



The American Museum of Natural History

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LIBBIE H. HYMAN -- Biographical Background

Dr. Libbie H. Hyman, Research Associate in the Department of Living Invertebrates at The American Museum of Natural History, is widely recognized as this country's foremost authority on invertebrate organisms. For the past thirty years she has been engaged in research and writing for an extensive treatise titled "The Invertebrates", of which five volumes have been published. She is now at work on Volume VI. When completed, the study will cover the entire field of invertebrate zoology, with special reference to anatomy, embryology, physiology, and ecology. It is the most comprehensive work in its field ever to appear in English.

A native of Iowa, Dr. Hyman was graduated from the University of Chicago in 1910. She earned her Ph.D. at that institution in 1915 and served there as research assistant to Dr. Charles Manning Child, Professor of Zoology, from 1915 to 1931. She has been with The American Museum of Natural History since 1937. In 1941 she received an honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the University of Chicago.

Dr. Hyman was the editor (1959-1963) of "Systematic Zoology", the journal of the Society of Systematic Zoology, and is also a past president (1959) of the Society.

In May, 1960, Dr. Hyman was awarded the Linnaean Gold Medal of the Linnaean Society of London. The medal is the Society's highest honor and a mark of international distinction in the field of biologic research. Dr. Hyman was the first woman zoologist to receive it.

In 1955, Dr. Hyman became the first woman scientist to receive the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal of the National Academy of Sciences.