

III. PERSONAL NEWS  
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*Please notify the Editor of the FMBulletin of any change in address, which he will be glad to communicate here*

Dr. J. A. R. A n d e r s o n, former conservator of Forests, Kuching, now consultant forester and ecologist, new address: 30 Greenhill Gardens, Edinburgh EH10 4BP, U.K. His Far East address: c/o Room 432, 4th floor, Katong Shopping Centre, Singapore 15.

Dr. P. S. A s h t o n of Aberdeen spent 4½ months in Kuala Lumpur, during the second half of 1975, principally to teach economic and forest botany at the University of Malaya.

Dr. Bill B a r k e r left Lae to take up an appointment as a botanist on the staff of the Adelaide Herbarium (South Australia). There he will complete his revision of the Papuan Theaceae.

Dr. Reno B e l t r a n, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang, proceeded on study leave to Aberdeen in November 1976. He will continue to study cytogenetics. He and Dr. Kam Yee Kiew (also of Penang) aim to collaborate on a study of *Elettariopsis* and *Amomum* (Zingiberaceae) in Malaysia.

Ms. Mickie B e n j a m i n joined the staff of Lae Herbarium in September 1976. A graduate of the University of Papua New Guinea, she is the country's first indigenous botanist. "She is sorting out *Aristolochia* to assist in the establishment of a viable butterfly breeding industry."

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is to be congratulated with the appointment of Mr. J. P. M. B r e n a n as its Director, on 1 September 1976. It is good to know that such an eminent position is again filled by such an eminent taxonomist, who even during the time that he was Keeper of the Herbarium succeeded in making substantial contributions in the Leguminosae.

Dr. E. F. B r ü n i g, new address: Welforstwirtschaft, Leuschnerstrasse 91, 2050 Hamburg 80, W. Germany.

Mr. B. L. B u r t t, known for his work on Malesian Gesneriaceae and Zingiberaceae, retired from his post at the Edinburgh Herbarium on 30 November 1975. He has visited South Africa for several months to work on *Rhodohypoxis*, and is now working so hard, according to his collaborator, that he has not yet found time to write up an outline of his career, but hopes to do so in the future.

A young Thai student, Mr. C h a w a l i t Niyomdham, has got a grant from DANIDA. At Aarhus he is studying the genus *Crotalaria* for Flora of Thailand. He has been in Kew and Paris to go through the collections there.

Mr. C h i n See Chung, Ph.D. candidate in Yale University arrived in Malaysia late in 1976 and will prosecute his field work in Sarawak through 1977. His study will be in the ecological-ethnobotanical complex involving assessment of forest regeneration following swidden agriculture. Mr. Chin, who is on the University of Malaya staff, hopes to complete this study in 1978. In the meantime it is expected that a somewhat condensed version of his M.Sc. thesis 'The limestone flora of Malaya' will appear in the Gardens' Bulletin, Singapore.

Mr. P. F. C o c k b u r n's contract as forest botanist in Sabah will not be continued as of 1977, which we feel as a great pity.

Mr. Barry C o n n transferred from the Herbarium at Lae to a lecturing position at the Bulolo Forestry College, where his work on *Geniostoma* continues.

Ruth v a n C r e v e l (born in 1926) entered the world of botanical artistry when she was appointed on the Flora Malesiana staff on 1 May 1952, which is 25 years ago just when this issue is expected. How this appointment came about has been explained by Dr. C.G.G.J. van Steenis, Blumea 13 (1965) 127-128, when he renamed *Phyllocharis* (Campanulaceae) *Ruthiella* in her honour. Educated first at grammar-school, then at the Academy of Art in The Hague, she was trained by the Master during "some months of copying existing drawings, drawing twigs with leaves from living plants, study of methodologies used in various illustrated works of great standing such as Flora Brasiliensis, Botanische Jahrbücher, Ross-Craig's Drawings of British Plants and also discussions on published pictures which showed deficiencies". In The Netherlands, there is no formal training in this field.

Her debut was in Volume 4, page 351 (March 1953), with the Gonystylaceae: stiff, ungrateful plants, and the difference with experienced Stella Ross-Craig, whose *Amyxa pluricornis* on p. 362 precedes Ruth's *Aetoxylon sympetalum* is still tremendous. *Neuropeltis* (Convolvulaceae) on p. 401 is already much better, and in the course of 1953 - as we can see from the date added to the now familiar monogram (R) - she established her style completely: *Eryngium moluccanum* (Umbelliferae, 14: 596), and *Osmelia philippina* (Flacourtiaceae, 15: 80). And it has happened more than once that in recent botanical literature we came across figures which are clearly attempts at an imitation of her style. More meaningful, however, was the praise she received in print for her Gleiche-

niaceae from C.V. Morton, who observed that "the many drawings deserve special mention, for they are models of botanical illustration" (Amer. Fern J. 51, 1961, 46).

