

JOURNAL

OF THE

Tennessee Academy of Science

VOL. XLI

APRIL, 1966

No. 2

NEW OFFICERS OF THE TENNESSEE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE



Melburn R. Mayfield, President of the Tennessee Academy of Science for 1966, was born on 24 August 1921 near Sacramento, Kentucky. After attending public schools of McLean County, Kentucky, he entered Western Kentucky State College. In 1942 he enlisted in the Signal Corps Reserve as a radio and radar repairman trainee. He spent the last years of World War II in Europe with the 44th Division as a forward observer radio operator. He returned to Western Kentucky State College, graduated in 1948 with A.B. and B.S. degrees, having completed majors in English, physics and mathematics. He received the M.S. degree in physics from the University of Florida in 1950, and joined the faculty of Mercer University where he served as Assistant Professor of Physics and Assistant Professor of Physics and Mathematics. In 1957 he came to Austin Peay State College as Associate Professor of Physics and was appointed chairman of the newly created Department of Physics in 1959, rising to the rank of Professor of Physics in 1961.

Professor Mayfield is a member or a fellow of a number of professional organizations including the American Association of Physics Teachers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society, the American Association of University Professors, and Sigma Pi Sigma.



James D. Caponetti, new secretary of the Tennessee Academy of Science, is Assistant Professor of botany at the University of Tennessee. He was born March 15, 1932, in Boston, Massachusetts. After attending public schools in Boston, he entered the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy from which he received the B.S. in Pharmacy in 1954. He has earned an M.S. in 1956, in Science (Massachusetts College of Pharmacy); and M.A. 1959, and Ph.D.; 1962 in Biology (Harvard University).

Dr. Caponetti was a Teaching Fellow at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and at Harvard University. His research interests are related to morphology and morphogenesis of plants. He has published reports dealing with *Smilax*, *Osmunda*, and *Marchantia*. In addition to research and teaching, Dr. Caponetti serves as chairman of the Pre-pharmacy committee at the University of Tennessee. He is an active member of many professional societies including the Botanical Society of America, the International Society of Plant Morphologists, and the Society of Sigma Xi.

Robert Lake Wilson, new treasurer of the Tennessee Academy of Science, was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, July 2, 1924. After graduating from Gallin Academy High School in 1942 he enrolled at Miami University at Oxford, Ohio.



After his discharge from the Army Air Corps in 1945 he enrolled at Wheaton College in Illinois and was graduated cum laude. He then went to the State University of Iowa and received an M.S. in geology in 1950. During 1960-62 he began work on the Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee. In 1963 he took a job with the Tennessee Division of Geology in Knoxville, as a regional geologist. Two years later he became head of the Department of Geology and Geography at the University of Chattanooga, his present position. In 1961 he received a faculty fellowship grant from the NSF. His major areas of research have included Paleozoic stratigraphy and sedimentation, and he has published several papers in this area.

He is a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Geological Society of America, the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists and a fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Tennessee Academy of Science. He is also a member of Sigma Xi, Alpha, and Pi Gamma Mu, honor societies. From 1962 to 1965 he served as director of the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science and has participated in the Visiting Scientists Program of the Tennessee Academy of Science.



Donald Caplenor, new editor of the *JOURNAL* of the Tennessee Academy of Science, was born February 10, 1922 in Smith County, Tennessee. After graduating from the high school at Carthage, Tennessee, he attended George Peabody College where he earned the B.S. and M.A. degrees, majoring in biology. He was awarded the Ph.D. degree at Vanderbilt University in 1954 with specialization in plant ecology. A NSF Science Faculty Fellowship, awarded in 1959, enabled him to spend the summers of 1959 and 1960 in the Department of Botany at the University of Chicago, and the summer of 1961 at the California Institute of Technology.

Dr. Caplenor has taught in the biology departments of George Peabody College, Georgia Southern College, Vanderbilt University and Millsaps College. He is presently Chairman of the Division of Science and Mathematics at George Peabody College. His research interests and publications are in areas of plant ecology.