## TO DR. GEORGE H. BICK ON HIS 65th BIRTHDAY

## L.E. HORNUFF

Department of Biology, Central State University, Edmond, Oklahoma 73034, United States

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A short biography of G.H. BICK (born Sept. 23, 1914, Neptune, Lousiana, USA; teaching career at 6 United States colleges and universities) is followed by his odonatological bibliography (1938-1978). His principal research on odonates is in the field of zygopteran reproductive behavior, and he has contributed to the study of the odonate distribution in the United States and to the knowledge of the life history of several anisopteran spp.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to write this brief biography of Dr. G.H. Bick. I have been a student of his since my undergraduate years at Tulane University, where I found him to be a most enthusiastic and stimulating teacher. As his teaching assistant during two summers in Oklahoma and as his research assistant every summer since 1970, the times I have spent with Dr. Bick and his wife Juanda have been the most academically rewarding times of my life. In the field he is a tireless and energetic worker intent upon the pursuit and successful completion of the assigned problem. While his major interest has been in the odonates, he



has spent many hours studying the flora and fauna and the ecology of every region of the U.S. we have visited. As a direct result of this interest he has been responsible for the establishment of a Nature Area at St. Mary's College, which he has maintained and studied for many years.

GEORGE HERMAN BICK was born September 23, 1914 in Neptune,

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Louisiana, U.S.A., but spent most of his early years at New Orleans. Here he attended Tulane University and received his B.S. degree in 1936 and his M.S. degree in 1938. For the next three years Dr. Bick was employed by the Food and Drug Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture as an inspector of the seafood industry in the New Orleans area. He next served one year as a Field Biologist for the Louisiana State Department of Conservation, in which capacity he surveyed the wildlife of the state with particular regard to the wild turkey. It was also about this time that he met JUANDA C. BONCK, a Botany student at Tulane University, who was later to become his wife. During the last three years of the second world war he served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater, where he studied the distribution, ecology and control of mosquitoes of the Philippine Islands and New Guinea, Upon returning to the U.S. in 1945, Dr. Bick and Juanda were married. Thus began a personal and professional partnership, which has lasted 24 years and produced two daughters and numerous scientific publications. It is impossible, now, to refer to Dr. Bick without mentioning Juanda in the same breath. They are an inseparable team, each complementing the other.

Based upon his work in the military service, Dr. Bick received his Ph. D. degree from Cornell University at Ithaca, New York in 1947, and in the Fall of the same year he began his teaching career as an Assistant Professor at the University of Mississippi. He continued teaching at Tulane University, 1948-1956. It was during these years that he began to renew his interest in the odonates. He served as Associate Professor at the University of Southwestern Louisiana at Lafayette for three years, as Professor at Clarion State College in Pennsylvania for a year, and finally in 1960 he became a Professor at St. Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana.

Most of the Bicks' research was carried out during the summer months, particularly during most of the summers between 1954 and 1970, spent at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station. On those days when there were no teaching obligations, the Bicks could always be found at a nearby pond or stream staring intently at some species of zygopteran, and recording in detail every behavioral movement, over and over again. This was the beginning of the research on the reproductive behavior that has resulted in numerous publications on the subject.

In June of this year Dr. G.H. Bick retired after an illustrious career in teaching. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a Fellow of the Indiana Academy of Science. And, although he is no longer active in the teaching field, it is hoped that his research interests will continue for many years to come.

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Portrait on p. 155 dated April 29, 1972.