As a citizen he was highly respected because of his uniform courtesy and understanding, his intelligent interest in public affairs, and above all, because of his leadership in all efforts pertaining to civic improvement.

The breadth of his interests and sympathies is no doubt attributable largely to his varied pioneer experiences, for his family came to the prairies of Iowa while he was still a small boy. Thomas Huston Macbride was born in Rogersville, Tennessee, July 31, 1848, but his father, a Presbyterian minister, was compelled to leave the South because of his abolition sentiments, and the family moved to Iowa several years before the Civil War (about 1854), locating first near Salem, and later in New London, Henry County; then in Cedar Rapids when that city was still a village; and finally in Princeton, Scott County. On December 31, 1875, he married one of his former Lenox College students, Miss Harriet Diffenderfer, who preceded him in death May 28, 1927. Two children survive, Philip D. and Jean, — both of Seattle, Washington.

The direct participation in the hardships and uncertainties of pioneer life no doubt stimulated and developed that deep sympathy for the struggling man which so strongly characterized him; and his contacts with the State when it was still largely undefiled by man inspired that love of its natural conditions which was the source and inspiration of his conservation activities.

His most widely known scientific work was in the field of slime moulds, and his monograph of the North American species (1st ed., 1899; 2nd, revised ed., 1922; 3rd. ed., revised with the assistance of Dr. G. W. Martin, in print) is recognized as standard. He described more than a score of new species of slime moulds, and one new genus, and renamed at least a score of other species. He also named several new species of fossil plants and of fungi.

Honors came to Dr. Macbride, — he was Professor of Botany in the State University for many years, and then President; he was Vice-President (Sec. G) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1904); President of the Iowa Park and Forestry Association (1902-4); President of the Iowa Academy of Science (1897-98); member of the Iowa State Drainage, Waterways and Conservation Commission (1910-11), etc. He was a member of the old Iowa Academy of Science, and was one of the five original signers who called the first meeting for the purpose of organizing the present Academy. He studied at Bonn, and received honorary degrees from Monmouth, Coe, and Lenox Colleges and from the State University of Iowa. Yet all these distinctions seem to be but buoys which mark the crests, for the time being, of some of the waves of greater interest or more conspicuous achievement in a life crowded with activities and rich in unselfish service. His life was consecrated to the University and the State, and its later years were devoted to the development of the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory on West Lake Okoboji, which he founded in 1909, — a station to be dedicated to the scientific solution of many of the problems which directly concern the people of the state.

Some concept may be gained of the breadth of his interests from the partial bibliography of his publications which follows:

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Many of Dr. Macbride's papers and addresses were published privately. In the earliest papers his names appears as "McBride," but he later corrected this. Some other members of the family, however, continued to use the first form.

B. SHIMEK

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HENRY FREDERICK WICKHAM

1866 - 1933

With the passing of Professor Wickham the Iowa Academy of Science lost one of its pioneer members and the University of Iowa one of its oldest teachers. His sudden and untimely death occurred in the early morning hours of November 17, 1933 as the result of cardiac complications induced by a severe attack of asthma. He had been meeting his classes regularly until within about a week of his death.

Professor Henry Frederick Wickham was born at Shrewton, Wiltshire, England, October 26, 1866. He came to this country at the age of five years, and has lived most of his life in and near Iowa City. In early childhood he became interested in insects and his boyhood hobby became his lifelong passion. He entered the University of Iowa in the fall of 1887. The following year he published papers on the Coleoptera found in the

region about Iowa City. He was married to Miss Fannie Chastina Thompson of Independence, Iowa, September 10, 1891. He became a member of the teaching staff in the Department of Zoology under the late Professor Nutting in 1891; received the honorary degree of Master of Science from the University in 1894; and was made Professor of Entomology, and Assistant Curator of the Museum of Natural History in 1903. In 1896 he helped to organize the University of Iowa Bahama Expedition, which both he and his wife accompanied. In addition to his duties in the class room and as assistant curator of the museum, Professor Wickham spent many summers in biological survey work for the Bureau of Entomology in the United States Department of Agriculture. During this time he made an extensive study of the beetles of southwestern United States and Mexico. More recently he has been interested in fossil insects, of which he had a very fine collection which is now being well cared for by the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

While Professor Wickham was deeply interested in his technical research, he enjoyed teaching above all. There are many kinds of teachers, but Professor Wickham had a technique peculiarly his own by which he was able to present his subject in a simple and impressive way so that the average student could easily grasp and retain the important facts. It was a source of great satisfaction and pleasure to him that he was able to come into contact with that large group of students who were especially interested in what was formerly called Natural History for the sheer pleasure of it, or for the every day practical aspects rather than the more technical phases. He was greatly esteemed by his students and his course in "Practical Zoology" became one of the most eagerly sought courses on the campus.

