

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. P. S. A s h t o n (ABD) visited Malaya and Indonesia early in 1978. He is now a member of the newly formed Committee on Research Priorities in Tropical Biology of the U.S. Academy of Sciences.

At Kew, Mr. H. M. B u r k i l l is continuing his work on the Useful Plants of West Tropical Africa, and is nearing the completion of volume 1, families A-E, 1570 species.

Mr. S. C. C h i n, known for his work on the limestone flora of Malaya (p. 2168-2169; the first part in Gard. Bull. 30: 165-219. 1977) is now a lecturer in Botany at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. For his Ph.D. thesis (Yale), he carried out field work on aboriginal use of vegetation and land in Sarawak.

Professor E. J. H. C o r n e r of Cambridge spent the months October 1977 to April 1978 in Malaya, as a guest of the Universiti Pertanian in Serdang, to prepare a new edition of the Wayside Trees of Malaya, which he estimates will be 50-100 pages longer than the original.

From Heywood to Mabberley. We are happy to give here a list of the botanists who at Cambridge University prepared their Ph.D. thesis under Professor E. J. H. C o r n e r's supervision. The theses themselves were not published, as is customary in Britain, but in many cases a publication was derived from one. The title of the theses is given. - V.H. Heywood (1954) Studies on the flora and vegetation of the Sierra de Cazorla. - Ms. B.F. Slade (1954) Development of dicotyledonous leaves with special reference to their venation. - Ms. F.M. Jarrett (1956) A revision of Artocarpus and allied genera. - G.P. DeWolf (1958) The American species of Ficus. - W.L. Chew (1960) The revision of Poikilospermum and Taxotrophis. - T.C. Whitmore (1960) Systematic morphology of the bark in the Dipterocarpaceae. - P.S. Ashton (1962) Taxonomy and ecology of the Dipterocarpaceae in Brunei. - Ms. K.L. Chang (1966) The structure and taxonomy of Lentinus Fr. - E. Soepadmo (1966) The morphology and taxonomy of Fagaceae in Malesia. - J. Dransfield (1970) Studies in the Malayan palms of Eugeissona and Johannesteysmannia. - D.G. Frodin (1970) The complex of Cephaloschefflera in Schefflera (Araliaceae). - Ms. R. Kiew (1972) The taxonomy and ecology of Iguanura (Palmae). - D.J. Mabberley (1973) Pachycaul species of Senecio and Lobelia in Africa.

Dr. Edward C. C r e u t z has been appointed Director of the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, effective 1 November, 1977.

Head of the Botany Department, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Brisbane, Australia 4067, will be Dr. A. B. C r i b b, from January 1978 onwards.

Dr. D. B. D e b, formerly of the Museum at Calcutta, now Deputy Director of the Botanic Garden, Howrah, 711103, India, was awarded the Jubilee Research Prize and Gold Medal of the University of Calcutta in Science. He participated in the Solanaceae Symposium at Birmingham in July 1976, and visited several Herbaria in Europe on the way.

Bamboo x Rattan. On 23 September 1977 Drs. John D r a n s f i e l d and S o e j a t m i Soenarko were married at Kuala Lumpur. Good for Mas Jun, bad for the Herbarium Bogoriense, where Soejatmi often let wander her kind but watchful eye. She hopes to continue her work on grasses and bamboos at Kew, where the couple moves in March 1978. Proficiat!

On 12 April 1937 a boy of 14 named A. K. G r o e n e w e - g e n began a career at the Rijksherbarium as an unpaid apprentice in technical work. Gradually he rose to his present post as curator of the collections. He runs the shop with a smoothness and administrative perfection which strikes only the curious and the attentive; the others just have a notion that everything always goes well. 'Everything' is in this case the processing of incoming material, putting all specimens in place, preparing outgoing and receiving incoming loans, and knowing the state of all affairs at every moment to the greatest detail. No doubt Mr. Groenewegen also has a well-founded opinion about the accuracy and orderliness of each individual botanist; this however he always keeps to himself. His speed and good humour are so natural that everyone takes them for granted.

