

I.W. Arthur Memorial Lecture, Department of Economics, Iowa State University

Ira W. "Duke" Arthur was born in Iowa in 1893. He graduated from Ames High School in 1912 as president of his senior class. He then attended Iowa State College where he studied animal husbandry. After graduating in 1916, he briefly taught animal husbandry at the University of Georgia. However, when war broke out he became a World War I flier with the United States Air Corps. After the war, he returned to Ames where he completed a Master's Degree in Agricultural Economics in 1927. He continued his study of economics, first at the University of Chicago and then at the University of Minnesota where he received his doctorate in 1939.

I.W. Arthur joined the Iowa State Economics Department in 1936. He became a full professor in 1959. His duties were divided between extension and teaching. His extension research and activities included contributions in the areas of farm leases, land tenure, social security, partnership agreements, pork and beef marketing, and rural human capital. However, his greatest contributions were in undergraduate teaching. His students admired him both for his kind, compassionate nature and for his straightforward, no-nonsense approach to economic problems.

The Department of Economics at Iowa State is proud to dedicate this seminar to the memory of I.W. Arthur and to the academic spirit that he strived to enhance.