



**Dedicated to  
JAMES MERRILL  
WALLACE  
(1902-1979)**

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JAMES MERRILL WALLACE

These proceedings are dedicated with respect and affection to the memory of Dr. James Merrill Wallace, the founding father of the International Organization of Citrus Virologists.

The death, on January 1, 1979, of James Merrill Wallace, "gentleman and scholar from the old school," has removed from our company one of the founding researchers and scholars of science. After thirty-seven years at the University of California, Riverside, Merrill suddenly passed away at his home in Riverside. Merrill was born in Ripley, Mississippi on October 13, 1902. He completed his undergraduate studies and received a B.S. in agriculture at Mississippi State University in 1923. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in plant pathology at the University of Minnesota in 1927 and 1929, respectively. Merrill, as he was known by many of his friends, had already established a reputation as plant virus research pathologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, before joining the Department of Plant Pathology of the University of California Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside in 1942. He made noteworthy investigations of the curly top disease of sugar beets and tomato, and his theories of passive and active immunization with this virus are discussed in laboratories around the world.

Merrill engaged himself actively and productively in the diverse fields of scientific, educational and community affairs. In fact, Dr. Wallace's career was a continuing series of distinguished achievements. He was sought as a consultant by many foreign governments whose agriculture had serious citrus virus problems. He visited many of these countries and worked hard to help them, especially with citrus virus detection and programs for the prevention of graft-transmissible diseases. He was a consultant for the Agricultural Operations of the Rockefeller Foundation and served on several U.S. AID assignments. He was an active member of the American Phytopathological Society, serving as president of its Pacific Division in 1966, and as a society delegate to International Botanical Congresses in Paris in 1954 and Montreal in 1959. He was elected a Fellow of the American Phytopathological Society in 1970, the same year he retired to emeritus professor status in the University.

On the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Citrus Experiment Station of the University of California in 1957, citrus virologists from around the world were invited to meet in Riverside and discuss problems of mutual interest. At a business session during the conference the proposal was made, led by the pioneering inspiration of Dr. Wallace, that an organization for furthering our knowledge of citrus virus diseases be formed. Participants were in agreement as to the need for an "International Organization of Citrus Virologists," and unanimously elected Dr. Wallace as chairman of the new organization. Subsequently, he provided much of the leadership in its growth and development. Dr. Wallace's inspiration to our organization and to all of us is well known and surpasses even his noteworthy contributions to the whole field of citrus viruses.

Dr. Wallace is greatly missed by not only his family, his colleagues on the Riverside campus, but also by his many friends throughout the world. The last sentence in a letter addressed to IOCV that appeared in his Last Will and Testament fully expresses the feeling he held for all of us. "In closing, I wish to put on record that throughout my scientific career, nothing has given me more satisfaction than the experience of seeing the growth and accomplishments of IOCV. Additionally, the close, personal friendships it has given us can never be equalled."

Many men in this world are endowed with great knowledge, as was Merrill Wallace. He added to this endowment the priceless ingredient of wisdom which he exercised with wit and perception. The memory of Merrill Wallace remains vivid and honored among us, and the strength of his values and ideals has influenced us all. It seems fitting, therefore, that these 8th Proceedings be dedicated to the memory of Dr. James Merrill Wallace, the founding father of IOCV.

JAMES MERRILL WALLACE

L. G. Weathers