In his prime, Professor Wickham was a very active worker. His papers, chiefly of a technical nature dealing with the Coleoptera, number between 175 and 200. In collaboration with Herbert Osborn, he published a paper in Vol. I of the Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science. His more recent papers deal with the fossil insects which he and others collected from the miocene shales in the region near Florissant, Colorado. His work in this field was so well done that he was soon recognized both at home and abroad and became an authority on fossil beetles.

Professor Wickham was a member of a number of scientific societies. While not a charter member, Professor Wickham became a member of the Iowa Academy of Science within a few years of its organization in its present form and read a number of papers at its earlier meetings. Partial deafness prevented him from taking a very active part in the discussions of the society especially during the later years. Among the other scientific organizations to which he belonged are the following: The American Association for the Advancement of Science; Entomological Society of America; Entomological Society of Ontario; Societe Entomologique de Belgique; Davenport Academy of Science; Entomological Society of Washington; Ottawa Field Naturalist Club; Baconian Club; and Sigma Xi. For many years he has been editor of the University of Iowa Studies in Natural History.

FRANK A. STROMSTEN

A partial list of Professor Wickham's publications follows:

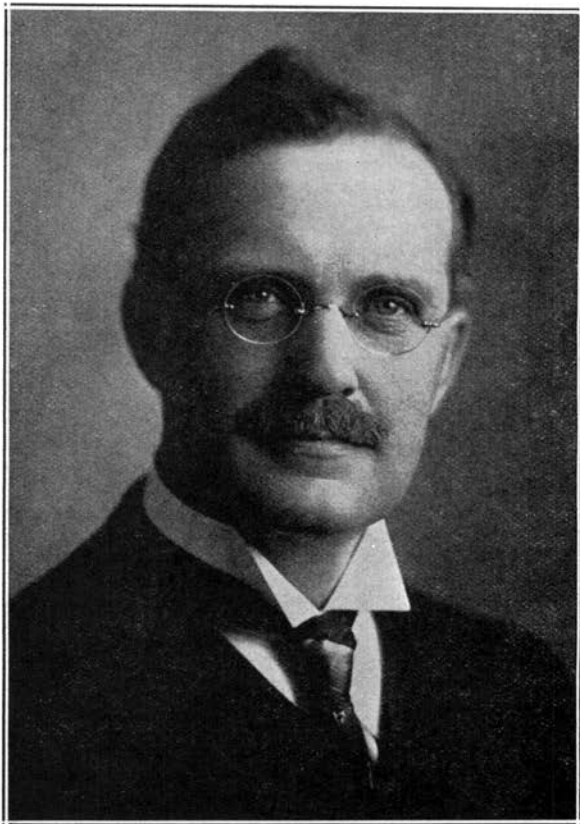
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HERBERT GRANT CAMPBELL

1868 - 1934

Herbert Grant Campbell was born at Hale, Iowa, on December 15, 1868, and died at Des Moines, Iowa, on April 8, 1934. At the time of his death he was professor of Philosophy in Morningside College.

Professor Campbell grew up on an Iowa farm. He attended Epworth Seminary (Iowa), from which he graduated in 1891. He spent the year of

1893-1894 at DePauw University, his sophomore year. The following two years (1894-1896) were spent at Cornell, from which institution he received the Ph.B. in 1896. For one year (1896-1897) he served as Assistant Principal of Epworth Seminary. He then engaged in pastoral work for several years. In 1901 he entered Columbia University and at the close of the school year received the degree of M.A. (1902). He remained at Columbia for two more years (1902-1904) in graduate work, at the same time taking some courses in Union Theological Seminary.

Professor Campbell's graduate work was interrupted by a call to Morningside College. W. S. Lewis, recently made president of the College, had been at the head of Epworth during Campbell's studentship there. When Professor Campbell came to Morningside he was made Vice President and professor of Philosophy. He held the vice presidency for two years, and continued the professorship to the time of his death.

At various times in later years he extended his graduate work. The year of 1910-1911 was spent in Germany, chiefly in mastering the language. The winter semester was spent at the University of Berlin, the spring semester at Heidelberg University. He attended the summer sessions at the University of Iowa in 1921 and the University of Wisconsin in 1931.

Professor Campbell's interests were broad and varied. He was very much interested in the work of the American Association of University Professors, and had developed many ideas concerning reform in college organization and control.

Mr. Campbell was made deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1896, and in 1900 he was made an elder. He held a pastorate at Akron, Iowa, for two years from 1897 to 1899, and from 1899 to 1901 he was located at Sheldon. He was married to Pearl E. Reeder, of Early, Iowa, on September 1, 1897.

