IN MEMORIAM

JOHN EMERSON DAVIS

Dr. John Emerson Davis, Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology, died November 2, 1975, after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Unni Dorothy Davis, his daughter, Barbara Jean (Mrs. Peter Nustad) and two grandchildren. His retirement in 1973 terminated twenty-two years of teaching at the University of Texas at Austin.

Born January 1, 1907 in Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Davis received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Oberlin College in 1930 with majors in zoology and chemistry. After earning an M. S. degree at the University of Michigan, he attended the University of Chicago from 1931 to 1936 and earned the Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in physiology. His supervisory professor was the noted scientist, Dr. A. J. Carlson.

An interest in drug action led to appointments for Dr. Davis in several medical schools as a member of the Pharmacology Department. He taught at the Medical College of Virginia (1935-37), the University of Alabama (1937-38), the University of Vermont (1938-42), and the University of Arkansas (1942-51). There he served as Acting Head of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology (1945) and as Professor of Pharmacology (1945-51). In 1951, John accepted an appointment as Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Texas at Austin in the College of Pharmacy and served with distinction until his retirement in 1973. He was named Professor Emeritus following the unanimous recommendation of the Budget Council and faculty of the College of Pharmacy. He had served also as a Lecturer at the Galveston Medical Branch (1952-61), presenting
lectures on his own research contributions to each medical class.

John was a diligent research worker. His work was reported in more than 80 published papers. He was quoted in current textbooks of Pharmacology and was internationally known for his research contributions. Early, he contributed to the knowledge concerning physical training and related physiological effects. The major part of his later work dealt with the effect of drugs upon blood elements. He discovered significant inter-relationships between autonomic drugs and the polycythemias and anemias. A paper on Aspirin poisoning in dogs has been quoted in pharmacology textbooks for years. Other work was concerned with drug action on the nervous system and experimental modification of drug distribution.

John maintained an active membership in the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and the American Physiological Society and presented research papers at their national meetings. He served as section chairman on several occasions. He also was active in the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, American Pharmaceutical Association, New York Academy of Sciences and the Texas Pharmaceutical Association. He was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American College of Cardiology and the American College of Angiology. Additionally, he served on the NIH Pharmacology and Endocrinology Fellowship Review Panel from 1960-1964.

John was named in several biographical compilations during his productive career. Among them were American Men of Science, Leaders in American Science, Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Who's Who in

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration asked Dr. Davis to serve as an expert witness on poisons in 1946 and 1949. He presented a scientific paper before the International Physiological Congress in Montreal, Canada in 1953. He addressed the Teacher's Seminar in Pharmacology, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in Seattle, Washington in 1957. John served as co-editor of the Texas Dental Formulary (1959-63). He gave generously of his time to the continuing education programs of the College of Pharmacy and presented a number of lectures on the pharmacological action of drugs for the benefit of the practicing pharmacists of the state.

John Davis was interested in many fields of endeavor. He was a prize-winning athlete in track events. He won medals late in life for his swimming prowess. His collection of coins and his service to the Austin Coin Club were a long-time activity. An early interest in astronomy led to proficiency in that field and service at one time as an instructor in astronomy.

Through his teaching efforts, John touched the lives of many students who are now practicing Pharmacy or Medicine. He was particularly skilled at mammalian physiologic demonstrations in the laboratory. His flair for the dramatic and significant features of drug action led to an unusually effective and interesting presentation. His lectures were filled with demanding material, often presented with a staccato authoritative manner,
but occasionally spiced by dashes of humor. He was a fair man, hard-
working and demanding excellence.

John's efforts in graduate training brought a dimension of excellence
to our College in Pharmacology. His patience and personal involvement in the
research procedures are remembered by many recipients of the M.S. or Ph.D.
degree. His contribution to their scientific maturity was a major element
in their careers.

John was a devoted husband and father. His colleagues remember his
witticisms and his strong sense of fair play. We miss him.

Lorene L. Rogers, President of
The University of Texas at Austin

Bill D. Francis, Secretary
The General Faculty

This memorial resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of
Robert G. Brown (chairman), Henry M. Burlage, William J. Sheffield and
Lee F. Worrell.
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