

III. PERSONAL NEWS  
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Mr. A. G. A l p h o n s o, curator of the Singapore Herbarium, attended the 5th World Orchid Conference at Los Angeles, U.S.A. on 13-22 April 1967, and delivered a paper on "The need for conservation of Malaysian Orchid species". He was elected a member of the International Orchid Committee on Classification, Nomenclature and Registration.

Mr. R. A n g u s is now Principal of the School of Forestry at Bulolo, New Guinea.

Dr. P. S. A s h t o n, lecturer at Aberdeen, is giving courses on tropical botany (with a S.E.Asian bias) to the second year of students, and both the M.Sc. course in Ecology and the honours course receive a series devoted primarily to community studies but in which rain-forest ecology plays an important part. He took a seat in the International Biological Program Committee on Malaysia, of which Professor N.A. Burges, at the New University of Ulster in N.Ireland, is Chairman.

Dr. L. B e r n a r d i of the Geneva Herbarium reported that during a trip round the world, he visited the Leningrad Herbarium in 1966 and found there a rich set of the collection made by J. R. & G. F o r s t e r in the Pacific; not of the often miserable scraps like the Forsters used to distri-

bute. Dr. Bernardi made a list of their Herbarium. He also reported that many of the beautiful duplicates in that Herbarium have been packed in such a way that they are liable to be mixed up.

Mr. C. F. v a n B e u s e k o m, who on 14 March 1967 completed his study in biology at Leyden University, cum laude, was by 1 May 1967 appointed as a scientific officer for the study of the flora of Thailand, in the service of the Netherlands Department of International Technical Help (ITH), to divide his time between Thailand and Leyden, at the Rijks-herbarium, for the duration of one year with a possibility of extension.

Dr. J. v a n B o r s s u m W a a l k e s took his Ph.D. degree on 2 November 1966, on a thesis 'Malesian Malvaceae' revised', published in Blumea. His promotor was Professor C.G.G.J. van Steenis. He continues his work as a horticultural taxonomist at the Botanic Gardens at Groningen.

Dr. R. C. C a r o l i n has been appointed Associate Professor of Botany at the University of Sydney.

Mr. G. L. C a r s o n, Conservator of Forests at Sandakan, retired on 1 August 1967 from this position, to become Assistant Conservator seconded to the National Parks as a Park Warden, Kinabalu National Park.

Mr. Paul C h a i P i a n g K o n g, formerly Herbarium Assistant at Kuching, completed the first year of a Botany Degree course at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. It is expected that after qualifying he will return to Sarawak as Forest Botanist.

Dr. C h a n g K i a w L a n, botanist at the Singapore Herbarium, delivered a paper on "Criteria for the classification of Lentinus species" at the 11th Pacific Science Congress at Tokyo; she also attended the U.S.-Japanese Algal Culture Conference held at about the same time in Hakone.

Father C r a m e r, St. Aloysius College, Galle, Ceylon, is working on the local flora, as a thesis under supervision of Father Santapau.

Mr. L. A. C r a v e n left the Division of Land Research at the C.S.I.R.O. where he was employed as a botanical collector since 1964. He collected with R. Schodde in Bougainville (1964) and the Kerema and Aseki areas (1966) and with R.D. Hoogland in the Sepik District (1966).

Dr. D. B. D e b of the Bot. Survey of India worked for several months in the fall of 1967 in the Herbarium of the Komarov Botanical Institute, Leningrad to return mid-February 1968. He took over as Regional Botanist, Southern Circle.

Mr. G. F. C. D e n n i s, Forest Herbarium Officer, Honiara, Guadalcanal, Solomons, returned from 4½ months leave in Australia in late Febr. 1966, and has been responsible for all government botanical collecting, herbarium, and horticultural activities throughout the ensuing period. No skilled personnel has been available to assist with this work, with the exception of a Melanesian typist, but an overseas trained Melanesian forest guard, Mr. R. M a u r i a s i (who accompanied the 1965 Royal Society Expedition on most of its field trips in the B.S.I.P. and displayed keen interest and natural aptitude for botanical work) is to be transferred to the botanical section from general forestry duties in August 1967, to train as an herbarium assistant.