One of Professor Campbell's most important activities was the conducting of parties of tourists through Europe. His year in Europe in 1910-1911 laid the foundation for the first tour, which was made in 1914. His party was in Europe at the outbreak of the war. Soon after the war closed, these tours were resumed and continued annually, parties being conducted separately by both Mr. and Mrs. Campbell.

When the United States entered the war both Professor and Mrs. Campbell joined the Y.M.C.A. army service in France (1917-1919). The second year (1918-1919) of this service was spent, however, with the Foyer du Soldat in the French Army, and in recognition of this service he was made Officier de l'Instruction Publique. At the close of the war Professor Campbell served from March to July (1919) in the U. S. Army Educational Corps with the Army of Occupation on the Rhine.

His service overseas opened his eyes to the horrors of war, and undoubtedly the thing uppermost in his mind in later years was the promotion of peace between nations. He was a staunch advocate of the League of Nations and the World Court. Recently he had given much time to the International Relations Club.

He was a member of the American Philosophical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Iowa Academy of Science, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Gamma Mu, and the Masonic Lodge.

T. C. STEPHENS



OMAR E. LOWMAN

1886 - 1934

The death of Dr. Omar E. Lowman on February 10, 1934 removed from active service one who had served both the youth of Iowa and his chosen science of Chemistry, well.

Dr. Lowman was born in West Alexandria, Ohio, on March 21, 1886. There in the public schools where he received his preliminary training, he began his career as a teacher. He received his Baccalaureate degree from Ashland College in 1914 and the degree M.A. from the University of Chicago in 1915. He came to Iowa in 1918 to become the head of the chemistry department at Upper Iowa University. At Fayette, Dr. Lowman was active in work with the Boy Scouts and in all of the activities of the student body. His desire for more knowledge in science brought him to Iowa State College in 1923. Very soon he was recognized as an exceptional teacher of beginners in chemistry. In 1930 he received the degree Ph.D. in chemistry. His researches were in food and sanitary chemistry. Since 1930, he has continued his work in food and sanitary chemistry and had begun work on soaps and solubilities of slightly soluble substances. All of his research was done carefully and with full appreciation of the significance of the problem under consideration.

Dr. Lowman was a scientist, but his interest in people and especially in young people was the controlling force in his life. His active interest in hunting, camping, sports and student activities enabled him to meet students on their own ground. When the counselor system was established at Iowa State College he became counselor for the men of the Industrial Science Division. During his later years at Iowa State College he conferred with the hundreds of men who have been enrolled in this division, taught the beginning chemistry to those who were majoring in science and carried on his experiments.

Late on Saturday afternoon at the close of a busy week, he was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage and passed away within a few hours. His duties were numerous, his work was heavy, his going was sudden and without warning, but his work and his records were such that successors could carry forward his duties without any more confusion than comes from a change of personnel at any time.

His marriage to Lulu Motter occurred in 1907. His widow, his father and a brother survive him.

R. M. HIXON  
F. E. BROWN



FLOYD AUGUST NAGLER  
1892 — 1933

Floyd August Nagler, professor of hydraulic engineering at the State University of Iowa, died in Iowa City, Iowa, on November 10, 1933. Death came from complications following an emergency operation, on October 6, for a ruptured appendix.

Professor Nagler was born on January 11, 1892, in Howard City, Michigan, and prepared for college in the public schools of Jackson, Michigan. After receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Michigan State College in 1914, he spent three years in graduate work at the University of Michigan, and received from that institution the degree

of Master of Science in Engineering in 1915, and that of Doctor of Philosophy (in hydraulic engineering) in 1917. While a graduate student, he served for a year as a teaching assistant in civil engineering.

After leaving Michigan in June, 1917, Mr. Nagler was with the consulting engineering organization of Robert E. Horton of Albany, New York, as an assistant engineer in charge of field and office work, until September, 1920, except for the last nine months of 1918, when he served as a second lieutenant with the Meteorological Section of the Science and Research Division of the United States Army.

Coming to the University of Iowa in the fall of 1920 as assistant professor of mechanics and hydraulics, he was promoted to associate professor in 1922, and to professor of hydraulic engineering in 1927. Before his coming to Iowa there had been comparatively little graduate study in engineering at the State University. Professor Nagler set to work at once with his characteristic enthusiasm and tireless energy to develop advanced work in hydraulic engineering and particularly to utilize the unique opportunities existing on the Iowa River, flowing through the University campus, for the development of experimental hydraulic laboratory work.

