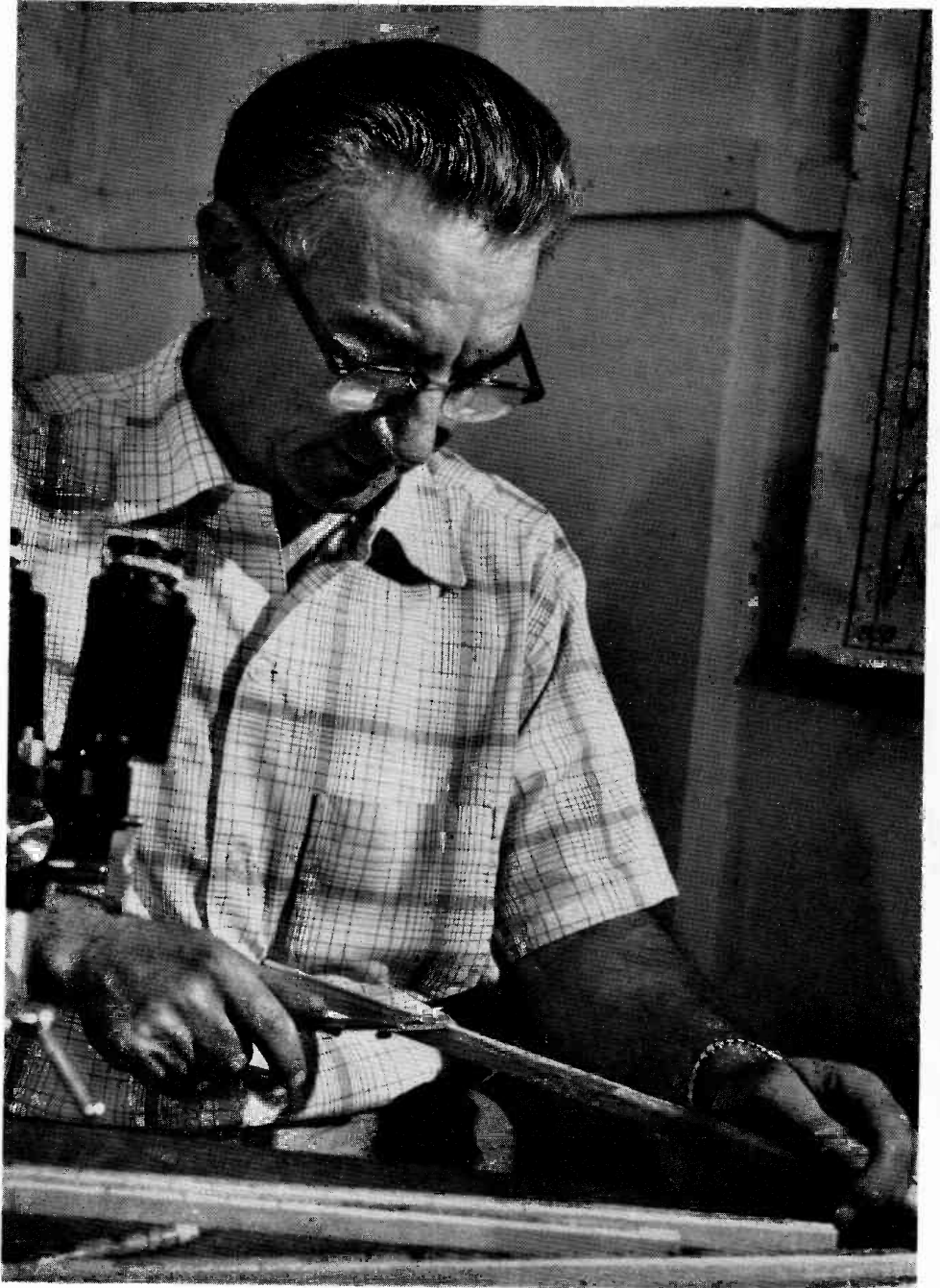


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THE TREE-RING SOCIETY A. E. Douglass, President
THE TREE-RING BULLETIN Edmund Schulman, Managing Editor
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EDMUND SCHULMAN 1908-1958

Edmund Schulman, associate professor of dendrochronology and managing editor of the *Tree-Ring Bulletin*, was stricken with a fatal heart attack on the University of Arizona campus, January 8, 1958. On the day of his death he was actively engaged, with characteristic energy and devotion, in matters of research. Although only forty-nine years of age, Edmund had established himself as an outstanding figure in his chosen field, and the deep sense of personal loss felt at his passing is compounded by the realization that perhaps his most definitive scientific contributions were yet to be made.

