

# IN MEMORIAM

**Ralph Allen Brant**

**(1899-1958)**

Ralph Allen Brant, regional research geologist for the Atlantic Refining Company, was born on May 25, 1899, in Canton, Illinois. He died on the morning of September 30, 1958, in Tulsa, after a brief illness. Surviving him are his widow, Freda, and a daughter, Mrs. Jerry Brown.

His education at Canton High School was interrupted in 1917 by his enlistment in Company M, Fifth Illinois Militia. This unit was later nationalized into Company B, 108th Engineers, 33rd Division, in which he served fourteen months overseas in the front lines and in the Army of Occupation. After his discharge in 1919, he completed his high school education and entered the University of Iowa in 1921. The finding of a climate suitable for recovery from the severe gas injury received during his military service necessitated many transfers to and from western universities. After his recovery he attended the University of Chicago from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1925. His graduate work was done at the University of Tulsa from which he received a Master of Science degree in 1942.

When Mr. Brant first came to Tulsa in 1925 he was employed by the Shaffer Oil Company. Four years later he transferred to the Atlantic Refining Company where he was employed at the time of his death. He was an able geologist who possessed unusual ability in the identification of stratigraphic horizons and formations by the examination of drill cuttings. His geological work and unusual ability won for him the respect and admiration of the geologists throughout the Mid-Continent and adjacent areas.

His wide interests led to memberships in a variety of societies and organizations. In addition to the memberships he held in the scientific societies, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, the Oklahoma Academy of Science, and the Tulsa Geological Society, he was elected associate member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon and a member of the Masonic Lodge, Morning Star Lodge No. 734, Canton, Illinois. He has for many years held memberships in the Oklahoma Genealogical Society, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the National Archery Association, and the Southern Archery Association.

He was active in the organizations with which he was associated. The offices which he held are too numerous to mention, but it should be noted that he served as president of the Tulsa Geological Society, twice president of the Southern Archery Association, and the manager of the publication, "Archery," for fifteen years.

The hobbies, of which he had many, that particularly appealed to him were those which took him into the out-of-doors. Geology was not only his profession, it was a hobby as well. He conducted many field trips and instructed gratis in the evening laboratories at the University of Tulsa to acquaint people with their environment and create in them an interest in the science in which he was so intensely interested. In archery, photography, and fly fishing he developed marked skill and ability due to the

enthusiasm and energy he gave to each of his hobbies. In recent years geneology became a favored hobby.

"Jack," as he was known to his friends and the geologists, will be remembered as a person who gave the impression of being intolerant and impatient, but those who had the privilege of knowing him understand that the impression was the protective coating of a most generous person who thought only of others. He has expressed in writing that his religion is "To do good and harm no man." That aptly expresses his attitude toward people and his conduct. The warmth of his personality, his thoughtfulness, and his generosity will stay with us long after time has dimmed his other accomplishments. The young men coming into his company and others will always remember the encouragement and guidance he gave to them in their work and in their living. In Jack's passing the profession has lost an able geologist and all who knew him feel keenly and deeply the loss of a true friend.

A. N. Murray