In 1960 she was transferred to the Rijksherbarium staff, and in fact demoted. The rank she had held at the Flora Malesiana was above that of a much older draughtsman whose colleague she now became, and this was considered impossible. She turned disappointment to advantage by learning professional photography. This set her onto a parallel career, and with great joy she now divides her time between the two. She accompanied many biological excursions with her camera, in The Netherlands and abroad, photographing plants of all kinds, having the benefit of instant identification. In 1974 she was commissioned to make all the vegetation photographs in colour as well as in black and white for a fine and successful book on the ecology and history of the Meijendel dunes, between The Hague and Leiden. Photography stimulated her to develop methods for much faster sketching; see the article on Collaboration of Taxonomists and Draughtsmen

She also obtained a knack for display. Soon after the move of the Rijksherbarium to the Schelpenkade, the long corridor walls began to be filled with her black and white photographs of leaves, flowers, seeds, ferns, mosses, lichens, fungi, etc., all blown up to 50 by 60 cm and mounted on board. Visitors often express their delight. Many of these photographs reveal a striking near-geometrical pattern, and have also assisted her in the design of the Herbarium Christmas cards, in 1957, 1961 to 1964, 1968, and in all the years from 1970 to 1976. She has had quite a number of exhibitions of her own work, alone or together with other photographers, and enthusiastically took part in exhibitions at several occasions organized by the University.

An instinct for regularity, and for order in general, is a feature of Miss van Crevel's character. Perhaps this is related to her love for classical music, her interest in the lay-out and correction of texts, and to her need for clarity which sometimes leaves her unsatisfied with a taxonomist's explanation of a structure she is to draw. In this and other respects she has the mental make-up of the true researcher who remains troubled by a problem until the solution has come forth. Analyzing and examining a structure until she understands it, she has more than once saved a professional botanist from making a blunder. The repetition in an inflorescence severely taxes her patience; look at the drawing of *Picrasma* (which is, according to herself, a relatively easy plant having comparatively few, large, female flowers). But she tenaciously unfolded and measured the leaves of Cyperaceae-specimens: thus she made the plates of *Tetraria* and *Gahnia*, for instance (Fl. Males. 1 7: 662, 704. 1974). She

has the artist's sensitivity and mixture of optimism and pessimism, dependent on the development of her work, all connected by a quick sense of humour, even to the amount of an occasional shriek of laughter. She is excellent company.

It is the misfortune of people occupied with the visual arts, that they never receive an applause. Here, too, the applause can be given in print only; on the other hand, it lasts longer. We are proud to have her at this institute; her work is in a class of its own, and we hope that much more will follow. Proficiat! — M.J.

Mr. R. J. D e k k e r of Amsterdam University worked for 3 months in 1976 at Leiden with Dr. M. Jacobs in order to prepare himself for taxonomic work on weeds, in connection with a BIOTROP project at Bogor, where he now is, after a brief stay with Professor J.V. Pancho in Los Baños.

Dr. J. D r a n s f i e l d of Kew, seconded to the Ministry of Overseas Development for one year to work in Malaya on rattans, will complete his second and longest part of it, notably 10 months, to start in March 1977. This is in addition to his work on the Palms for the Flora of East Tropical Africa.

Ms. Margo D u n c a n, a Peace Corps Volunteer, has been attached to the Forest Research Institute at Kepong to study the reproductive biology of Malayan trees. Her arrival coincided with very heavy flowering of Dipterocarps and many other families of trees in March-April 1976 throughout Malaya.

