TO DR. EDWARD J. KORMONDY*

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A short biography and appreciation of work of E.J. KORMONDY are followed by his odonatological bibliography (1955-1969). Most of his dragonfly work is devoted to the fauna of the New World. Of particular importance are his contributions on the systematics of *Tetragoneuria*, and on odonate territoriality, dispersal, and seasonal dynamics.



Born in Beacon, New York (June 10, 1926), EDWARD J. KORMONDY gravitated to little Tusculum College in Tennessee for his undergraduate education. He majored in biology and earned his B.S. degree in 1950. His research activities in the biology of the Odonata began while he was still an undergraduate student and he continued to study the group for a number of years. From Tusculum he went immediately to the University of Michigan where he earned the M.S. degree in 1951. At the University of Michigan he served as Teaching Fellow

in Zoology from 1952 to 1955, and, after receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1955, he served as Instructor in Zoology, 1955-1957, and Curator of Insects, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, 1956-1957. In 1957 he joined the faculty of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, as Assistant Professor of Zoology. He continued

* Cf. Editorial Note on p. 4.

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his research on the Odonata with the earlier emphasis on distributional, faunistic, taxonomic, and systematic studies gradually shifting toward the ecology and behavior of the group. Territoriality, swarming and local movement, seasonal regulation and population dynamics were the subjects of his later studies and publications on this group of organisms.

As a teacher, Ed Kormondy continuously, conscientiously, and energetically seeks to improve the learning situation for students. He is innovative in the best sense of that word – willing to try new and promising approaches to teaching but always measuring the result against very high standards. He experimented with programmed learning (1962, Ohio J. Sci. 62: 4-10) and wrote one of the earliest programmed texts for self instruction (1964, Introduction to genetics. A program for self-instruction. McGraw-Hill Book Co.). Team teaching, which he initiated in introductory biology at Oberlin College in 1961, continues to be used there with impressive success. At Oberlin he involved undergraduates in his own research and he was the successful author of several proposals for National Science Foundation funds for Undergraduate Research Participation from which his faculty colleagues and their students benefited. He was also successful in obtaining NSF funds for a series of Saturday morning workshops for high school biology teachers in communities near Oberlin, persuading his departmental colleagues to donate their services.

Ed Kormondy's interests in education in general and biological education in particular are reflected by the positions he has held and the impressive list of activities that he has engaged in over the years. He served Oberlin College for one year (1966-1967) as Acting Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In 1968 he was granted a two year leave of absence to accept the position of Director, Commission on Undergraduate Education in the Biological Sciences, and Director, Office of Biological Education of the American Institute of Biological Sciences. It soon became apparent that the responsibilities of those positions were going to extend to three years, and he resigned his tenured professorship at Oberlin to devote his energies to CUEBS for those three years. In 1971 he accepted a position on the faculty of The Evergreen State University in Olympia, Washington. He became Interim Acting Dean of that University in 1972 and in 1973 he was appointed Vice-President and Provost, a position which he still holds.

In addition to the responsibilities inherent in the administrative positions which he has held, Ed Kormondy has been and continues to be involved in numerous other professional activities concerned with biological education. These include textbook development (Biological Sciences Curriculum Study and others), and test development (Educational Testing Service's College Level Examination Program, Advanced Placement in Biology, and others). He has served as a consultant on curriculum for many colleges and universities both in the United States and in South America.

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In spite of his involvement with all of the above and more, Edward Kormondy has, as evidenced by his list of publications, found time to write numerous research papers and essays as well as several very widely used and useful books.

To know Ed Kormondy is to like him, to be impressed with the breadth and depth of his interests and concerns, to admire and respect his intelligence and his integrity. Probably most of all, however, one is impressed with his generosity, his sensitivity to others, and the energy and efficiency with which he sets about implementing his ideas and getting things accomplished. Ed Kormondy is truly a doer, and the biological community – particularly that segment concerned with education – has been and continues to be the beneficiary of his good works.

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Portrait on p. 1 dated 1976.

EDITORIAL NOTE – For a decade Dr. E.J. KORMONDY was one of the leading North American odonatologists, whose work on the systematics of the genus *Tetragoneuria*, and contributions in the fields of the odonate territoriality, dispersal and seasonal dynamics will for a long time remain indispensable to anyone working on these problems. Circumstances recently forced him to retire from active odonatological research. As announced at the Fourth International Symposium of Odonatology, Gainesville, Florida, August 1-5, 1977, Dr. Kormondy donated his valuable dragonfly library to the International Odonatological Society. The dedication of the present issue of ODONATOLOGICA to Dr. Kormondy is meant, therefore, as a small token of the Society's gratitude for this magnanimous gesture. The Editors, on their part, are thanking Dr. ANNA RUTH BRUMMETT for the above article.