

Kansas Public Health Association, Inc.

SALUTES

Blaine Logan Glendening, Ph.D.

John W. Zook

Samuel J. Crumbine Banquet

May 14, 1970

Radisson Hotel - Wichita

SAMUEL J. CRUMBINE BANQUET

From SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD

To give recognition to members who have given long and faithful service in the field of public health, the Kansas Public Health Association has established a Service Recognition Award. The Award, in the form of a Certificate, was presented for the first time in 1956.



He was born in Kansas State College of



BLAINE LOGAN GLENDENING Ph.D.

From a primitive home laboratory with a plank bench, to the latest sophisticated instruments and the responsibility for the chemical analysis of foods, forensic samples, and toxicological specimens for an entire state— spans the career of Blaine Glendening. The Kansas Public Health Association is proud to add his name to the list of dedicated persons receiving the Service Recognition Award.

Blaine Logan Glendening was born July 15, 1907 in the Hazel Valley community, near Bethany, Missouri. At the age of two he moved with his parents to northeastern Oklahoma, on a farm near Welch. Oklahoma had become a state just two years previously.

Blaine's early school years were spent in a country school. The district was organized by a three-member board of which his father and future father-in-law were members.

In 1918 the family moved to a farm in Bourbon County. Blaine graduated from Fort Scott high school and obtained, by state examination, a teachers certificate. He taught for two years in the rural school he had attended. (His salary was 65 dollars per month for an eight-month term.)

Blaine went to Kansas State College of

Pittsburg the next two years. This was the only full-time uninterrupted study of his college career.

In 1930 Blaine married Eva Mae Hendrix of Welch, Oklahoma. This was no whirlwind romance as he had known her from his very earliest memories. Their families met during a raging prairie fire; she was a baby in arms and he was two years of age.

Eva is presently employed as principal stenographer for the office of Crop Reporting of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Their daughter, Ruth Ann, is married to Charles E. Hansing, a resident physician at the University Hospital, Madison, Wisconsin. They are the parents of the Glendening's only grandchild. Blaine and Eva's son David is a second-year student at the University of Kansas Medical School. His wife, the former Pricilla Berger of Topeka, teaches kindergarten in the Shawnee Mission school system.

Times were difficult in 1930. Grocery bills averaged only about 15 dollars per month, but salaries were low and jobs were scarce. Their four room house, with the customary outside facilities, rented for six dollars a month. Unable to continue college, Blaine taught in Welch for five years as a junior high teacher, ele-

mentary school principal, and high school principal. Often tax funds were insufficient for the teachers' salaries; warrents were discounted and cashed by the bank.

Meantime Blaine continued his college studies by correspondence, extension courses, and summer classes at Pittsburg. He was granted an A.B. degree in 1932 and a Masters degree in chemistry in 1936.

In 1935 Blaine was enticed, by a 25 dollar per month increase in salary, to move to Wyandotte, Oklahoma as high school head. The next year he moved to Pittsburg as a high school chemistry teacher. In 1937, he returned to Wyandotte as superintendent of schools for six years. During this time the Grand River Dam was constructed and when the lake filled from a flood, the water became ten feet deep in the school auditorium.

In 1943, Blaine and Eva with their two small children moved to Kansas City. He worked as a chemist at the Phillips Petroleum refinery and later became supervisor chemist at the aviation fuel plant. The family felt a bit uncomfortable in the big city so Blaine decided to return to teaching. In the fall of 1945 they moved to Wamego. Here they enjoyed two memorable years while he was teaching

science in the high school.

Teachers often found it necessary to hunt summer employment. Consequently Blaine was employed by the Chemistry Department at Kansas State University at Manhattan and became a chemistry instructor for three years. This offered an opportunity to continue graduate study on a part-time basis. He spent two years as a research chemist in nutrition at the Experiment Station. Granted a Ph.D. in 1953, his principal research was on the nutritional value of trace minerals and the development of a spectrographic method for the analysis of rubidium.

On completion of graduate study, Dr. Glendening had his choice of two positions. One was with a big corporation developing rocket fuel at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, and the other was principal chemist, Public Health Laboratories of the Kansas State Department of Health. The former offer was more enticing in several ways. But the Glendenings chose to remain in Kansas. They wanted to feel comfortable with people around them and wanted a good environment for their children. They were also influenced by a sense of gratitude for the advantages of Kansas colleges and the opportunity to be of service to the state.

Dr. Glendening's moves up and down the Kaw Valley have sometimes facetiously been referred to as his addiction to the Kaw River water.

When he became principal chemist for the Kansas Public Health Laboratories in 1954, he had one assistant chemist and a small room with an alcove for the fume hood. The work consisted mostly of food and dairy samples with an occasional blood alcohol and test for poisons. The principal analytical instruments were a balance and one spectrophotometer.