To mark the occasion of 40 years ago, he invited the whole Rijksherbarium personnel to a dinner in a well-known restaurant. Not all invitees thought they could accept such an offer. But about 96 persons were there, including a fresh visitor from overseas (he must have thought that such things happen regularly), and a fair crop of girl friends. And a most pleasant evening it was, the more so since Mr. Groenewegen had finally reversed his original decision not to accept any gifts. Altogether, this was a landmark in the growing list of Rijksherbarium entertainment records, watched by some people with increasing anxiety. And then to think that all of it was too early, strictly speaking. For only in 1939 were the funds available to put Mr. Groenewegen actually on the Rijksherbarium payroll. May he happily remain there for many years to come!

Mr. A. H a y of Cambridge, England, went to Port Moresby late in 1977 for two years to work on palms.

Dr. R. D. H o o g l a n d of ANU, Canberra, worked from mid-1976 till mid-1977 at the Rijksherbarium on the Cunoniaceae for the Flora Malesiana, which he hopes to finish before long.

Dr. Richard A. H o w a r d has been awarded the most prestigious annual honour in American Horticulture, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal, by the American Horticultural Society, in October 1977. Congratulations!

In June, 1977, he received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the Commencement exercises of Framingham State College in Massachusetts. The citation given was: "Scholar, interpreter of the world of plants to people of all ages, botanical explorer in the world's remote corners, entrusted with the care of our botanical treasures, he has taught us survival in the wilderness and the beauty of civilized nature."

Dr. Howard, whose botanical and horticultural papers number over 200, recently resigned as Director of the Arnold Arboretum, but kept his Chair at Harvard University.

Professor K. I w a t s u k i (KYO) spent the month of March 1977 at AAH, finishing a ms. on the ferns for the Flora of Thailand. During that time, a seminar on ferns was held, with Drs. R.M. & A.F. Tryon, and T.G. Walker present.

Dr. S. K. J a i n, till recently Joint Director of the Botanical Survey of India, has been appointed Director of the same, effective 30 January 1978. Address: P.O. Botanic Garden, Howrah, 711103, India.

Dr. Ruth K i e w holds a permanent position as a lecturer in Angiosperm morphology and taxonomy in the Biology Department of the Agricultural University, Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia. She spent her recent sabbatical leave (April-October 1977) in England (a week was spent at Leiden) which enabled her to complete an account of *Ilex* (Aquifoliaceae) for the Tree Flora of Malaya vol. 3 and to begin work on the Malesian Oleaceae. She plans to spend April and May 1978 at G. Mulu in Sarawak carrying out some investigations on the ground flora.

Dr. S. K i t a m u r a (KYO) worked for six weeks late in 1977 at P on Compositae, especially from Indo-China.

Dr. A. J. K o s t e r m a n s, after several productive years at the Rijksherbarium as B.A. Krukoff Botanist, has decided to move to warmer countries, in April 1978. Peradenya in Sri Lanka and University Kebangsaan in Kuala Lumpur Malaya, are on his tickets. Besides his achievements accounted for under Progress: Lauraceae, and in the Bibliography, also some 3000 collections he made in Ceylon are worth mentioning; he labelled and distributed the material at Leiden himself, and donated it to the Rijksherbarium.

Recently he calculated that in the Lauraceae alone he published 3 new genera, 506 new species, 268 new combinations, and referred about 1000 names to synonymy (including a few of his own ones).

A quick and versatile worker, who cannot resist doing things in other families, he always brought a ferment to the daily course of affairs in the Rijksherbarium, which will be quieter without him, to the regret of several staff members. His generosity, too, will be missed, and his enormous intimate knowledge of Indonesian affairs, of most tree families in the lowlands, and of Malesian useful plants. Some tapes on which he has told about his remarkable life are in the possession of Dr. W.T. Stearn at Kew and of Dr. M. Jacobs at Leiden.

Dr. T. K o y a m a spent the time from August 1977 to February 1978 as a visiting professor in Aarhus, Denmark. He is working on the Cyperaceae for the Flora of Thailand.

Dr. K u s w a t a Kartawinata succeeded Dr. Mien A. Rifai as Director of the Herbarium Bogoriense. He is a well-known taxonomist-turned-ecologist, whose name regularly turns up in this Bulletin. We wish him all the best in this pivotal job.

