

Reports—Current Topics—Queries

FORMER ASSISTANT EDITOR SAM GADD DIES

Sam Gadd, who served as assistant editor of *American Biology Teacher* under former editor Jack Carter, died July 27, 1974, following a heart attack. The survivors of his immediate family include his wife, Mary B., a daughter, and two married sons.

Born Dec. 10, 1922, Sam was a newspaperman for 15 years, from reporter to city editor and publisher of his own weekly. He was a science writer and editor for *New Standard Encyclopedia*, and he later became a member of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* staff, editing articles on medicine, chemistry, biochemistry, American literature, theater, and dance. From 1968 to 1972, he was consultant in biology for *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, during which time he wrote hundreds of articles on the birds of the world and on other animals, including invertebrates. Sam taught literature and journalism at Columbia College, Chicago, from 1962 to 1968, and he served as poet-in-residence in Colorado schools, under a federal-state program, in 1971 and 1972. Since 1971, Sam had been a free-lance editor of approximately 20 books on biology and medicine.

Richard P. Aulie, of Loyola University of Chicago, who is a regular contributor to *American Biology Teacher*, has written as follows of Sam Gadd:

The untimely death of Sam Gadd saddens all of us who knew him. Although I never met Sam, we corresponded during the last several years. Tinged with humanity and a love of life, his letters and notes go quite beyond the ordinary requirement of duty. They reveal him as a perceptive man, and free of pretension. I am especially obligated to Sam, because he edited my recent articles in *ABT* and on more than one occasion urged me to continue writing. Sam's death reminds us that as we grow older, we accumulate debts that we cannot hope to repay. Anything that we accomplish in this world we cannot do alone, for we must depend on the help of others who, like Sam, are generous with their skill, courtesy, and time.

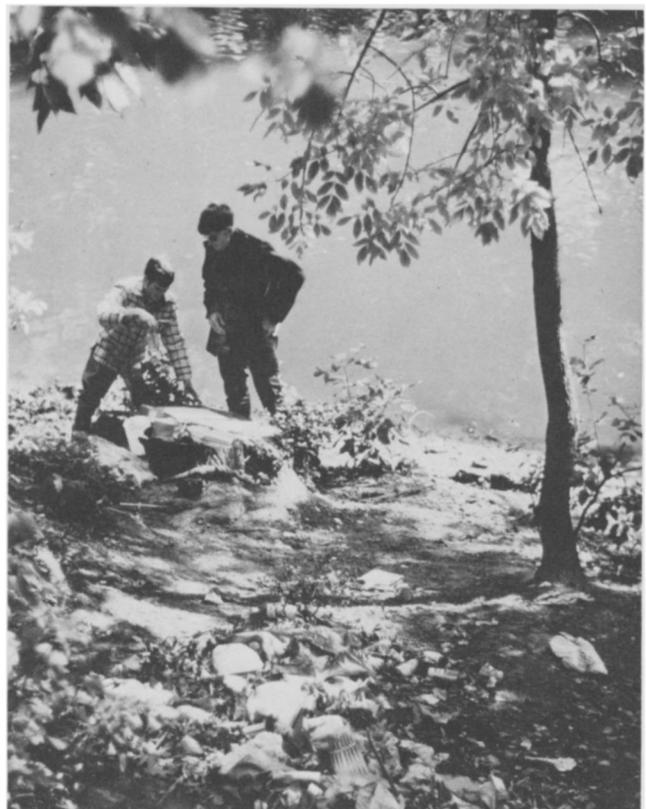
We glide along the tide of life as swiftly as a river, and vanish as quickly as a dream. We are like grass that is green in the morning but mowed down and withered before the evening shadows fall.—Psalm 90.

Sam contributed significantly to the quality of *American Biology Teacher*. As we attempt to maintain the high standards he set, we shall continue to be aware of his influence on the journal for many years to come.

The editorial staff

RIVER STUDY LEADS TO COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

At Wilbur Wright College, in Chicago's Northwest Side, a different kind of environmental course is linking two-year college students with the experiential world in which they live. The word environment, for a sizable number of college students like those at Wright College, has usually meant only urban environment. A different teaching strategy seemed necessary if these students were to perceive the scale and scope of Chicago and its regional ecologic effects. We hoped our students could develop a less parochial view of modern man and urban ecology. Part of the answer has been found in a new course, *Biology 201: The River*.



Impact of urban man on the Des Plaines River near Chicago is studied by Wright College students. Note trash heap in foreground. By collecting indicator organisms and water samples for chemical analysis, students found the quality of the water at this site was low. (Duane Higley photo.)