Dr. G. P. D e W o l f has been appointed horticultural taxonomist at the Arnold Arboretum, on 15 March 1967.

Mr. Alick W. D o c k r i l l, previously working in his spare time on North Queensland orchids at Cairns, has been appointed Keeper of the Herbarium, Division of Botany, Department of Forest at Lae, T.N.G. He hopes to continue on orchids of New Guinea, chiefly Sarcanthinae.

Mr. M. E v a n s has joined the Division of Land Research C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, as assistant in the herbarium. He was attached to the Australasian section in the Herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, from 1959 to 1964 and to the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C. in their Flora of Micronesia survey from 1964 to 1966, stationed in Guam.

Dr. H. R. F l e t c h e r of Edinburgh was appointed as Her Majesty's Botanist in Scotland. Although we do not precisely know what this means, we gladly offer him our congratulations, and to all others recommend in passing his paper 'Challenges and opportunities' in J.Roy.Hort.Soc. 92 (1967) 108-116, where it is stressed that botany will have to cope with the world food situation. Tropical research is urgently required. People are to be trained and politicians are to be told. Too many crops stem from a single clone and hence are too vulnerable for pests.

Dr. F. R. F o s b e r g has been appointed at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., as Special Adviser on Tropical Biology.

As the successor to Mr. D.I.Nicholson, who retired as a Forest Ecologist from the Sandakan Herbarium in 1965, Mr. J. E. D. F o x, formerly in Sierra Leone, has been appointed, who took up his duties in May 1966. He is studying germination and seedling development of important trees, Dipterocarps in particular.

Mr. D. G. F r o d i n returned from New Guinea to the U.S.A. by way of Bogor, where he spent a few days and visited Tjibodas; on the 24th of May 1967 he went to Manila where he spent 3 days, then went to Japan, visited the Hattori Botanical Laboratory, and to Kagoshima where he met Dr. Hatusima, and during 4 days studied the Kanehira collections from New Guinea at Kyushu University; he found them in good condition. Mr. Frodin then went to Honolulu, visited the Bishop Museum, the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center.

Dr. J. J. G a u d e t stayed at the University of Malaya as visiting Fulbright Lecturer for the year 1966-1967.

Dr. G. W. G i l l e t t, formerly director of the H.L.Lyon Arboretum in Hawaii, has been nominated professor at the University of California, Riverside, Calif. 92502. He will continue his studies on Pacific plants and stay part of each year in Hawaii.

Professor Dr. E. G o v i n d a r a j a l u of Madras, completed his one year's stay with Mr. J.H.Kern at the Rijks-herbarium, where he studied Cyperaceae, and returned on 9 July 1967 to India.

Dr. D. A. G r i f f i t h resigned as a Senior Lecturer at the University of Malaya, on 31 July 1967.

Dr. G. H a d l e y, a mycologist, left in mid-1967 for Kuala Lumpur as a lecturer at the University of Malaya, to fill the place vacated by Dr. N.M.Pritchard. He was accompanied by Mr. Brian W i l l i a m s o n, a research student of his.

Dr. C. d e n H a r t o g of the Rijksherbarium received a grant from the Netherlands Organization for Z.W.O. for a 4-months' exploration in Australia, from August to December 1967, largely for the study of waterplants, with special reference to the study of marine phanerogams, in which Australia is the richest country in the world. His report will be communicated in the next issue of the Bulletin; so far the news is that he receives much cooperation and is very successful in finding things.

Dr. R. E. H o l t t u m paid a pteridological visit to Prague, Czechoslovakia, in July 1967. At the Institutum Botanicum Universitatis Carolinae he examined Presl's herbarium, which contains Presl's own set of the Haenke collections (described in Reliquiae Haenkeanae, 1825), and also his set of collections by Cuming and others described in Epimeliae Botanicae (1851). Dr. Holttum also made a partial study of material in the Botanical Department of the National Museum, where the remainder of the fern specimens collected by Haenke are preserved, besides material collected by Kurz in Java and

India. As a result of this visit, a considerable number of Presl's types are now on loan at Kew, and Dr. Holttum hopes to prepare a report on them for publication at an early date.