Mr. Selwyn Lawrence E v e r i s t retired on 2 July 1976 as Director of the Brisbane Herbarium, after having held the position for 22 years. From an article by Dr. R.W. Johnson in the Queensland Country Life of 24 June 1976 and a letter, the following biographical data are taken. Everist was born at Tewantin in 1913, left school at 15½, and joined the State Public Service of Queensland as a cadet clerk in January 1929. After 15 months in the Machinery and Scaffolding Department, he was transferred to the Botany Branch. He abandoned accountancy, did a two-year course in one by studying at night, enrolled for the B.Sc. course of Queensland University as an external student. At the end of his fourth year, he was selected to study Mitchell Grass in central Queensland which was threatened with overgrazing. He was given off 8 months to prepare himself full time at the university, and took his B.Sc. in 1936. Settling at Blackall in January 1937, he studied grasslands in western Queensland. In February 1942 he joined the RAAF, and was posted as a meteorological officer in New South Wales, New Guinea, and Charleville. Discharged in 1946, he took advantage of his meteorological work when he became member of a team who studied the climate of western

sheeplands. He also carried out work on edible trees (especially mulga, *Acacia aneura*) and on poisonous plants, which he gradually extended to noxious plants in general. This work brought him to a variety of meetings and conferences. He was among the first to combat brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla*) by spraying from the air, in 1951. C.T. White the botanist was his boss and mentor for 20 years. After a period as acting director, in 1954 he succeeded W.D. Francis as director of the Queensland Herbarium. During his tenure, he modernized the organization of the Herbarium, and had it moved from an old wooden building into a modern, air-conditioned one. A major scientific achievement was his 'Poisonous Plants of Australia' (see p. 2621-2622). The back flap of this book states that he was a part-time lecturer in Toxicology at the Veterinary Faculty, University of Queensland, and member of the committee to organize Arid Lands Conferences in Australia since 1960.

Among his personal properties are outstanding: a) Foresight. He initiated and directed studies on brigalow lands so that guidelines were available for further work. He did much for data banking. b) Keen observation and deduction. Many of his conclusions regarding the mulga communities (1949) were substantiated by later experimental work. c) Ability to synthesize. His Poisonous Plants testify to a critical faculty to sift and to compile a great variety of data. d) Ability to organize. He converted the Queensland herbarium from a collection of individualists to a well-run team, and vastly improved the facilities. e) Analytical mind. He focussed on the critical issues of problems, and deeply influenced his colleagues. This led him to see the need for fundamental research, and his promotion of such work, notably in the Flora of Australia Committee, the Australian Weeds Committee, and the Panel on Underexploited Tropical Plants.

We may add a note of deep appreciation for his generous cooperation to the Flora Malesiana and the personal interest he took in the project. Liberally he sent materials on loan, and visiting botanists were given help and hospitality. He stimulated scientific field work in Queensland, which led to the discovery of several Malesian genera in Australia, and a better knowledge of a variety of interesting species. He will settle on Bribie Island, to continue his writing and photographing. We wish him all the best! — M.J.

Dr. John F l e n l e y is spending the years 1975-1977 as a Research Fellow at Australian National University, Canberra, to continue his studies on the Quaternary vegetation history of Malesia. In September 1977 he will return to Hull, England.

Dr. F. R. F o s b e r g of Washington, on his way to Ceylon (where the Flora of Ceylon project is now in its last year) took a stop-over at the Rijksherbarium.

Mrs. Claudine Berthe-F r i e d b e r g, ethnobotanist from Paris who long worked in Timor, visited the Rijksherbarium, late in October 1976.

The vacancy left by Mr. J.P.M. Brennan as Keeper of the Kew Herbarium (see p. 2742), has been filled by Mr. Peter S. G r e e n, who was already acting keeper. We congratulate him with this most important post in the functioning of taxonomic botany.

Mr. Gregory G. H a m b a l l i, budding botanist of parasitic groups, took his degree at Reading and, after having visited Leiden, returned to Bogor where he is to take up a post on the Herbarium staff.

Professor R. H e g n a u e r, director of the Laboratory for Experimental Plant Systematics, Leiden, and frequent contributor of phytochemical paragraphs to the Flora Malesiana, is congratulated with the Flückiger Medal he was awarded at Munich, on 24 October 1976, for his work in chemotaxonomy.

Professor J. H e s l o p - H a r r i s o n, while still Director of Kew Gardens, visited China under the auspices of the Royal Society, during the summer of 1975, invited by the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In a brief article he reports on his journey, 'In agriculture, learn from Ta Chai', MAFF Bulletin 19 (Jan. 1976) 109-112. There is no botany in it.

