

OBITUARY

Edmund V. Cowdry, B.S., Ph.D.
1888-1975

Dr. Edmund Vincent Cowdry, Emeritus Professor of Anatomy, and formerly Head, Department of Anatomy, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri died on Wednesday, 25 June 1975, shortly before his 87th birthday.

He was born in Alberta, Canada on 18 July 1888. He did his undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto and completed his Ph.D. in anatomy in 1913 at the University of Chicago. He served as professor of cytology and later anatomy at Washington University School of Medicine from 1928-1950. Dr. Cowdry did a series of studies on leprosy lesions and carried out experimental work with promin on "rat leprosy" at the Barnard Hospital in St. Louis which preceded the use of this drug in the treatment of leprosy patients at the USPHS Hospital at Carville. His work became increasingly directed towards the problems of aging and cancer and it is for his contributions in these

two fields that he will probably be best remembered.

Throughout his long and varied career in research, writing books and teaching Dr. Cowdry served on many national and international committees, was an active participant in many academic societies, and received many awards and honors. His paper entitled "Cytological Studies on Globi in Leprosy" is being reprinted in this issue of the IJL. The "Photographic Gallery of Senior Distinguished Contributors" in the IJL Centennial Festkrift I, Volume 41, Number 2, 1973, page 179, carries a photograph and short biography of Dr. Cowdry.—[We thank Dr. W. M. Cowan, Chairman of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Washington University School of Medicine, for providing us with the obituary he wrote on Dr. Cowdry published in the ANATOMICAL RECORD 186 (1976) 237-239, from which part of this obituary was abstracted]