Now Dr. Glendening directs a staff of four to five chemists. He has encountered many new types of samples and has had a thorough experience in a variety of fields of chemistry. Here are some examples. Hundreds of hamburger samples have been examined for preservatives, added color, excess fat, and water addition. At one time a fire in a beer warehouse made it necessary to taste over one hundred samples of beer for off-flavor. On another occasion thousands of pounds of beef were condemned as unfit for human consumption based on the so-called organoleptic or sniff test.

Several carloads of mill wheat contaminated with treated seed wheat have been con-

demned because the mercury content exceeded two parts per billion. During years of late harvest, the mill wheat has been found to be contaminated with crotalaria (rattle - weed) seeds which are toxic.

Foreign doll "swizzle-sticks" for mixing drinks were condemned; their eyes were made of jequirity beans—once used as a source of poison for arrow tips.

For many years law-enforcement officers have called upon the chemical laboratory for assistance in the examination of physical evidence related to crime. Burglars once used two sets of tools to rob vaults at two different locations. By use of the spectrograph and infrared spectrophotometer, it was possible to say which tools were used at each location.

At another time, burglars drilled into a safe door containing brass and steel. When apprehended their clothing and shoes were examined. Metallic particles from their shoe soles were proven spectrographically to be the same type of metal as that of the safe. Hit-and-run accident cases have been solved by matching automobile paints and murders have been proved by physical evidence.

One of the present major problems is the use of drugs. Blood, body fluids, and tissue

are tested for dangerous drugs. The most frequent drugs encountered in suspected suicide are barbituates. Deaths are attributed to many agents such as solvents, glue-sniffing, refrigerant gases and the old reliable poisons such as strychnine, cyanide and arsenic.

Because of police officers' great concern about drugs, every available capsule and pill from raids is submitted for analysis. Often these are legitimate medications but recently considerable LSD and other hallucinogenic drugs have been found. Every imaginable type of cigarette and pipe has been submitted for narcotic and marihuana examination. Marihuana has been found in every conceivable form from an ingredient in "brownie cookies" to the concentrated resin.

Dr. Glendening says "It is inconceivable what people will do to get "high"—from distilling and drinking solvents from rubber cement to injecting drugs extracted from nasal inhalers."

One of the most amusing incidents of his career happened a few years ago. Dr. Glendening was called to Hugoton on a D.W.I. case. Due to ice on the highway, he decided to take the train to Liberal. A Highway Patrol man could take him on to Hugoton. Because of a

wreck on the Rock Island, he had to catch a Frisco night train to Garden City. There he contacted the Highway Patrol and informed them he would arrive in Liberal by bus. There was considerable consternation on it when it was intercepted between towns by the Patrol and a suspicious looking character, carrying a brief case, was removed.

During his many years of service Dr. Glendening has tried to balance professional duties, community service, and family relationship. Therefore, he may have avoided situations which might have led to prominence but would have unbalanced other obligations. He has served in many capacities in the Methodist Church and spent many years as a Sunday School teacher. He has worked for 17 years with the Boy Scout program in Topeka serving as troop committeeman, institutional representative, and merit badge counselor. He has served for several years on the executive board of the Topeka Audubon Society.

Professional Organizations

Social, scholastic and professional organizations of which Dr. Glendening is a member are: Alpha Gamma Tau, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Phi Delta Kappa, Sigma Xi, American Chemical Society, American Association of Official Ana-

lytical Chemists, American Association for Advancement of Science, Kansas Academy of Science, American Public Health Association, Kansas Public Health Association, Conference of State and Provincial Laboratory Directors, and American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists. He is also listed in Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in the Midwest, and has published several papers in scientific journals.

Dr. Glendening was certified in Toxicological Chemistry and as a diplomate of the American Board of Clinical Chemists in 1964. He was elected Fellow, American Academy of Forensic Science 1967 and Fellow, American Institute of Chemists in 1969.

Dr. Glendening has spent 16 years as Chief of the Chemistry Section of the Laboratory Services of the Kansas State Department of Health. During this time he has been responsible for much of the chemical laboratory support of health and law-enforcement agencies of the state. His work for state and local health departments, physicians, coronors, veterinarians, Kansas University Medical Center, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Kansas State University and other agencies includes toxicology, food and drug exami-

nations, examinations for the detection and control of congenital defects, pesticide determinations, examinations in connection with highway safety, arson, homicides and other health and law-enforcement problems.