Dr. M. J a c o b s of the Rijksherbarium has planned an exploration of the Pulog mountain complex in northern Luzon early in 1968, followed by some weeks of lowland collecting in the unknown eastern parts of the island. The work will be a joint enterprise of the Rijksherbarium and the Philippine National Museum. It is hoped that afterwards he can pay a visit to Bogor, and conduct some exploration in South Sumatra and West Java.

Mr. A. K a n i s, on his return from North Borneo, was given a grant of the Netherlands Organization for Z.W.O. to finish his Ph.D. thesis on Ochnaceae, at the Rijksherbarium.

Mr. K. M. K o c h u m m e n left the Kepong Forest Research Institute to attend the 1967/68 Diploma course in Taxonomy at Edinburgh, under the Colombo Plan; he will probably tackle Alangium as his special subject.

Having reached the age of 65, Dr. Joséphine Th. K o s t e r of the Rijksherbarium retired. In a ceremony at the institute on 8 July 1967, she was awarded the Order of Officer of Oranje-Nassau, and the first instalment of Blumea vol.15 was presented to her in recognition. Educated at Utrecht, she took her Ph.D. degree in 1935 on a thesis of the Compositae of Malesia, a subject that she has kept on studying, and to which she hopes to devote more time in the future. The acquisition of Mrs. Weber-van Bosse's big collection of algae by the Rijksherbarium in 1934 gave her an opportunity to specialize in algology, too. She developed into a student of world-fame on the subject, and founded the department of algology at the Rijksherbarium. Dr. C. d e n H a r t o g, one of her pupils, has been appointed her successor as Head of this department, and will take up this function on his return from Australia.

Dr. A. J. G. H. K o s t e r m a n s arrived at Leyden early in 1967 on a fellowship of the Netherlands Bureau for International Technical Help. He worked mainly on Lauraceae, Tiliaceae, and Sterculiaceae, naming materials in the Herbarium and working up his manuscripts. He also paid visits to other European Herbaria. In August, he left for Lexington, Kentucky, U.S.A. where he is to teach as a guest professor during the second half of 1967, with opportunities to visit American Herbaria. By way of Leyden, where he hopes to spend again the first weeks of 1968, he will return to Bogor.

Professor F. M a r k g r a f on 1 Febr. 1967 celebrated his 70th birthday. His paper entitled 'Berardia lanuginosa (Lam.) Fiori / eine kostbare Pflanze der südwestlichen Hochalpen' (Jahrb.Ver.Schutze Alpenpfl.Tiere 32, 1967, 1-19, 2 pl.), is preceded by his portrait and an account of his achievements by T.Eckardt (page 3-6) and followed by a bibliography (page 21-28).

Beside his well-known work in the Gnetaceae, Dr. Markgraf has made extensive botanical studies in the European Alps and the Balkan Peninsula, and studies the plant-geographical boundaries of the mediterranean floristic region. He wrote up many families in Hegi's Flora of Central Europe; he also travelled in Brazil and published his results. It is hoped that the freedom of academic duties at the University of Zurich will leave him time for the pursuit of his studies in the Apocynaceae of Malesia.

An issue of the 'Botanische Jahrbücher' 86 (1967) is devoted to him as a Festschrift, with (another) portrait, and with an appreciation (page ix-xiv) by Th.Eckardt, also followed by a bibliography (page xv-xxiv).

Mr. L. M a t t s s o n, who for a long time has been director of the UNESCO Southeast Asia Cooperation Office, first at Djakarta and later in Bangkok, has taken up new duties. From 1 April 1967 he is Resident Representative of the U.N. Development Programme in Tanzania, Africa.

Botany owes much to Mr. Mattsson, who always was interested in its promotion, and who in a great many of cases quietly and effectively gave very essential help. We have great pleasure in here acknowledging his services.

