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## Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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## Citation for Glenn Halstead Brown

*Glenn Halstead Brown* received his earlier scientific training at Ohio University where he obtained the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in 1939 and 1941.

Following a period of combined teaching work and research, he was awarded the degree of PhD from Iowa State University in 1951. Though perhaps tempted by careers in either the ministry or in baseball, his love of science prevailed, and following ten years of lecturing in the Universities of Vermont and Cincinnati, he joined Kent State University in 1960 as Professor of Chemistry and Chairman of the Department.

In 1965 he was appointed Director of the Liquid Crystal Institute which he founded there, and in 1968 became Regents Professor of Chemistry.

If we were to signify the two things of greatest scientific importance which Glenn Brown has done in his lifetime, I am sure that any of us who know the situation would say

- 1) that he wrote the review entitled—"The Mesomorphic State"—subtitled "Liquid Crystals"—jointly with Wilfred G. Shaw in 1957 and

- 2) that he obtained the finance for and organized that memorable First International Liquid Crystal Conference held at Kent State University, Ohio in 1965.

By the first of these actions, he set the scene for the explosive development of work in the field of liquid crystals that was to follow in the next twenty years, and also provided newcomers to the field with a first class literature review. Certainly, my own first book of 1962 was based upon it.

By the second action, he gathered together scientists active in the area of liquid crystals in 1965, and set the scene once again for the regular sequence of International Meetings which we have all come to expect and look forward to as occasions on which scientists in this strongly international and interdisciplinary field can meet to communicate and exchange ideas.

Had this been all that Glenn Brown had achieved, he would merit our respect and recognition. However, a man of his personality has not been content with just that. Three of the eight International Meetings to date have been held at Kent State University under his guidance and care, and he has travelled extensively, lecturing on over 350 occasions on the subject of liquid crystals and their importance in many centres and in many countries. Moreover, he has been, since 1965, Chairman of the International Planning and

Steering Committee for Liquid Crystal Conferences, co-ordinating the needs and interests in this area of research groups in many countries. We should also be grateful to him for his Editorship of *Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals* and for his work in sustaining and maintaining what is after all our own *Liquid Crystal Journal*.

Although I have known Glenn Brown personally for 15 years—since our first happy meeting in 1965—I have nonetheless come to learn some things about him through “doing my homework” for this brief address.

I have of course been fully familiar, as you all must be, with his extensive publications—scientific papers, review articles, and books relating to liquid crystals. Additional to all that extensive work however, he has publications to his name in other areas ranging from books on “The Fundamentals of Chemistry” and on “Quantitative Chemistry”, through numerous reviews, articles, and scientific papers on the subjects of polarography; phototropism and photochromism; metal  $\beta$ -diketonates; the mass spectrometry and physical properties of high molecular weight fatty acids; the conductance, viscosity, and structural properties of ionising organic materials in organic solvents, and of rare earth metal complexes in solution.

Those of us who know Glenn Brown recognize him as a forceful personality, but a man of great humanity, interested in the betterment of life for mankind. This fact may be closely related to his particular interest, reflected in his published work, in the role of liquid crystals in living systems and the use of liquid crystals in the diagnosis of disease, and to his many services over the years on committees devoted to the interests of the Central States Universities and the American Chemical Society.

Glenn Brown's talents and attributes have been recognized by many professional bodies—to mention but some, the Distinguished Service Award by the Ohio Academy of Science in 1966, the award of the honorary ScD in 1972 by Bowling Green State University, the Morley Award for outstanding contributions to Chemistry in 1977, and the award of the President's Medal of Kent State University in 1980.

We recognize of course that behind every good man there is a good—or some would even say a better—woman, and that with Mrs. Jessie Brown behind him, Glenn Brown has had much in the way of valuable support, help, and guidance. Nonetheless, his many achievements must reflect the quality of the man, and it is a great honour that I have been asked, on behalf of the Organizing Committee and the delegates of this Eighth International Liquid Crystal Conference, held here in Kyoto, to recognize his great contributions to science and to liquid crystal research in particular, to thank him for them, and to wish him well in the future.

G. W. GRAY