A recent accomplishment has been in connection with highway safety. Dr. Glendening developed a nationally accepted method of specifically identifying quantitatively the amount of ethel alcohol, and/or related substances in blood from alleged drunken drivers on the highway. He has also applied the method to the detection of dangerous solvents in the environment in manufacturing plants. Recently, the State Highway Patrol obtained a federal grant based on the method developed by Dr. Glendening and has placed the instrumentation for doing the tests in its district offices. Dr. Glendening is responsible cooperatively in developing the program, monitoring the accuracy of the results, and teaching the Highway Patrol officers how to do the tests.

Busy as he is, Dr. Glendening's balanced life includes hobbies. He likes wood carving, wood-working, photography, and various aspects of nature study. But his first love has always been chemistry. This interest was

stimulated when, as a senior high school student, he scored the highest in Kansas on a statewide test of chemistry students.

Blaine's first laboratory was an upstairs room in his home. It was equipped with glassware and chemicals assembled from various sources and a bench of planks supported by persimmon pole legs. Little did he dream that he would move from that primitive equipment to such sophisticated instruments as the spectrograph, gas chromatograph and infrared spectrophotometer and to the awesome responsibility of his position today.





JOHN W. ZOOK

"Every groceryman in Kansas knows John Zook. When he makes an inspection, you don't forget it for awhile," commented the owner of a western Kansas retail grocery and meat market.

This thorough efficiency has earned for John Zook a Service Recognition Award from the Kansas Public Health Association. A Food and Drug Inspector in the State Health Department's South Central Area Office, Mr. Zook has the reputation of doing an outstanding job in whatever phase of public health he undertakes. A co-worker says, "When something difficult is to be done, John is called upon to do it, and it is done—correctly."

This award might be considered a birthday gift for John Zook, slightly delayed. He was born May 3, 1912. And how many people can claim they were born in a town of the same name as their own? John Zook was born on a farm a half mile east of Zook, Kansas, named after his grandfather, also a John Zook.

Zook was a thriving little town in Pawnee County, in the late teens and early twenties. Today there is very little left to remind past residents of days gone by.

The Zooks came west from Illinois in the 1870's and raised a family of three girls and eight boys, one of whom became John's father. Most of the children lived in the community for many years after their marriage.

Those were happy days, according to John. Large family gatherings were quite common. But he adds, rather wistfully, "Progress has taken its toll and now the families and descendants are scattered to the four winds and reunions are rare."

John started to school at the age of five. He and his older sister walked two miles to the one-room school. There was one teacher for the eight grades and 48 pupils.

John's father farmed, was an auctioneer, and had a threshing outfit. As a small boy, John got a thrill out of riding the water wagon (a steam engine was used for power), and eating in the cook shack with the crew. One of his favorite chores was helping to fill water jugs for the crew.

The family moved to Larned in January, 1920. Although it was a small town, John attended four wards of school. This was because of moving and changing of ward lines to accommodate the pupil load. There was no bussing problem in those days. Every-

body walked.

John still remembers his first full time summer job, and it was really full time. He worked from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and until 10 p.m. on Saturdays. He received "the grand wage of \$3.00 per week, and glad to get it, too," he explains.

In May, 1929, John graduated from Larned high school. He took the Normal Training course in high school, passed the state examination, and taught a term in a one-room school in northwest Pawnee County. His salary, \$80 for the 8-month term, was considered a good salary then. By the time John was 18 years old, he had finished a year of teaching. His plan was college in Pittsburg but jobs were almost non-existent in the fall of 1930.

Postponing college, John worked in Larned for two years. In September, 1932, he took out for Lawrence and K.U. with \$300 and a Model-T Ford. He remembers college as a long, but enjoyable, struggle.

John was admitted to the KU Medical School in the fall of 1935. "I wasn't smart enough to work five hours a day to support myself, carry a full schedule, and make the required grades for med school," he ex-

plains.

After he got his degree in 1939, with a major in bacteriology, he found service stations were paying more than bacteriologists. He was a station attendant in Lawrence about two years before he was "discovered."

In was in February 1941 when Dr. M. Leon Bauman stopped at the station. While John serviced his car, Dr. Bauman explained that the Marion County Health Department had an opening for a sanitarian. He urged John to apply.

John made the contact the following Monday, got the job, and by Wednesday had moved to Marion. His salary was \$150 a month, with \$50 travel expenses.

Two major responsibilities were the school sanitation program and supervision of the W.P.A. privy project. John tried to promote adoption of the milk ordinance and code. He was successful in Marion but reports he "struck out in Hillsboro, Florence and Peabody." He built up a laboratory in the courthouse basement to do water and milk samples. Whenever the river flooded, apparently fairly often, he was of tremendous help.