Dr. R. E. H o l t t u m of Kew travelled to Perth, then to Melbourne where Professor C. C h a m b e r s of the University is making a monographic study of *Blechnum*, then to Brisbane where he discussed with Mr. Bruce A n d r e w s the latter's work on Queensland ferns. From there he went to Hawaii, as a guest of the Pacific Garden at Kauai, where he received the Robert Allerton Award for his work on tropical botany. He also worked some days at the Bishop Museum, part of the preparations of a paper on the Thelypteridaceae throughout the Pacific and Australasia for Allertonia. He also lectured about ferns, at Perth, Melbourne, and Honolulu. On the way back he also lectured at the Singapore, Penang, and Kuala Lumpur Universities. He and Mrs. Holttum, who accompanied him, were back in England in mid-December 1975.

Dr. R. D. H o o g l a n d of ANU Canberra arrived in September 1976 at the Rijksherbarium with a ZWO fellowship to complete the Cunoniaceae for the Flora Malesiana, expected finished in mid-1977.

In the autumn 1977 Professor I w a t s u k i will spend a month at Aarhus for the study of South-East Asian ferns.

Dr. Daniel H. J a n z e n, new address: Leidy Laboratory G7, Biology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Penn. 19174, U.S.A.

Dr. A. C. J e r m y of the BM visited Sarawak in September-October 1976, in connection with the planned Royal Geographical Society Expedition to G. Mulu.

Dr. R. W. J o h n s o n, interested in plant ecology, numerical methods, and Convolvulaceae, who was assistant-director of the Brisbane Herbarium since 1974, has been appointed Director in 1976, to succeed Dr. S.L. Everist.

Dr. Hsuan K e n g of Singapore spent a number of weeks at the Rijksherbarium, in September and October 1976, to work further on his FM-revision of the Labiatae.

From 1 July 1977 Dr. T. K o y a m a, New York Botanical Garden, will spend half a year as visiting professor at the Botanical Institute in Aarhus. During this time he will concentrate on Cyperaceae for Flora of Thailand and furthermore give lectures for advanced students in taxonomy on Cyperaceae.

Dr. K u s w a t a Kartawinata of Bogor attended the 'International symposium on the ecology and management of some tropical shallow water communities' in Jakarta (23 June-3 July 1976). He presented a talk 'A preliminary study of the mangrove forest on Pulau Rambut, Jakarta Bay', written together with Mr. Eko Baroto. He joined a post-symposium tour to S. Celebes, collecting 28 herbarium numbers including several sea-grasses.

Early May 1976, Professor Kai L a r s e n and Mrs. S. S. L a r s e n, botanists of Aarhus, Denmark, and Dr. Bertil H a n s e n of Copenhagen, visited the Rijksherbarium for a few days, meeting Mr. R. G e e s i n k, new board member of the Flora of Thailand.

Mr. A. L a t i f f Mohamed from Malaya, who is working for a degree at Reading, England, visited the Rijksherbarium in August 1976 to study the Vitaceae of west Malesia, in which he has taken great interest.

Dr. J. K. M a h e s h w a r i has resigned from his directorship-in-charge of the Botanical Survey of India by 21 February 1977 and has taken up his previous assignment as Scientist 'E' in the National Botanic Gardens, Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow 226001, U.P.

Dr. F. M a r k g r a f, emeritus professor of Zürich University, celebrated his 80th birthday on 1 February 1977; Dr. C.G.G.J. van Steenis attended the occasion. In excellent health, he is proceeding well with his revision of the Apocynaceae for the Flora Malesiana. "And when this is finished" Dr. Van Steenis said to him, "we may find you another difficult family to work up." We wish him a happy continuation!

Mr. J. F. M a x w e l l, formerly of Bangkok Herbarium, is now with Dr. H. Keng studying for his M.Sc. at Singapore University. His subject is the woody Melastomataceae for the Tree Flora of Malaya, to be completed in the course of 1978.

Dr. W. M e i j e r of Lexington, U.S.A., in mid-1976 made a trip to Bali, Celebes, and Kalimantan, collecting and working for the good cause of conservation with his well-known fierceness. He took a stop-over at Leiden.

Dr. F. S. P. N g attended the 6th Malaysian Forestry Conference in Kuching in October 1976 where he tabled a paper on the phenology of Dipterocarps. In this paper, attention was drawn to a correlation between intensity of flowering and changes in intensity of solar radiation.

Mr. Ivan N i e l s e n has finished his work on Pithecellobium in South-East Asia which has been accepted by the University of Aarhus for the Ph.D. degree. He is now working up the Mimosaceae for Flora of Thailand and Flore du Cambodge, Vietnam, et Laos.

Mr. V. T. H. P a r r y, previously of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), was appointed Chief librarian at Kew.

