



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY

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Author(s)	WITSCHI, Emil
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My personal acquaintance with Tohru Uchida dates back to the summer of 1931. Accompanied by his charming wife, he paid us a visit at Iowa City, on the return trip to Japan from Berlin and München. Two years of study with Richard Goldschmidt and Karl von Frisch had made him a member of the scientific family of Richard Hertwig not only by contact. Well prepared through years of training at the great school of Zoologists in Tokyo, he had nevertheless preserved a youthful adaptability, that enabled him to gain full advantage from his study period abroad. Iowa was suffering under a spell of sweltering heat; but even while he was wiping the sweat from his brows, our visitor denied that the weather was unbearable. Indefatigably he was carrying on the conversations on the lawn in the shade of the trees and in the steaming laboratories. Then and there I realized that Doctor Uchida was not only a well informed student in the widely ramified field of sex research but an investigator of originality, filled with a great enthusiasm for scientific progress.

After the return to his country Professor Uchida developed his own school at the progressive Hokkaido University. It soon became known also outside of Japan, because of the wide scope and variety of subject interests as well as the quality of its scientific production. Active himself in several fields, it would be hard to find out which one of them is closest to his heart. Like his Emperor, obviously Doctor Uchida is fascinated by the beauty and manifoldness of *marine animal life*. His interest is greatly attracted by the problems of *animal psychology* and *sensory physiology*. But possibly the highest accomplishment is the fact that he was able to develop a large group of associates and students that became devoted to *experimental work on sex determination*. Biologists know this as an area of great complexity, with many pitfalls even for comparatively experienced investigators. Of the impressive series of contributions by Doctor Uchida, his associates, and his students K.I. Hanaoka and A. Ichikawa, to mention only the most widely established names one can say that all reflect competence, and critically evaluating workmanship; but most important: every publication adds substantially to our knowledge and understanding of the embryology and physiology of sexual differentiation.

Congratulating my esteemed colleague and good friend to his life's accomplishments at this occasion of his sixtieth anniversary, I hasten to present also my sincere wishes for further successes and many more good years to come.

Dr. Emil Witschi
Professor of Zoology,
State University of Iowa,
U. S. A.