

Helen Hart, 1900-1971

C. J. Eide



Dr. Helen Hart, Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota, died May 2, 1971, at Grants Pass, Oregon.

Dr. Hart was born in Janesville, Wisconsin, on September 2, 1900. She received the B.A. degree in 1922, M.A. degree in 1924, and Ph.D. degree in 1929, all from the University of Minnesota. From

1923 to 1933 she held a joint appointment with the United States Department of Agriculture and the University in the Department of Plant Pathology. She became a full-time staff member in the University in 1933, and retired August 31, 1966.

Dr. Hart's career as a scientist and teacher brought distinction to the University and to her profession. She was a leader among the group of investigators that made the Department of Plant Pathology at Minnesota world-famous for its research on stem rust of cereals. Her teaching was done principally as adviser to graduate students. Many of these were from foreign countries, and were assisted beyond measure by Dr. Hart's generous and competent advice and scholarly instruction.

An outstanding scientific writer, Dr. Hart served from 1944 to 1951 as Editor-in-Chief of *PHYTOPATHOLOGY*, the principal scientific journal of The American Phytopathological Society. She was President of the Society in 1955-56, the only woman to hold this office.

Dr. Hart received many honors during her career, among which was the Elvin C. Stakman award for outstanding contributions to knowledge of cereal diseases, which she received in 1963. In 1965, she was elected a Fellow of The American Phytopathological Society.

She was a Howard Scholar, 1922-23, and Exchange Assistant at the Institut für Pflanzenbau und Pflanzenzüchtung, Universität HalleSaale, Germany, 1937-38.

Dr. Hart was a member of the following societies: The American Phytopathological Society, American Association of University Professors, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society of Plant Physiologists, Indian Phytopathological Society, Minnesota Academy of Science, Sigma Xi, Sigma Delta Epsilon, Delta Gamma and Gamma Sigma Delta.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. H. G. Deming, 1396 N.W. Highland Avenue, Grants Pass, Oregon.