On March 1, 1943, John transferred to Junction City as sanitarian for the Geary

County Health Department. In August of 1943 they moved into new quarters on East Ninth in Junction City. There were good lab facilities there, and John did the routine analyses of milk and water samples.

"Everyone dreams of being in business for himself," John explains. On January 1, 1948 he went into the grocery business in Clay Center. "There were good years and bad years," he reminisces.

On October 1, 1955, John Zook went to work as a Food and Drug Inspector for the State Department of Health's Food and Drug Division. He has been at the Area Office in Wichita ever since.

His first weeks were spent training with his co-workers, Melvin Johnson and Jess Reddy, Food and Drug Inspectors now retired. Many nights they spent in hotel rooms going over the day's inspections and experiences.

In the fall of 1956, the three were assigned to the State Fair at Hutchinson. It wasn't long until John realized he was the rookie saddled with all the dreaded duties! For the past 13 years, John has worked the six-day Fair, some years all alone. He helps make sure that the food Fair goers eat is safe.

One time might be thought of as the Year

of the Pizza. After watching a certain stand for awhile, John decided the operator had better stop production, cancel his permit, and get a refund. It seems that the man was whirling the pizza dough into the air above the stand but he didn't always catch it on the way down! John never did think of an appropriate name for the pizza, filled with dust and foreign particles.

John's routine has included inspections of retail and wholesale grocery and drug outlets and every feasible kind of food factory; train derailment and truck wrecks where food or drugs are involved; all disasters involving food and drugs and irregularities involving food and drugs and/or quackery.

Anytime a shop involved in the hair-growing business bloomed in Wichita or its surrounding area, here came John. He could always get a favorable court decision against the so-called 'hair-growers.' "By looking at him you can see why," explains a co-worker. "It wasn't hard for John to persuade the 'hair grower' to prescribe a treatment to grow hair." Then he had his evidence of the quack product.

Of all the present Food and Drug Inspectors, John Zook was instrumental in their basic training. No doubt these training sessions had

their trying, as well as pleasant, experiences for the instructor. However, all the inspectors—present as well as retired—think his training helped them become much more efficient.

Leaders of industry have great respect for John Zook. He is cited as doing a tremendous job in drug work, correcting drug abuse, quackery, and other working situations.

Family and Hobbies

John Zook married Frances Stutesman Morehouse on September 20, 1939. He has a step-daughter, son-in-law and three grandsons. They live in Johnson County and John says "You can guess where we spend our holidays!"

As for hobbies, John says he has no particular hobbies as such. However, he does enjoy working in the yard and garden, a good game of bridge, and is an avid armchair sports fan..

A friend tells how John decided to plant a garden early one year when he was living in Junction City. In March, during a warm period, he prepared the soil and planted the seeds. After the plants were some two or three inches above the ground, the weather changed. John looked at his garden after it stopped

snowing and saw small green tips of different plants showing atop the snow. He figured all his work was for naught and they would surely freeze. To his surprise, it was the best-producing garden he had had for many years!

Professional Organizations

The awardee has been chairman of many committees in various public health and food and drug organizations. He is past-president of the Mid-Continental Food and Drug Officials. He is presently Secretary - Treasurer of the Kansas Association of Environmentalists and Vice-President of the Kansas Public Health Association.

John has always done his part in civic duties. When he lived in Junction City, he was active in Jaycees. He served two terms on the Clay Center City Council and was a trustee of the Presbyterian Church. He maintains membership in International Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians and Association of Food and Drug Officials of the U. S. Vice-president of KPHA, he attended his first meeting in 1941 at Wichita. It probably never entered John's mind that someday the association would honor him with an award.

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- 1956— Cassandra Ritter
Mary C. Bure, R.N.
- 1957— Alice M. Finley, R. N.
Ivan F. Shull, M.P.H.
- 1958— Sarah Zeller, R. N.
James T. Newton
- 1959— Bertha H. Campbell
Melvin O. Johnson, B. S.
- 1960— C. Herbert Munger, M. D.
Jesse M. Reddy
- 1961— Flora Acton McKinley
Evan E. Wright
- 1962— Bernard J. Langdon
Margaret P. Shadoan, R.N.
- 1963— Roberta E. Foote, R.N.
James M. Mott, M. D.
- 1964— Hannah E. Lindberg, R. N.
Russell J. Stanbridge
- 1965— Virginia Pence Lockhart, M.P.H.
Waldo W. Wilmore, M. A.
- 1966— Leona M. Boyd
Paul E. Luckan
- 1967— Evelyn I. Ford
Guy G. Salts
- 1968— Loretta B. Wilson, R.N.
Willard R. Bellinger, D.D.S., M.P.H.
- 1969— Opal Becker
Alberta Mahaney, R.N.

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