

He received his early education from private tutors.

and Director of the Institute of Microbiology

# Selman A. Waksman

of  
Professor and Research Specialist, Microbiology  
College of Agriculture, Rutgers University

Dr. Waksman was born July 2, 1888, in Priluka, a small town in the Ukraine, Russia. His parents were Jacob and Fradia (London) Waksman. After graduating in 1910 from the Fifth Gymnasium in Odessa, he left for the United States.

He entered the College of Agriculture of Rutgers University in 1911 and received his bachelor of science in 1915. He became a naturalized citizen the same year. He then was appointed research assistant in soil microbiology at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, and later Research Fellow at the University of California. He obtained a master of science degree from Rutgers University in 1916 and a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of California in 1918.

He received an appointment the same year as Microbiologist at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station at New Brunswick, New Jersey, and lecturer in soil microbiology at Rutgers University. He became associate professor in 1925, and in 1930 was made professor. He now heads the Microbiology Department, College of Agriculture and Experiment Station, Rutgers University.

In 1931, he was invited to organize a division of marine bacteriology at the newly established Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and was appointed marine bacteriologist of that institution, of which he was later made a trustee.

He is a member, honorary member, or fellow of a number of scientific societies in this country and abroad (Germany, India, Russia, Sweden, Mexico, France). Among the American societies to which he belongs are the Society of American Bacteriologists, of which he is a former president, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Research Council. He won the Nitrate of Soda Nitrogen Research Award in 1929, and was president of Commission III on Soil Microbiology of the International Society of Soil Science (1927-1935), and was elected as corresponding member of the French Academy of Sciences in 1937.

In the summer of 1946, Dr. Waksman lectured before scientific groups in Europe and was given an honorary degree of doctor of medicine by the University of Liege in Belgium. He holds also honorary degrees of doctor of science, awarded to him by Rutgers in 1942 and by Princeton University in 1947, and an honorary degree of doctor of laws from Yeshiva University, New York, in 1948.

Dr. Waksman's work in his field has been recognized by several scientific societies in recent years. He received the Passano Foundation Award in 1947; the Emil Christian Hansen medal and award from the Carlsberg Laboratories in Denmark the same year; the New Jersey Agricultural Society medal; the Albert and Mary Lasker Award by the American Public Health Association, and the Amory Award by the National Academy of Sciences, all in 1948, and many others.

Dr. Waksman is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi.

He has published more than 300 scientific papers, and has written, alone or with others, eight books. Among these are "Enzymes," 1926; "Principles of Soil Microbiology," 1927, 1932; "The Soil and the Microbe," 1932; "Humus," 1936, 1938; "Microbial Antagonisms and Antibiotic Substances," 1945, 1947, and "The Literature on Streptomycin, 1944-1948," 1948. Another work, edited by Dr. Waksman, is scheduled for publication in late summer of this year. Its title is "Streptomycin—Nature and Practical Applications."

President of Rutgers Chapter

April 1949  
"Actinomycetes"  
1950

under Dr. J. G. Lipman

and has recently been made Director of the New Institute of Microbiology

majoring under Prof. H. Bralston Robertson in Biochemistry

Brazil, Spain

numerous and other

American Arts and