

Tribute to R. Carlyle Buley*

R. Carlyle Buley, a native Hoosier, received the Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Indiana University. After serving one year in the United States Army and teaching eight years in the high schools of Indiana and Illinois, he resumed his graduate work and received the Doctor's degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1925. He returned to Indiana University that year as an instructor in history. In 1958 he received an honorary D. Litt. from Coe College. Professor Buley retired from active teaching service in June, 1964.

During his thirty-nine years as a member of the Indiana University Department of History, Professor Buley published a number of volumes of history. These include a two-volume *Old Northwest: Pioneer Period, 1815-1840*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in history in 1951, and a two-volume history of life insurance which was awarded the Elizur Wright Award in 1953. At present he is completing work on a two-volume history of the Equitable Life Assurance Society. In addition, he is well along on a history of the Lilly family and Eli Lilly and Company, which have played an important part in the history of Indiana and of Indiana University. Professor Buley also has been largely instrumental in bringing to the Indiana University Library some of its valued collections; among these are the Oakleaf Lincoln Collection—perhaps the finest of its kind in the world—the War of 1812 Collection, and the Lafayette Collection.

Teaching has always had an automatic and fundamental priority for Professor Buley. His office hours have been long and continuous. His research, writing, and other duties could be temporarily postponed, but, save for emergencies, his door has always been open to students. How any man could spend so much time with so many students and also do extremely significant research and writing is indeed amazing.

* This tribute to Professor Buley was printed in the program for a dinner on May 5, 1964, at which members of the administration and faculty of Indiana University gave special recognition to eight retiring members of the faculty. The citation, which was written by the editor of the *Indiana Magazine of History*, is reprinted here with minor changes. Professor Buley served as Managing Editor of the *Indiana Magazine of History* during the late 1920's and early 1930's. He has long been a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee as well as a contributor to and ardent supporter of the *Magazine*.

Students have appreciated and recognized his interest in and contributions to them. His classes have been large. In 1952 he was awarded the Leather Medal, offered annually by the Indiana University chapter of Sigma Delta Chi journalism fraternity to the individual who has brought the most distinction to the University in the preceding year. In 1962 the same organization awarded him the Brown Derby as the most popular professor on campus. In both his teaching and his writing, Professor Buley has endeavored to be what he himself has called a "romantic realist." The home with its luxuriant sweep of greenery that he and Mrs. Buley have long had on the Ellettsville Road is still another facet of this view of life.

Professor Buley's fundamental and abiding commitment to Indiana and the Middle West has been one of the basic forces of his life. His fondness for the writings of James Hall, Timothy Flint, Daniel Drake, and other Midwestern pioneers who wrote of the natural resources, the beauty, the achievements, and the further potential of the Middle West, is grounded in his personal convictions about the greatness of its history and heritage. He has often expressed his gratitude for the important and sustained efforts of Eli Lilly and J. K. Lilly to preserve the memory and understanding of this past. He has also valued the outstanding work of Richard Lieber in establishing parks and historical memorials in the Hoosier State. His commitment to Indiana and the Middle West includes also an enduring conviction that Indiana University has major, continuing responsibilities for keeping alive an interest in and serious study of the history and heritage of both the state and the region of which it is a part.