

Memorial Tribute to R. Carlyle Buley*

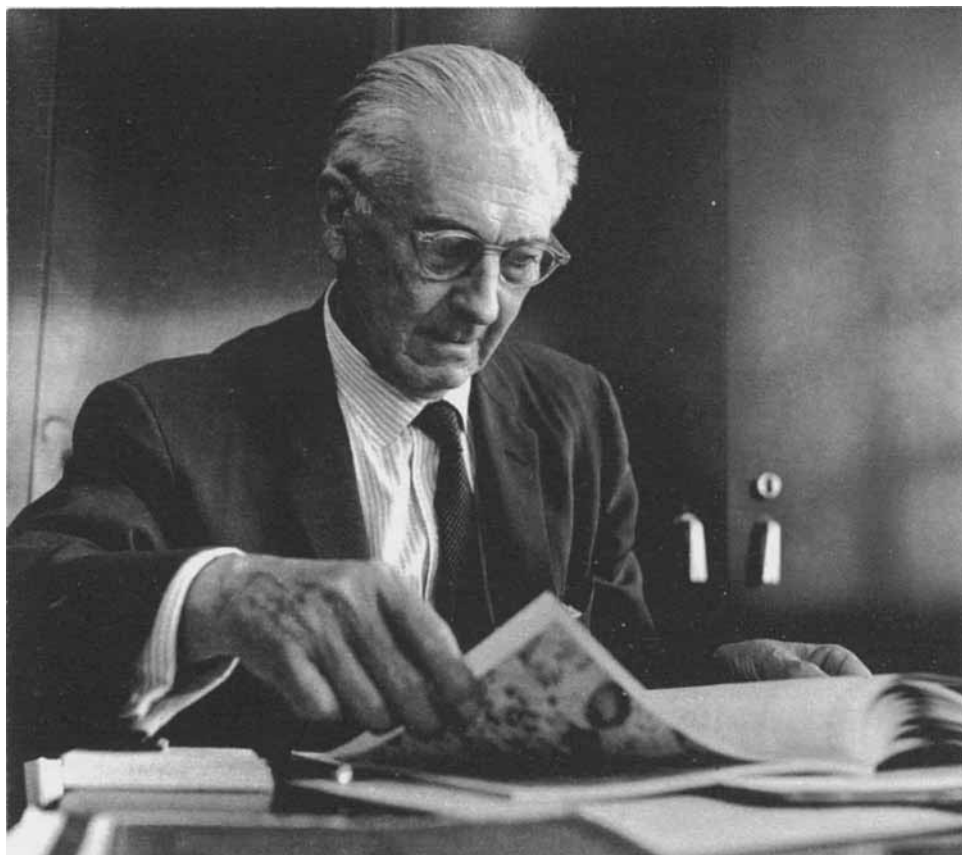
R. Carlyle Buley, son of David Marion and Nora Keithley Buley, was born at Georgetown (Floyd County), Indiana, on July 8, 1893. He attended high school in Vincennes and in 1910 entered Indiana University from which he received the bachelor's degree in 1914 and the master's in history in 1916. Teaching at Muncie High School and service in the United States Army was followed by four years as head of the department of history and assistant principal of the high school at Springfield, Illinois. Upon receipt of the Ph.D. degree in history from the University of Wisconsin in 1925, he was appointed instructor of history at Indiana University. He became professor in 1945 and since 1964 had been professor emeritus. His death on April 25, 1968, ended a connection with and deep devotion to his alma mater that extended over more than a half century.

Professor Buley's commitment to the history and heritage of Indiana, the Midwest, and the United States was intense, abiding, and well revealed in his research and writing, his teaching, and the countless hours he devoted to his students. From eight to five (except for the brief period when he ate lunch in his office) his door was literally open to any student or other person who wished to talk seriously, chit-chat, or swap yarns and stories. He was never too busy with his own work to confer with, advise, and instruct others. This spirit of helpfulness and his effectiveness in the classroom were partially recognized by his being awarded the Brown Derby, given to the most popular professor on campus, and by a dinner sponsored by former students prior to his retirement.

Though primarily a teacher of survey and post-Civil War United States history, Professor Buley's chief research and writing interests were the pre-1840 Old Northwest and business history. Professor Buley was not content just to do the research and writing; he played a large part in designing many of his books. The end products attest not only his knowledge of this art but also his love of the aesthetic. . . his contributions to scholarship were recognized by Alfred A. Knopf and Newberry Library fellowships and by an honorary Doctor of Literature from Coe College.