Professor Nagler was a most inspiring teacher, one who made a deep impression on all his students and imparted to them an enthusiasm for their work as well as the highest technical and social ideals. During his years in Iowa some fifty graduate students worked under his immediate charge. Without exception they all became deeply attached to him personally. They came not only from all parts of this country, but also from Hawaii, China, India, Turkey, and Germany. Those from foreign lands have returned to their own countries; our native students are now at work scattered throughout this country from New England to California and Alaska, from North Dakota to Louisiana, so that we may truly say that the influence of Professor Nagler's teaching has become world wide.

When Professor Nagler came to Iowa the hydraulic laboratory on the river bank was a small building about 20 feet square and one story high. He at once took charge of the laboratory and immediately set out to expand its facilities, with the result that, due chiefly to his individual efforts, the laboratory since 1920 has twice been almost entirely rebuilt. The present structure, completed in 1933, is 160 feet long and five stories high, exclusive of the extensive tanks and canals along the river bank below the street level. This outstanding development may be attributed almost entirely to Professor Nagler's labors. It was only through his zeal, industry, persistence, resourcefulness, and skill that seemingly insuperable obstacles were overcome. As a recognition of his achievements, when the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research was organized at the University in November, 1931, to act as an agency for coöperative efforts in hydraulic investigations, he was appointed its first director.

The present hydraulic laboratory will stand as an enduring monument to his restless energy, his outstanding ability, his enthusiasm and determination. It is gratifying that he lived to see in the completion of the structure the fulfillment of a long cherished ambition, even though he was not spared to carry on therein his further fruitful labors.

Professor Nagler's work was never confined to the limits of the campus. As a consulting engineer he served many interests, public and private, throughout the state. He worked at times for the United States government

on various projects, for the city of Ottumwa on the rebuilding and enlargement of the city's hydroelectric plant on the Des Moines river, for the city of Boone on the studies and design necessary for the reconstruction of the city's dam on the Des Moines river destroyed in 1933, for the city of Des Moines on examinations and studies in connection with the protection of Walnut Wood state park.

In 1928, the Rock Island district of the U. S. Engineer Corps began the preparation of a comprehensive report dealing with flood control, navigation, and water power on the Mississippi river and its tributaries in this district. Professor Nagler was engaged to take charge of the necessary field studies and surveys and the preparation of the report. For three years he devoted a large amount of his time to this work. The first portion printed, the report dealing with the Iowa river, served as a model for similar reports on the other streams of the country. Mr. Nagler organized the field parties and the office force. After the necessary data had been prepared the actual writing of the reports was done largely by himself. The different streams covered in these reports include the Des Moines, Iowa, Boone, Skunk, Raccoon, Rock, Turkey, Wapsipinicon, and Maquoketa rivers. Each report included a description of the drainage area, a compilation of all existing information relating to its precipitation, stream flow, lakes, floods, flow regulation by storage, water power development, and navigation, together with plans and recommendations regarding additional future developments.

Following the solution by Professor Nagler of difficult flood problems on the Des Moines river at Ottumwa and on Mill Creek at Milan, Illinois, by means of laboratory experiments on models of the proposed remedial construction, the officers of the U. S. Engineer Corps became much interested in this method of attack on hydraulic problems. This has led to the assignment by the Army Engineers of a large staff of workers on model studies at the University hydraulic laboratory.

In the preparation of the Iowa Twenty-five Year Conservation Plan and the subsequent work of the Iowa State Board of Conservation and the Iowa State Fish and Game Commission, Professor Nagler was of great assistance in all matters relating to hydrology and hydraulic construction, such as rainfall and runoff, evaporation and transpiration, drainage, embankment and spillway construction. He assisted in planning for the improvement of numerous natural lakes and streams as well as for the creation of many artificial lakes. As consultant he helped in starting the following state projects: dam on Pee Dee Creek near Bunch, Davis County; dam on Maquoketa River, Backbone state park; dam at Lake Keomah, Mahaska County; Mill Creek dam, Johnson County. By means of negotiations with various public and private agencies he succeeded in having stream measurements throughout Iowa resumed by the U. S. Geological Survey after a lapse of several years. These various items mentioned above serve to indicate the extensive, varied, and widespread nature of Professor Nagler's public activities throughout the state.

Professor Nagler had published many papers in various engineering journals. He was a member of the New England Water Works Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Meteorological Society, American Water Works Association, Iowa Engineering Society, Iowa Academy of Science, American Geophysical Union, American Society of Civil Engineers (president, Iowa section, 1932), and Society for

Promotion of Engineering Education. He was also a member of the honorary societies: Tau Beta Pi, Sigma Xi (president, Iowa chapter, 1930-31).

Professor Nagler is survived by his widow, Marion Dell Truax, whom he married in 1921, and three children, Robert Carlton, Phyllis Jane, and Donald Floyd.

He was prominent in student and city activities, a member of the Methodist Church and the Kiwanis Club.

S. M. WOODWARD