Mrs. M a r s i n a h Soemidjo, the librarian of the Herbarium Bogoriense, recently retired after a 30 year service at the institute. She also received a medal from LBN for her good performance during her long service.

Mr. J. F. M a x w e l l came to Leiden for a long intensive visit to the Rijksherbarium. He worked hard on Melastomataceae; hopes to get his Ph.D. on a thesis on them.

Mr. M c E w a n (formerly of the Forest Department, Sarawak) is working in the Department of Forests, Cambia, Africa.

Dr. W. M e i j e r of Lexington, Kentucky, revisited Central Sumatra in mid-1977, where he had worked so hard in the mid-fifties. Several of his then pupils have come to prominence now, among them Professor Nitza Arbi of Padang University. Plans for conservation and land-use were born, which we hope will come to fruition.

Mr. Rusdy E. N a s u t i o n of the Bogor Botanical Garden left for England in August 1977 for further study in plant genetic resources at Birmingham, with Prof. J.G. Hawkes.

Congratulations to Dr. Francis S. P. N g on his appointment as Deputy Director (Forest Biology) of the Forest Research Institute at Kepong, Malaya, tempered by his words "I myself am no longer full-time in Botany".

Dr. A. E. O r c h a r d has been appointed to the newly created position of Curator, Tasmanian Herbarium (HO) in the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Box 252C, Hobart, 7001 Australia. He will leave his present position at the Auckland Institute and Museum, where he is in charge of the Cheeseman Herbarium (AK), to take up his Tasmanian post early in 1978.

Barbara S. P a r r i s (Mrs. B.S. Croxall), after having done field work in Australia and Malesia (see Exploration) is at the Botany School, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EA, England, studying ferns (see Progress). She hopes to join the Mulu Expedition in Sarawak.

Professor W. R. P h i l i p s o n retired at the beginning of 1977 as Head of the Botany Department, Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand, and is now Emeritus. He was awarded the Hutton Memorial Medal of the Royal Society of New Zealand for research related to New Zealand botany. He also completed the non-Schefflera Araliaceae for the Flora Malesiana - all these facts seem worthy of congratulation! His address: Four Winds, Cashmere Road, Christchurch 3, New Zealand.

Dr. M. E. D. P o o r e, known for his work on rain forest ecology in Malaya and in conservation, has left IUCN to return to Britain. New address: Evenlode, Stonesfield, Oxon OX7 2PX, England. On conservation he made his mark by, among other things, his definition and elaboration of the Ecological Guidelines (see Reviews). He will be working from his home address as an ecological and conservation consultant.

Made Sri P r a n a of the Bogor Botanical Garden returned to Bogor in May, 1977, after completing his Ph.D. degree in Plant genetic resources at the University of Birmingham, England.

Dr. R. S. R a o, who till mid-1977 had been Director of the CAL-Herbarium, took up a professorship at Andhra University, Waltair, India.

Mr. M. R a t n a s a b a p a t h y, of the Botany Department, Universiti Malaya, was promoted to Associate Professor. He is still the sole resident expert on freshwater algae, however! He recently published a paper on the historical development of phycology in Malaysia, and is in the process of publishing an obituary for the late Dr. G.A. Prowse, whose work on Malayan phytoplankton is well known; Dr. Prowse passed away early 1977 in Honolulu.

Dr. Mien A. R i f a i has been promoted from the post of Director of the Herbarium Bogoriense, to sub-director of the Lembaga Biologi Nasional, the whole institution to which the Herbarium belongs. He is succeeded by Dr. Kuswata Kartawinata. Proficiat!

Dr. R. E. R i n t z (Asclepiadaceae), new address: 117 SW 12th Street no 3, Gainesville, Florida 32601, U.S.A.

On the retirement of Mr. R. R o s s as Keeper, Botany of the British Museum, in August 1977, Mr. J. F. M. C a n n o n has been appointed in his place.

Prof. dr. Didin S a s t r a p r a d j a, the Executive Secretary of LIPI, who is also the Head of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia, was promoted in October 1977 to Deputy Chairman of LIPI for Natural Sciences.