Mr. M. G. P r i c e joined the staff of the Herbarium of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, Mich., in August 1976 to work on ferns.

Mr. J. P u t z, a Peace Corps Volunteer, has completed his assignment to survey all Virgin Jungle Reserves in Malaya. This report will be published as a Research Pamphlet of the Forest Research Institute in 1977. Mr. Putz is now studying for a higher degree at Cornell University.

Mr. M. J. S. S a n d s, accompanied by Mr. G.A. Pattison and Mr. J.J. Wood, all of Kew, in July 1975 left for a 5 months journey in Malesia for field work. See under Expeditions.

Dr. M. S c h m i d, formerly at New Caledonia, changed his permanent address to 30 Rue de l'Orangerie, Versailles 78000, France. His thesis on the vegetation of Vietnam was recently published; see Reviews. According to fairly recent news, he had plans to go to Bogor for some time, where he now may be.



Father Erwin S c h m u t z SVD came to Europe on leave (once in 5 years), and visited the Rijksherbarium where he had long talks with staff members on the botany of Flores where he has already made so many discoveries.

Dr. S e t i j a t i Sastrapradja, Director of Lembaga Biologi Nasional, Bogor, attended an International symposium on Sago in Kuching, Sarawak (4-8 July 1976). She presented a paper: 'Metroxylon sago, its uses and potentials for Indonesia', which she prepared together with Mr. Johanis P. M o - g e a. Also she attended 3 meetings in Hawaii: 1) Exploiting the Legumes-Rhizobium symbiosis in tropical Agriculture; 2) Asian Foundation Planning meeting in winged bean workshop; 3) Panel meeting on tropical legumes.

Dr. Albert C. S m i t h, new address: Department of Botany, 3190 Maile Way, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, U.S.A.

Dr. Tem S m i t i n a n d of the Bangkok Forest Herbarium paid a short visit to the Rijksherbarium and other European Herbaria in August 1976, for work on the Dipterocarpaceae for the Flora of Thailand. Having been a regular visitor of Leiden for over 15 years, he treated the tropical staff of the Rijksherbarium to excellent drinks and snacks at the New Minerva Hotel, fearing that this would be his last visit to Europe (he will retire in 1980, when he is 60), but hopefully added: "Every visit to Europe has been my last". We hope to see him again many times!

Mr. S o e m a n t r i Wirjahardja of BIOTROP, Bogor, worked for 3 months in 1976 at Leiden with Dr. M. Jacobs in order to better qualify himself in taxonomic work on weeds.

Dr. E. S o e p a d m o of Kuala Lumpur worked for 4 months at Leiden to finish his Flora Malesiana revision of the Ulmaceae.

Dr. W. T. S t e a r n of the British Museum, was awarded the Linnean Gold Medal, at the Anniversary of the Linnean Society on 24 May 1976. He gave a lecture on 'Theophrastus to Sibthorp and Smith: the background and origin of the Flora Graeca'. A chronological list of his publications on bibliographical, botanical and horticultural subjects, 1929-1976, 323 items plus introductions and reviews, was published in Biol. J. Linn. Soc. 8 (1976) 299-318.

Dr. D. T i r v e n g a d u m came from Paris twice to the Rijksherbarium, to work on Rubiaceae-Gardenieae, late in 1976.

On 24 July 1976 Dr. Frans V e r d o o r n reached the age of 70 and consequently on 1 September retired from his post as Professor of Biohistory at Utrecht University, The

Netherlands. This post he had taken up in 1958, after having moved his immense library and card index from Waltham, Mass., U.S.A. to Utrecht, where it became the nucleus of the newly established Biohistorical Institute in the former house of F.A.W. Miquel, Nieuwe Gracht 187. It now has a staff of 10, whose activities branch out very widely into the contact zone between man and nature, which is the field of Biohistory. They have collected books and data on the most remote and exquisite subjects; if you want a clue to whatever historical or botanico-cultural feature, this very helpful institute can supply it. There is a whole wall full of card drawers containing biographical references of botanists.