Edmund Schulman was born July 19, 1908 in Brooklyn, New York. He received his early schooling there and later attended New York University and Brooklyn College during the years 1927-1930. Following a year spent at Arizona State Teachers College at Flagstaff, Arizona, he came to the University of Arizona in 1932. As an assistant to Dr. A. E. Douglass, he received his first contact with dendrochronology and aided in the development of the methods of tree-ring analysis. He was named assistant astronomer at the University's Steward Observatory in 1933 and earned the Bachelor of Science degree that year. Continuing his studies at the University of Arizona, he earned the Master of Science degree in 1935. He was encouraged to pursue his major interest in dendroclimatic work by the award of a continuing fellowship from the Carnegie Institution of Washington through the years 1934 to 1937.

A desire to broaden his academic background and to improve his effectiveness as a research scholar prompted him to enroll at Harvard University for graduate work, and he received the Master of Arts degree there in 1938. He was appointed a fellow in Harvard's Blue Hill Observatory for the years 1938 and 1939. His publications during that period indicate his strong interest in astronomy, mathematics, statistics, and cycle analysis, an interest which was to have a profound effect upon his researches in later years.

In 1939, Edmund returned to the University of Arizona where he was appointed Instructor in Dendrochronology and Assistant in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research. It was at this time that he became managing editor of the *Tree-Ring Bulletin* and an officer in the Tree-Ring Society. He was named Dendrochronologist in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research in 1941, the title he retained until his death. He returned to Harvard University in 1942, and, after serving as a Harvard Fellow for two years, the Doctor of Philosophy degree (in climatology) was conferred upon him in 1944. Returning to the University of Arizona, he was appointed Assistant Professor in 1945 and Associate Professor in 1947. During the years 1953-1954, Edmund was invited to serve as a Visiting Professor of Dendrochronology at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

Indicative of Edmund's character was the high esteem in which he was held by his scientific colleagues throughout this country and abroad. The grants he received for his climatological studies reflect his eminent position as a research scientist and his membership in scientific societies such as the American Astronomical Society, the American Geophysical Union, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the

American Meteorological Society, the Society of the Sigma Xi, the American Geographical Society, and the Tree-Ring Society attest both to his varied interests and to his professional standing.

Edmund's contributions to the science of dendrochronology are known to all students of tree-ring analysis. The results of his studies appeared in many professional journals and his monographic studies on the dendroclimatology of semiarid America will stand as basic contributions. His influence on the development of tree-ring analysis, through work by himself and in conjunction with Douglass, has been of importance in shaping the methodology used today in tree-ring work. The inspiration derived from his pioneering efforts in dendroclimatology will undoubtedly influence the course of much of the future research in this field.

Many of his contributions are so basic and fundamental that it is impossible to attempt to single out a particular one, yet his outstandingly successful search of western North America for long-lived trees containing "sensitive" and "faithful" tree-ring records must be mentioned. His search, while producing long, homogeneous records for many parts of the west, culminated in the spectacular discovery of the age of the bristlecone pine of east-central California, several of which contain more than 4500 annual rings, and hence are shown to be the world's oldest known living things. These discoveries brought considerable distinction to Edmund and to the University of Arizona.

Throughout his professional life Edmund Schulman was characterized by extraordinary devotion to his work. His writings show remarkable attention to detail and his insistence upon accuracy and precision was reflected in all phases of his research. Justly, his reputation as a scientist extended far beyond the limits of his own speciality. The pages of this Bulletin over the last two decades might well stand as a fitting tribute to his productive, but tragically interrupted, career.

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