Dr. M. S c h m i d, formerly in Vietnam and New Caledonia, is with BIOTROP, Bogor, during 1977 and 1978, to work with Dr. F. Blasco on a vegetation map of Sumatra, a project of the Institut de la Carte Internationale du Tapis Végétal.

Mrs. dr. S. T. S e n of Kalijani University (near Calcutta), India, arrived at Leiden, on a ZWO-fellowship, late in 1977, for one year of study on spores of Polypodiaceae. She previously published work on the anatomy of Cyatheaceae and Davalliaceae, and in cooperation with Dr. R.E. Holttum recently studied anatomy of thelypteroid ferns.

Dr. H. O. S l e u m e r, who travelled along the Herbaria in Caracas, Mérida, Bogotá, Manaus, Belém, and Cayenne, is about to finish the Flacourtiaceae for the Flora Neotropica, as B.A. Krukoff Botanist. He hopes then to return in the Malesian orbit, to work on another of his old acquaintances, the Olacaceae.

Dr. Gordon S m i t h of University of Malaya, has taken up the administration of the Botanical Garden, Kuala Lumpur.

Dr. Tem S m i t i n a n d has been appointed, since September 1977, Deputy Director-General of the Royal Forest Department, Bangkok, in charge of 4 technical divisions: Silviculture (including Forest Botany), Watershed Conservation, National Parks, and Wildlife Conservation. He is still the Director of the Forest Herbarium (ex officio) and Co-editor of the Flora of Thailand.

Mr. B. E. S m y t h i e s, formerly of the Forest Departments in Brunei and Sarawak, is working on the flora of Spain, part of the time at Kew.

Mr. S o e d a r s o n o Riswan of the Herbarium Bogoriense completed his M.Sc. degree in ecology at the University of Aberdeen in September. He returned to Bogor in December 1977 and will continue his study on nutrient cycling in lowland Dipterocarp forest and 'kerangas' forest of E. Kalimantan for his Ph.D. degree under the supervision of Dr. P.S. Ashton.

Professor C. G. G. J. v a n S t e e n i s was granted the Robert Allerton Award for excellence in tropical botany by the Board of the New Orleans Pacific Tropical Botanical Garden. The Garden is in Hawaii, the session was to be in New Orleans, on 2 November 1977. Unfortunately, Dr. van Steenis, at the time suffering from one of his infrequent bouts of neuralgia, was unable to attend the ceremony himself.

He finished a large paper on the plant-geography of East Malesia.

Mr. Effendy A. S u m a r d j a of Biology Department, Padjadjaran University, has returned to Bandung after having completed his M.Sc. degree in nature conservation at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.A. He has been interested in conservation for years and has assisted the Directorate of Nature Conservation and Wildlife Management in many ways. More important, as a teacher, he has stimulated students to be aware of and concerned with nature conservation.

Mr. Hadi S u t a r n o and Mr. P a d m o n o Citreokoso of the Treub Laboratory left for Switzerland in July 1977 for further study on plant biology at the University of Zürich.

Dr. David S y m o n of the Waite Institute, Adelaide, Australia, spent 6 weeks in Eastern New Guinea in mid-1977, operating from Lae. In the field he worked in the Jimi Valley and at Mt. Giluwe, in the Herbarium on Solanaceae.

Mr. Benito C. T a n of Los Baños, Philippines, is working for his Ph.D. degree at Botany, University of British Columbia, 2075 Wesbrook Place, Vancouver, B.C., V6T 1W5, Canada, in bryophyte taxonomy, until about March 1979.

The new botanist for Sabah (SAN Herbarium) is Mr. Steven K. K. T h i o n g, a B.Sc. of University of Malaya. He has taken up his post with energy and we hope to see resumption of the Tree Flora of Sabah before long.

Dr. T. C. W h i t m o r e, Forestry, South Park Road, Oxford OX1 3RB, new private address: Old Housing, Wood Green, Whitney, Oxon OX8 6DB.

On the retirement of Mr. A. G. A l p h o n s o, Mr. Y.K W o n g became Commissioner of the Singapore Parks and Recreation Department, which includes the Singapore Botanic Garden and Herbarium. He obtained a biology degree at Singapore University and published a paper on light distribution in rain forest (J. Ecol. 48: 193-204. 1960).