Mr. D. R. M e n d o z a, Curator of the Philippine National Herbarium, attended the 11th Pacific Science Congress at Tokyo, under the auspices of the National Research Council of the Philippines.

Mr. J. M u l l e r, formerly Senior palynologist with the Shell Group of Oil Companies, working at the laboratory in Rijswijk near The Hague, joined the Rijksherbarium staff on 1 Sept. 1967, to start a Department of Palynology at this institute. The work will concentrate on the recent flora of Malesia, in concurrence with taxonomic investigation, to start with the Sapindaceae. See also Mr. Muller's paper on page 1413 of this Bulletin (1966).

Mr. C. P h e n g k h l a i, forester from Thailand, stayed in Europe from October 1966 till the end of 1967, on funds from the Danish and Netherlands Governments. After a study of systematics and cytology of Thai Gymnosperms and Ebenaceae at Copenhagen and Kew, he came to Leyden in October 1967 to follow a month's course in taxonomy and to receive further

training in the science. On his return to the Bangkok Forest Department early in 1968, he hopes to continue his work on the above subjects.

After about 3½ years of work with Dr. B. L. Burttt under supervision of Dr. P.H. Davis, Dr. B. T. P r i j a n t o, from Bogor on a scholarship at Edinburgh, took his Ph.D. degree in Oct. 1966, on a thesis 'Taxonomic studies in the Scrophulariaceae, mainly on the tribal level' (since the subdivision into subfamilies had to be abandoned); 136 genera were by him recognized in the family. A revision of Lindenbergia was also presented. It is hoped that the thesis can be published in print.

Early 1967 he went to Stockholm, to study palynology (mainly Meliaceae and Simaroubaceae) with Professor Erdtman for about 9 months.

Dr. N. M. P r i t c h a r d spent a year in Malaya under the Aberdeen-Kuala Lumpur exchange scheme. He was accompanied by Mr. G. S m i t h. From the former's report we selected the following passages:

"I gave a series of lectures on experimental taxonomic methods to second year students, in which mass herbarium samples of a number of readily available plants were used; these included Melastoma malabathricum, Dillenia suffruticosa and Macaranga triloba. Of these, the third led me to the main research problem in which I became interest in Malaya. I also held a series of seminars with the third and fourth year students and research students on modern taxonomic methods; this course included a brief introduction to population genetics. As well as this advanced teaching I assisted in various first year practical classes.

I spent as much time as possible in the field. I felt that the greatest benefit which I could derive from my visit would be to acquire some familiarity with tropical forests. I therefore paid many visits to areas such as Ulu Gombak (now the University of Malaya Field Station) and Ulu Langat (lowland forest) Port Swettenham and Kuala Selangor (mangrove forest) and Fraser's Hill, Cameron Highlands and Genting Sem-pah ("Genting Highlands") (upland forest). While the purpose of these and other visits was primarily to learn something about the forest in general, I did collect material for three possible projects; variation in species of Sonerila, distribution of epiphytic bryophytes (at Gombak), and variation in species of Macaranga, esp. M. triloba and M. tenifolia. In the time which I had, the Sonerila collection proved difficult. Many more localities, and a greater spread of time (flowering is erratic) would be needed. The other two projects were more successful, and I hope to extend the Macaranga work in association with Dr. T.C. Whitmore.

Through the generosity of the Ministry of Overseas Develop-

ment and of Perth Education Committee, I was accompanied by my research student, Mr. Gordon Smith. During his visit he travelled extensively and worked on species of *Argostemma* and *Didymocarpus*. Again the acquisition of enough varied material proved difficult, but Mr. Smith has been appointed to a Lectureship in what has since my visit become the School of Biological Sciences, University of Malaya, and he hopes to continue this work."

Dr. J. P u r s e g l o v e, formerly professor of Botany in the Imperial College of Agriculture, Trinidad, has been appointed Advisor on Tropical Crops for the Ministry of Overseas Development. He works at East Malling Research Station, Maidstone, Kent. He has completed a two-volume work which he started writing up while in Trinidad, named "Tropical Crops: Dicotyledons", which will be published by Longmans in April 1968.