Verdoorn's first love was ferns, until two amateurs, Dr. C. Brakman at Driebergen and especially Dr. T. Broeksmit at Zeist, turned his attention to bryology. As a student, he already became a botanical publisher: his thesis of 1934 appeared in the *Annales Bryologici*, edited by himself and published by his own firm. In 1930 he had paid a long botanical visit to Malaya, Sumatra, and Java. He owned a large private herbarium, later incorporated into the Farlow Herbarium. He did much to promote international collaboration among botanists: he founded and ran the *Chronica Botanica*, a communication serial of high quality and very broad coverage which after a few years had to be discontinued because it had spread itself so far that it became too heavy a burden. He also initiated and edited the *Manual of Bryology* (1932) and *Manual of Pteridology* (1938), wherein a team of first-rate collaborators cast a very broad spectrum of light on their subject. He stimulated work towards an *Index Herbariorum* well before the war. Early in 1940, when he feared a German occupation of Holland, he took his publishing company to safety in the United States. He advised Dr. Van Steenis to come over as well, since he foresaw (with remarkable clarity) the Japanese expansion. Van Steenis felt that he was right, but did not want to leave the budding *Flora Malesiana* project alone, and after some inner conflict declined. Verdoorn also corresponded with Van Steenis about the *Flora Malesiana* which he considered to publish, and had a proof page printed for Van Steenis; thus he helped crystallize the plan.

During the war, in America, Verdoorn, with support of the Dutch Government, in anticipation of fresh scientific work after the war, prepared a book to provide materials to give such work in Indonesia a good basis. The result was P. Honig & F. Verdoorn (ed.), Science and Scientists in The Netherlands Indies (1945). Compiled without access to sources in the country itself or on the continent of Europe, it bears the stamp of improvisation, but of the most tenacious, intelligent, and inventive sort. The contributions, partly original, partly translated or worked up from reports and travel

accounts, cover the whole area admirably and are not only informative but a pleasure to read. Still, there is no better work to introduce Indonesia as a whole to the scientist pure and applied. The book is also a monument to Verdoorn's wonderful taste, which is here displayed in every detail. A sort of companion volume, a bit slimmer and more methodical in its coverage, is Plants and Plant Science in Latin America (1945). This is in the long New Series of Plant Science books containing an astounding variety of original works; for Malesia special mention deserve Merrilleana (1946), E.B. Copeland's Genera Filicum (1947), and E.D. Merrill, The botany of Cook's voyages (1954).

One of his many acts of generosity was after the war to send food packages from America to hungry botanists in Europe and Indonesia, and still, the atmosphere in his institute is characterized by generosity and good taste. His collaborators prepared a memorial volume Essays in Biohistory, published as Regnum Vegetabile 71 (1970); this gives an epitome of his life and a survey of his activities. Freed from routine work, he has expressed the plan to publish a yearbook Chronica Biohistorica; details can be obtained at the above address.

Our best wishes go to him and Mrs. J.G. Verdoorn-Hunik, who gave him lifelong help and support. — M.J.

Dr. J. E. V i d a l of Paris visited the Rijksherbarium late in 1976 for Flora of Thailand and legume business.

Dr. Egbert H. W a l k e r, known for his bibliographical work on East Asia, his recent Flora of Okinawa (see Reviews), and his interest for Myrsinaceae, who retired from the Smithsonian Institution some years ago, and now gave up his botanical activities, has donated his papers to the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Pittsburgh, Penn. 15213, U.S.A. The same institute possesses all the papers of the late Wilson P o p e n o e, expert of tropical fruit culture in the New World.

Dr. T. C. W h i t m o r e, first employed half-time at the Commonwealth Forestry Institute, Oxford, England, is there full time since August 1976. In the autumn of 1975 he travelled to New Caledonia, Fiji, and New Zealand, in the spring to the New Hebrides and Santa Cruz in the Solomons, all for *Agathis*, his forest and plantation survey thus completed. He was recently awarded the degree of D.Sc. at Cambridge.

Dr. R. O. W h y t e (Grasslands of the Monsoon, and work on cultivated plants and their history), address: Box 167, Kota Baru, Kelantan, Malaysia.

Mrs. B. E. E. d e W i l d e - D u y f j e s on 26 January 1977 took her Ph.D. degree, cum laude, at Wageningen with Professor H.C.D. de Wit, on a thesis on *Allium* (Liliaceae) in Africa (Meded. Landbouwhog. Wageningen 76-11, 1976, 229 p., 40 fig.). As many of the African species occur also North of the Mediterranean, and have been studied since early times, typification and interpretation were exceedingly difficult (see Taxon 22, 1973, 57-91). Mrs. De Wilde at present has a half-time job as a teacher of biology, in a secondary school.

Mr. J. S. W o m e r s l e y, new address: 82 Richmond Road, Westbourne Park, Adelaide, Australia 5041.