Through numerous articles and book reviews in the major historical and other journals as well as by talks and speeches to assemblages of lawyers, doctors, insurance executives, historians, high school and college students, and politically oriented groups, Professor Buley brought to his listeners a keen enjoyment in and understanding of the past. And while writing and talking history he did not neglect the materials of history. His

* This memorial tribute to Professor R. Carlyle Buley, prepared by a committee composed of Professors of History Leo F. Solt, Donald F. Carmony, and Chase C. Mooney, was approved by the Faculty Council of Indiana University on October 1, 1968. A few changes in editorial style have been made for publication. The final paragraph of the resolution has been omitted here; portions of the third paragraph have been deleted in lieu of the bibliography which follows. A tribute to Dr. Buley upon his retirement from active service was published in the *Indiana Magazine of History*, LX, No. 4 (December, 1964), 353-54.



DR. R. CARLYLE BULEY AT WORK IN THE ELI LILLY AND COMPANY ARCHIVES, 1964.

Courtesy Eli Lilly and Company

efforts—quiet and unknown to many—were primarily responsible for, or instrumental in, bringing many newspaper files, manuscript collections, and other items to Indiana University. Among these are the Oakleaf Lincoln Collection, the Lafayette-Washington American Revolution manuscripts, and the originals of the drawings made by Basil Hall when he visited the United States.

Professor Buley took as great pride in his home and grounds as he did in winnowing historical facts from the mass of evidence. There he and his wife, Evelyn Barnett Buley, served as gracious hosts, and there the azaleas, rhododendrons, stray or wounded animals and birds, or individuals “down on their luck” received expert attention and a helping hand. A man of strong convictions and deep compassion, Professor Buley was Hoosier and American to the core. He wanted others to be the same but recognized their right and privilege to conform to their own versions of these types.

BOOKS AND PRINCIPAL ARTICLES BY R. CARLYLE BULEY*

Books

- The Midwest Pioneer: His Ills, Cures, & Doctors*, co-authored with Madge E. Pickard (Crawfordsville, Ind., 1945).
- The Old Northwest: Pioneer Period, 1815-1840* (2 vols., Indianapolis, 1950). Dr. Buley received the Pulitzer Prize in history in 1951 for these two volumes, published by the Indiana Historical Society.
- The American Life Convention, 1906-1952: A Study in the History of Life Insurance* (2 vols., New York, 1953). Dr. Buley received the Elizur Wright award for this volume.
- The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, 1859-1959* (New York, 1959).
- The Romantic Appeal of the New West, 1815-1840* (Detroit, 1961). Paperbound booklet. Cass Lecture for 1960.
- The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, 1859-1964* (2 vols., New York, 1968).

Although the volumes which follow do not bear Dr. Buley's name, he had much to do with their publication. The first, presented as a tribute to his mentor and friend, was prepared by Dr. Buley for publication from writings left by the author. The second profited substantially from both his scholarship and his revision of it.

- Logan Esarey, *The Indiana Home* (Crawfordsville, Ind., 1943). Republished with pictures by Franklin Booth and Bruce Rogers, Bloomington, 1953.
- Roscoe Collins Clark, *Three Score Years and Ten: A Narrative of the First Seventy Years of Eli Lilly and Company, 1876-1946* (Chicago, 1946).

* This bibliography, prepared by the editor, gives a complete listing of books but not articles. It does, however, include all of Dr. Buley's known scholarly articles which appeared in historical journals or series. He, of course, also contributed a number of book reviews to the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, the *Indiana Magazine of History*, and other historical journals.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES

- "The Campaign of 1888 in Indiana," *Indiana Magazine of History*, X, No. 2 (June, 1914), 30-53.
- "Indiana in the Mexican War," *Indiana Magazine of History*, XV, No. 3 (September, 1919), 260-92; XV, No. 4 (December, 1919), 293-326; XVI, No. 1 (March, 1920), 46-68.
- "The Political Balance in the Old Northwest, 1820-1860," *Studies in American History Inscribed to James Albert Woodburn* (Bloomington, 1926), 405-55.
- "Pioneer Health and Medical Practices in the Old Northwest Prior to 1840," *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, XX, No. 4 (March, 1934), 497-520.
- "The Pioneer Middle West in Two Depressions," *Indiana History Bulletin*, XIII, No. 2 (February, 1936), 77-91.
- "Glimpses of Pioneer Mid-West Social and Cultural History," *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, XXIII, No. 4 (March, 1937), 481-510.
- "Logan Esarey, Hoosier," *Indiana Magazine of History*, XXXVIII, No. 4 (December, 1942), 337-81.
- "The Middle West—It's Heritage and It's Role," *Wabash Bulletin*, XLI, No. 4 (December, 1943), 11-14, 19-22.
- "Water (?) Witching Can Be Fun," *Indiana Magazine of History*, LVI, No. 1 (March, 1960), 65-77.