Section 1: A Tribute to Dr. Charles H. Turner



Dr. Charles H. Turner Courtesy of Dr. Charles I. Abramson

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Dr. Charles H. Turner

One of the greatest names in the study of insect behavior is Charles Henry Turner. Turner does not easily fit into any one discipline; he has been called a zoologist, entomologist, and comparative psychologist. His contributions are many and varied. During his career, Turner published at least 71 papers. These papers include observational studies; anatomical studies; investigations into the learning ability of cockroaches, ants, and honey bees; development of apparatus; classical conditioning of moths; and even civil rights.

Life and death: Charles Henry Turner was born on February 3, 1867, in Cincinnati, Ohio (Cadwallader 1984). Following a 33-year career, Turner died in Chicago, Illinois, on February 14, 1923, of acute myocarditis. The epitaph on Turner's tombstone aptly summarizes his life and simply reads, "Scientist."

Factors contributing to decision to study insects and early influences: The biographical record regarding the factors contributing to Charles Henry Turner's