Dr. V. R a g h a v a n, of the University of Malaya, went on study leave to Rockefeller University in November 1966.

Dr. Mien Achmad R i f a i, who on 25 Nov. 1966 took his Ph.D. degree in mycology at Sheffield University, U.K., after four years of study with Dr. J. Webster, visited the Rijksherbarium for some days in February-March 1967, before going back to the Herbarium Bogoriense, where he is now in charge of the Mycological Department, to fill the long-standing vacancy left by Dr. M.A. Donk.

Dr. Ross G. R o b b i n s, formerly of Canberra, has accepted a professorship in Botany in the new University at Port Moresby.

Dr. P. v a n R o y e n took up duties in May 1967 as Curator of the Herbarium of the Bishop Museum at Honolulu, Hawaii. He will make an extensive reorganization in the collections, which have been in neglect for a long time.

Dr. H. S t. J o h n worked at Florence in 1966 and 1967 and returned to Hawaii in December 1967.

Mr. R. S c h o d d e of the Division of Land Research, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, has been awarded a scholarship at the University of Adelaide which will enable him to work towards a Ph.D. He is working on the taxonomy and morphology of the *Atherosperma* group of the Monimiaceae (*Atherospermataceae*).

Mr. J. S i n c l a i r left Singapore, where for a long time he was a botanist, on 1 May 1967.

Dr. S o e g e n g Reksodihardjo of the Bogor Herbarium, has gone for one year to teach botany in Honolulu University, Hawaii, taking up duties in September 1967.



Dr. E. S o e p a d m o was appointed Lecturer in tropical plant taxonomy at the University of Malaya, on a 3-year contract. Having completed his work on the Fagaceae for the Flora Malesiana at the Rijksherbarium, where a MS is largely ready for the press, he is bound to take up his new duties with the beginning of 1968.

Dr. C. G. G. J. v a n S t e e n i s attended the symposium Recent Advances in Tropical Ecology (see VIc) in Varanasi, India, in January 1967. Hereafter he visited the Botanical Survey of India at Calcutta, with the Indian Botanic Garden, and the Herbarium. He gave a lecture on plant taxonomy and -geography in Malesia, and noticed a great interest on the part of the staff in the procedures of monographic work. He also visited the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun, made a brief excursion in the Mussoori Hills, and also gave an evening lecture to the staff. After a quick visit to the Botanical Department of the University at New Delhi, he returned to Holland on the 29th.

He was named an honorary member of the Association for Tropical Biology, in the Annual Council Meeting of the Association held at Belém Pará, Brazil, on 8 June 1966.

UNESCO has reopened its Regional Centre of Science and Technology for Southeast Asia in Djakarta. The address is Djalan Imam Bondjol 30, P.O.Box 273/DKT, Djakarta, Indonesia.

Miss J. V a n d e n b e r g joined the staff of the Lae Herbarium; she is a graduate of New England University.

Dr. P. v a n d e r V e k e n, staff member of the Rijksplantentuin at Brussels, and a student of embryology in Cyperaceae, has been appointed Professor of Botany at the State University of Gent, Belgium.

Dr. Gregorio T. V e l a s q u e z, professor of Botany at the University of the Philippines, Quezon City, greatly restricted the activities in his government position in order to free himself for research; to be effective on 2 Sept. 1967.

Mr. J. F. V e l d k a m p, who completed his studies in biology at Leyden University by passing his doctoral examination on 27 June 1967, has been appointed on the staff of the Rijksherbarium by 15 July 1967, in the tropical department.

Dr. F. V e r d o o r n, professor of Biohistory at Utrecht, was named an honorary member of the Association for Tropical Biology, in the Annual Council Meeting of the Association held on 8 June 1966 at Belém Pará, Brazil.

Mr. E. W a r n c k e has been associated with the Botanical Institute, Aarhus University, Denmark, to work on the cytotaxonomy of the Bryophyte flora of Thailand.

Mr. K. R. W o o l l i a m s has taken up the position of  
Curator of the Lae Botanic Garden.