

II. OBITUARIES AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

(continued from page 3373)

*All biographical materials will be highly welcome at the
Rijksherbarium library, c/o Dr. M. Jacobs*

A m e s, Oakes (1874-1950)

Plimpton, Pauline Ames (ed.), Oakes Ames, Jottings of a Harvard botanist. 1874-1950. Bot. Mus. Harv. Univ. Cambr. Mass. x + 403 p., frontisp. + 41 illus. (19807).

B r i n k, R. (1902-1980)

Agriculturist; see Fl. Males. i 1: 80. Before the war he was attached to the Sugarcane Industry in Java; from 1960 to 1967 director of the Agriculture Department, Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam.

C u m i n g, H. (1791-1866)

Naturalist in the Philippines; see Fl. Males. i 1: 120-122, portr. A most interesting, rather full biography by S.P. Dance, J. Soc. Bibliogr. Nat. Hist. 9 (1980) 477-501, portr.

F u r t a d o, Caetano Xavier (14.x.1897, Goa - 12.vi.1980, Singapore) The well-known specialist in palms and Araceae, long time staff member of Singapore Botanic Gardens. For his collecting, see Fl. Males. 1 1: 183, portr. His son, J.I. Furtado, is now professor of zoology at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. Two Kew botanists remember him here.

Before coming to Singapore in 1923 as Field Assistant at the Botanic Gardens, he had studied Agriculture at Poona (B.Sc. 1921) and then undertook forestry work in Burma. From an early stage his work was mainly in the Herbarium and Library, and his status was changed to Assistant Botanist. While he was a student at Poona he became interested in coconut palms, and his first published paper at Singapore was on their flowers and fruit production (1924). He afterwards developed a wide interest in Malesian palms and made important contributions to knowledge about them; this aspect of his work is dealt with below.

Dr. Furtado also developed a wide knowledge of the literature of taxonomic botany and helped towards securing important additions to the library; he greatly improved the library catalogue. In the herbarium he undertook much routine identification and contributed articles on various groups of plants to the Gardens' Bulletin. Apart from palms, aroids became his second main interest and he studied especially groups in which species were in cultivation, notably *Homalomena* (1939). In 1940 he completed a thesis on palms which he successfully submitted to the University of Bombay for the degree of D.Sc.

In connection with his taxonomic studies he had to deal with problems of nomenclature, and developed ideas for clarifying the International Code. His first statement on confusions in the use of terms in the Code was published in *Chronica Botanica* (1937). In this he pointed out that the terms legitimate and valid, illegitimate and invalid, were not consistently used with the same meanings. He elaborated his ideas in a more extensive paper also published in 1937 (*Gard. Bull.* 9: 223-284) and in proposals for changes in the Code intended for consideration at the Congress planned for 1940 (*Gard. Bull.* 11: 1-33). After the war, when preparations were made for the Congress of 1950, his proposals were considered too radical, but in effect some of his ideas were adopted, though with a different terminology, in the extensive revision then made. I still think that his proposed system was more logical than that adopted.

One particular theme, on which he made further proposals in 1960 (*Taxon* 9: 145-150) was the rule about 'superfluous' names. If his plea that the status of such names should be decided (like that of other names) by the rules of typification had been accepted, a large number of name-changes could have been avoided; I think this is now recognized by many taxonomists.

In the 1930s Dr. Furtado visited herbaria in Europe and America, widening the basis of his knowledge; he also spent a period at Bogor with the object of studying the cultivated palms which were named by Beccari. In 1932 he joined J. & M.S. Clemens on Mt Kinabalu for six weeks; his other main field work was in S.W. Johore in 1937. After official retirement in 1952 he was re-engaged for a period of several years, and subsequently still remained active for a further period, during which he supervised the work of Colombo Plan students who came to Singapore. — R.E. Holttum. p.t.o.

Dr. Furtado's greatest contribution to taxonomic botany was his series of papers, mostly published in the *Gardens Bulletin, Straits Settlements* (later *G. B. Singapore*) and entitled *Palmae Malesicae*. In the first few papers he described new taxa and clarified nomenclatural problems in *Pinanga*, *Nenga*, *Calamus* and *Daemonorops*. After a visit to Berlin, where he met Max Burret, and other European herbaria, Dr. Furtado published in Fedde, *Repertorium* 33 (1933) 217-239, a synopsis of *Areca* which remains the most useful account of that genus. In 1940 the first complete account of a genus in the Malay Peninsula, *Licuala*, appeared in the *Gardens Bulletin* (11: 31-73) and was quickly followed by *Maxburretia*, *Liberbaileya* (11: 236-243. 1940) and *Salacca* (12: 378-403. 1949). Between 1951 and 1956, he produced meticulous accounts on the Malayan rattans (*Gard. Bull.* 13: 300-365; 14: 49-147) culminating in that of *Calamus* (15: 32-265. 1956). In them he was able to clarify much of the confusion introduced by Ridley. These accounts have proved to be of immense value, despite their rather recondite vocabulary. Dr. Furtado was primarily a herbarium botanist and, as always, rattan material was limited, so it is not surprising that some of his new taxa have turned out to be minor variants or juvenile forms; despite all this his conclusions are clearly documented. Although he did not have access to some of the relevant types for the preparation of his rattan monograph and hence his nomenclatural conclusions may sometimes be suspect, much of his taxonomy remains valid. In later life he worked on the mostly African genus *Hyphaene*; unfortunately, with only a short visit to herbaria in Portugal, limited fragmentary material, and no field experience in Africa, he was not ideally situated to prepare a monographic treatment. New taxa proliferated and have now to be sunk, but this must not detract from the immensely valuable contribution in reinterpreting *H. crinita*, *H. coriacea* and *H. guineensis*.

