ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS

MEMORIAL

ERNEST O. HERREID

After a long and distinguished career in dairy technology, E. O. Herreid passed away on July 23, 1994 in Bloomington, Indiana.

He was a native of Summit, South Dakota, where he grew up in a family of three brothers and four sisters. His higher education and eventual career track was at first slow in developing. In 1918 he joined the US Marine Corps and served through the following year. Some years later, he enrolled at South Dakota State College and, in 1927, received a B.S. degree with highest honors.

During the graduate studies that followed at the University of Minnesota, he added biochemistry and microbiology to his major field of dairy science and earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in 1928 and 1933, respectively. While working on his doctorate, he served as an instructor and continued full time in that capacity for 2 years after receiving his Ph.D. degree.

Following his appointment as Assistant Professor at the University of Vermont in 1936, his commitment to an academic career became clear as he rapidly advanced through the professional ranks. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1937 and Professor in 1939. From 1945 to 1967, he held the position of Professor of Dairy Technology at the University of Illinois. Following his retirement in 1967, he and his wife, Hazel, made their home in Bloomington, Indiana.

Publications of Herreid’s research brought him wide recognition. In 1956, he was honored by the American Dairy Science Association with the Borden Award for research in dairy manufacturing. In the following year, 1957, he was named Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Dairy Science, a position that he retained until 1972. In 1958, he was honored with a 50th Anniversary citation by the Milk Industry Foundation in recognition of his “devotion to the highest scientific ideals in the editing of the scientific journal of the American dairy industry and in appreciation for his contributions toward the advancement of the fluid milk industry.” His research interests were centered on milk properties, particularly sensory, physical, and chemical properties as affected by heating at high temperatures. His was a pioneering effort, and interest in this area of study extends to the present.

The year of his retirement, 1967, coincided with the University of Illinois centennial year observance, and a number of conferences in various fields were held on campus to mark the occasion. Included was a symposium on dairy technology held on September 6th that was staged with the additional objective of honoring Herreid on his retirement. The speakers, all of whom were his former students and advisees, were D. V. Josephson, Pennsylvania State University; J. G. Leeder, Rutgers University; Robert Jenness, University of Minnesota; J. W. Stull, University of Arizona; and Joseph Tobias, University of Illinois. The proceedings appeared in a publication appropriately dedicated to Herreid.

As a faculty member, he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses. For a time, he coached the Illinois Dairy Products Judging Team and also taught an advanced graduate course on the physical and chemical properties of milk. His specialty was market milk, a subject included in his teaching of both undergraduate and graduate students. Industry representatives also consulted him frequently to take advantage of his special expertise.

In 1968, the American Dairy Science Association conferred on Herreid its prestigious Award of Honor. Unquestionably, he was an effective and tireless worker for the Association. He continued as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Dairy Science for 5 years after his retirement from the University of Illinois, and then he accepted the responsibility of Subject Index Editor for the next 15 years, 1973 to 1988. He also served the Association as Chair or as a member of a number of important committees, including Program, Journal Management, Nomination, Borden Award, and
Membership. Less well known is the impact of his guidance and influence on the development and operation of the Association headquarters office in Champaign, Illinois. In the office’s formative years, Herreid had an excellent working relationship with Claude Cruse, the former Executive Secretary of the Association, that led to a number of innovations in journal publication and service to other organizations. Thus, Herreid was able to contribute substance to a philosophy that has shaped the framework for the successful business operations assumed by the Association office and one that has guided its growth.

The various honors accorded to Herreid during his lifetime must have been most satisfying to him and his family, but his work benefited the entire dairy industry. He will be remembered as one of the great dairy scientists and a dedicated worker.