

## P. Philip Levine

*August 25, 1907 — September 27, 1979*

After a prolonged illness, Dr. P. Philip Levine died on September 27, 1979, at the age of seventy-two.

Dr. Levine was born on August 25, 1907, in New York City. He received the Bachelor of Science degree from the City College of New York in 1927 and then entered the New York State Veterinary College. His education was interrupted while he taught school in New York City (1930-31). He received both a Master of Science and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1932. After spending two years with the New York State Conservation Department, he returned to Cornell as an instructor in avian diseases. His Doctor of Philosophy degree was obtained under the direction of William A. Hagan in 1937. He rose through the ranks from instructor in 1934 to professor in 1944. In 1961 he was named head of the newly created Department of Avian Diseases, a post he held for five years. He was appointed professor emeritus upon retirement in 1973.

Dr. Levine's research in the field of avian diseases resulted in vastly improved methods of poultry production. His investigations were responsible for the control of coccidiosis, chronic respiratory disease, and duck virus hepatitis. His work on mycoplasmal and viral diseases is well known to poultry pathologists throughout the world.

Dr. Levine's talents were not limited to research. He was also an outstanding teacher, administrator, editor, and public servant. As a teacher he had few peers either in the classroom or as a supervisor of graduate students. As an administrator his efforts led to the formation of the Department of Avian Diseases, with highly successful programs in teaching, diagnosis, extension, and research. Through his leadership, a duck research laboratory on Long Island and a series of regional poultry diagnostic laboratories were developed.

In addition to these services to Cornell University, another important part of his scientific contributions was made as an editor. He served a long period as editor of the *Cornell Veterinarian* and on the editorial board of the other journals. This preparation stood him in good stead for one of the major contributions, his founding of the journal *Avian Diseases* in 1957. Not only was he editor, but he also arranged for the financing, printing, and organizing of all of the managerial tasks associated with starting a new journal.

During his later years, Dr. Levine's career assumed an international flavor. He took on projects for the Rockefeller Foundation in Mexico, for the United States Agency for International Development program in Israel and for

the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Peru, Israel, and Mexico. In all of these areas he made significant contributions and many friends.

Dr. Levine's sphere of influence was broad. He was a member and active participant in numerous professional organizations. These services were recognized by his election as president of the American Association of Avian Pathologists, as president of the World Veterinary Poultry Association, and by the Special Service Award of the American Association of Avian Pathologists. He was also the recipient of many other awards and prizes, among them the honorary degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich.

Dr. Levine was truly a gentleman and a scholar. His high standards and performance in his profession made him universally respected among his colleagues. His warm personality, his ever-present good humor, and his sincere interest and devotion to other people made him a warmly loved person with a multitude of friends all over the world.

*Julius Fabricant, Ellis P. Leonard, Bruce W. Calnek*