

**Marvin B. Rounds**

*In Appreciation*



MARVIN B. ROUNDS

Marvin B. Rounds was born in Piano, Illinois, in December 1879. Removing to Chicago in 1893, he attended Chicago grammar school and Hyde Park High School. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1900 and subsequently served one year as Assistant in Chemistry.

In 1909 Rounds came to California, and one year later became a citrus grower at Monrovia. In 1915 he joined the staff of the Los Angeles County Commissioner of Agriculture, and served as the first official inspector of citrus fumigation. Rounds served as Horticulturist for the Azusa Foothill Citrus Company at Azusa 1917-18 and also 1918-24. In 1918-20 he was Special Field Agent in the United States Department of Agriculture doing research work on citrus fumigation.

On June 15, 1924 Rounds joined the University of California Extension Service as Assistant Farm Advisor for Los Angeles County. He became Farm Advisor June 1, 1925 and continued in this office until July 1, 1929 when he was transferred to the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside. In the latter position he worked on field research problems, particularly with lemon root-stocks and avocado varieties.

Rounds retired from University work October 15, 1945 and is now engaged as Horticultural Consultant with his home in Glendora and an office at Whittier.

For many years Marvin Rounds has been particularly interested in avocados, and has been of very great assistance to this Society and to avocado growers generally. While Farm Advisor he became an expert on avocado varieties and began his monumental work on the compilation of a master card index, his aim being to accumulate in one file, all available information, such as history, descriptions, notes, photographs, etc., of every variety as well as many promising seedlings. His work in checking up on the progress made by registered seedlings has been especially noteworthy. Rounds has not only taken active part in innumerable meetings of growers, but he has published many articles, a number of which have appeared in our Yearbooks.

In 1943 Marvin Rounds was awarded the Emblem of Honor of this Society for outstanding service; and in 1945 he was elected to the Board of Directors. Over many years Rounds has been, and still is, a "wheel-horse" for hard work in connection with the advancement of the California avocado industry. Perhaps no one is personally acquainted with a larger number of avocado growers, and certainly no one is better liked and more universally appreciated.