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A Tribute to
Dr. Mack Allen Emmerson

by David Smidt

Dr. M. A. Emmerson retired from his position as professor and chairman of Veterinary Radiology, Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine on May 31, 1973 at which time he was named professor emeritus.

Dr. Emmerson was born in 1903 in Weston, IA, and graduated from the La­kota, N.D., High School in 1921. He attended North Dakota State University from 1921 to 1923, then moved to Iowa State University where he received the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1925. He received an M.S. degree from Iowa State in 1928 and a Doktor der Medicinae Veterinaria from the Veterinar-Pathologisches Institute der Universität Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, in 1930. Dr. Emmerson has done extensive post-doctoral work both in this country and abroad.

Dr. Emmerson first joined the Iowa State staff in 1925 when he became a resident surgeon at the Veterinary Clinic. In 1927 he became an instructor in the Department of Veterinary Anatomy here. He left Iowa State in 1930 to assume a position as an assistant professor of veterinary surgery, obstetrics and radiology at the University of Pennsylvania. He later became an associate professor and then a professor there.

Dr. Emmerson returned to Iowa State in 1944 as professor and head of the Department of Obstetrics and Radiology and

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in 1963 was named acting director of clinics. He has held his present position since 1964.

He has served on a number of committees and councils at Iowa State and was a member of the Faculty Council Advisory to the President, the Audio Visual Committee, The University Radiation Safety Committee, the Veterinary College Honors and Awards Committee and the Honors Program Committee.

Dr. Emmerson was given an Iowa State University Faculty Citation in 1963 for his outstanding years of service to the University. In 1966 he was chosen as "Professor of the Year" by students in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

The author of nearly 30 scientific publications in his field, Dr. Emmerson completed for publication the posthumous book Veterinary Surgical Operations by H. E. Bemis in 1933, and contributed a chapter in the book Bovine Mastitis, which was published in 1946. He has been a guest speaker on many occasions in this country and in Belgium and Sweden.

Dr. Emmerson is also a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Zeta honor societies, and Sigma Phi Epsilon, Alpha Psi, Omega Tau Sigma and Sigma Iota Zeta social fraternities. He is a member of the Collegiate Methodist Church, the Elks and the Ames Toastmaster's Club.

Married to the former Esther E. McCracken of Centerville, Ia., he is the father of two sons. A daughter born in 1940 died in 1946. Mrs. Emmerson graduated from Iowa State's Home Economics College. His son, Ralph, now of West Des Moines, graduated from Iowa State in civil engineering in 1959. James, his other son, received a B.S. degree in journalism from ISU in 1960 and an M.S. degree in 1963. He lives in London, England.

After retiring in May, Dr. Emmerson took a vacation to Florida. He is now residing in Ames. We offer our best wishes and hope he has many more happy years.