

ERNEST F. BEAN, 1882-1961

The Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey announces with deep regret the death of Ernest F. Bean on April 24, 1961, at the age of 79, after a very short illness. He was State Geologist of Wisconsin from 1925 to 1953 and President of the Association from 1927 to 1930. A biographical sketch was printed in the April, 1947, issue of the Journal.

Ernie joined the survey staff in 1916. Under his tutelage, scores of "survey boys" learned not only the fundamentals of field work but also the virtues of discipline, responsibility, and team effort. Serious about his work, he was never serious about himself; humor and modesty were his trademark.

Retirement as State Geologist gave him the opportunity to extend his activities over wider fields, and he traveled extensively throughout the country as a consultant for highway construction companies. He maintained these activities with characteristic vigor until a few days before his death.

None of his many friends will disagree with the tribute paid to him by one of his "boys," by then chief geologist for a major oil company, who, at a testimonial dinner some years ago, said "the greatest thing that Ernie has done has probably not been in geology at all; he has helped a great many people on the way to being good solid citizens."