

LEO GEORGE HERTLEIN

(1898-1972)

The October 1970 number of the *Nautilus* (vol. 84, no. 2) was subtitled the LEO GEORGE HERTLEIN HONOR ISSUE by his friends who contributed a biographic sketch, a list of taxa proposed in his honor, a bibliography of his works, a list of names proposed by him, and papers on Mollusca, particularly the marine forms of the West Coast of the Americas which were the main field of his scientific endeavors.

The sad news of his death on January 15 of this year came as a shock to all his friends who had recently congratulated him on his retirement and his nomination as Curator Emeritus of Geology at the Academy of Sciences. Our friend Allyn G. Smith, his colleague of many years, sent along the sad news but as yet there are no details except that the end came very suddenly.

Little can be added to the biography given by Addicott (*Nautilus* vol. 84, no. 2, p. 37-41) except to add a few personal reminiscences from a friendship of some 35 years during which we met only three times but maintained an exchange of reprints and information which I take this opportunity to record. I remember particularly a visit to the Academy in 1966 which was about equally divided between examination of specimens and renewing acquaintance with old friends. On one of the numerous occasions when I went in to see Leo, I was surprised to find that he had callers, namely Carroll Lane Fenton and his wife Mildred, the paleontologists and authors

of the *Fossil Book* which was then being revised for a projected new edition. G. Dallas Hanna soon joined the group and the conversation was lively and stimulating. I wish I had taken a picture of that group but I was too busy listening and putting in my oar now and then to think of it. It is sad to think that such a meeting can never again take place for only Mrs. Fenton and the writer now survive.

Leo Hertlein was president of the AMU in 1966-67. The meetings of 1967 were held in Ottawa and with rare tact and thoughtfulness, Leo asked me to give the banquet address, knowing that Ottawa was my home town and that I had begun my studies of Mollusca with those of the immediate vicinity, later extending my interest to all of Canada and later still to other parts of North America. The privilege of giving that address, which he modestly represented as a favor to him, was an experience which one can never forget and it is forever linked with the memory of the unselfish friend who made it possible.

Others have recorded the early years of his life, the hardships and accomplishments that marked his long life of service to science and to his colleagues and friends, so there is no need to repeat them here. Much as we shall miss him, we shall treasure the memory of his friendship and kindness as long as we live.

A. L.