Anyone working with palms in the Malay Peninsula and Borneo will be aware of the greatness of Dr. Furtado's contribution to an understanding of Malayan palms; his work shows how valuable local floristic study can be, and how relevant it becomes outside its area. — John Dransfield.

H a a n, J. H. d e (1900-1979)

Forest officer who did excellent research on the zonation and ecology of mangroves near Tjilatjap, on the S. coast of Central Java (*Tectona* 24: 39-75. 1931). Later he worked on effects of deforestation in the mountains of West Java (*Tectona* 26: 1-56. 1933). He collected some plants; see *Fl. Males. i 1*: 208-209.

H e i m, R. (1900-1979)

M. Chadefaud, Rev. Mycol. 43 (1979) 323-328, portr.

K u n t z e, Carl Ernest Otto (1844-1907)

Botanist who made a voyage around the world and when attempting to name his material, went into nomenclature, where he created an upheaval. A most welcome biography by Th.A. Zanoni, *Brittonia* 32 (1980) 551-571, 4 fig., 1 tab., gives full itinerary, account of his herbarium and locations of specimens, but overlooked *Fl. Males. i 1*: 304-305, portr., hence many place names in Java are misspelt and Backer's account of Javan types in *Brittonia* 3 (1938) 75-90 was missed.

K u s n o t o, see Setiodiwiryo.

L a m a r c k, J. P. A. P. M. d e

On his herbarium, basis of his Encyclopaedie (Fl. Males. 1 4: cxcv), G.G. Aymonin, Bull. Soc. Bot. Fr. 127 (1980) 393-401.

M o o r e, H. E. (1917-1980)

It is with great regret that we record the death of Professor Harold E. Moore Jr on 17 October 1980, Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of Botany at Cornell University, U.S.A. Not only was Hal a prolific writer on palms; he was also a mentor and friend to many botanists, not just those involved with palms. His loss to palm botany is enormous and is still difficult to accept.

Born in Winthrop, Massachusetts in 1917, he obtained his bachelor's degree at Massachusetts State College in 1939, his master's at Harvard in 1940 and his Ph.D. at Harvard in 1942. He began his professional career as a technical assistant at the Gray Herbarium from 1947-1948, and then moved to the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University, Ithaca. In 1960 he was appointed Professor of Botany and Director of the Bailey Hortorium; in 1969 he resigned as Director due to ill-health, and on recovery devoted his work almost entirely to palms. In 1978 he was awarded the title, L. H. Bailey Professor of Botany.

Hal worked on Geranium in Mexico and gesneriads in general, and was a major contributor to Hortus Third, but his greatest contribution was in the field of the generic classification of palms, on which he was still working when he died. To Hal, more than any other, we owe the resurgence of interest in this splendid tropical family. With Dr. Natalie Uhl as senior research associate at the Bailey Hortorium and a series of research students Hal developed the Bailey Hortorium as the centre of palm research. Interaction with other disciplines with workers such as Drs. P.B. Tomlinson, M.H. Zimmermann and M.V. Parthasarathy added immensely to the value of Hal's taxonomy. Hal also travelled widely, not only to visit herbaria with historic collections, but throughout the tropics to observe and collect living palms. Hal was in fact proud of having seen in the living state (almost always in the wild, too) all but 18 of the 212 genera of palms. It was this unparalleled experience which gave such weight to his scholarly reassessment of the generic classification of the palms which appeared as The Major Groups of Palms and their Distribution in Gentes Herbarum in 1973. This work which must be one of the most frequently referred to palm works at, for example, Kew, is however only a forerunner to a magnum opus, the Genera Palmarum, on which Hal was working when he died.

Hal published nearly three hundred articles, most of them dealing with palms, and including revisions, floras, nomenclatural notes and evolutionary systems. He was editor of Principes, the Journal of the Palm Society, from 1957 until he died*, and was responsible for Principes' ex-

* John Dransfield at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Natalie Uhl at the Bailey Hortorium will be responsible for the editing of Principes; the Bailey Hortorium plans to have work on the Genera Palmarum continued.

cellent reputation as a journal full of interest to all involved in palms, palm scientists and amateur enthusiasts alike. He introduced many palm species into cultivation.

At times I find it strange to think I met Hal only five times; since 1967 we were in constant palm correspondence, yet met for the first time in 1971 in Bogor. I, like many palm students, are greatly indebted to him for encouragement, enthusiastic response and advice. He will be sorely missed. — John Dransfield.

O v e r d i j k i n k, G. (1885-1979)

Teacher of agriculture, who collected a few plants (Fl. Males. i 1: 397), retired in 1933, died at Soest.

P o l a k, Betje (1901-16.vii.1980)

Miss Polak stayed twice in Indonesia, 1930-1931 and 1939-1955, the first time on the Buitenzorg Fund. As her thesis at Amsterdam University (1929) concerned the origin and composition of peat in Holland, studied from (micro)fossils, she was interested in the occurrence of peat in Malesia. Her first stay resulted in a basic work on peat in Indonesia (1933) of which the most important aspect was the recognition of the peat forest in Sumatra and Borneo as the tropical equivalent of the raised Sphagnum-bogs in Europe, formed here by ligneous remains of forest, resting immediately on clay, without a herbaceous precursor. Later research has confirmed these main features and we have now a complete understanding of the genesis of the peat forest.

After her first stay in the tropics Betje Polak was for several years assistant in botany at Amsterdam University. In 1939 she started on her second sojourn and was appointed peat-specialist in the Soil Science Institute at Bogor. In Java she made then further studies on topogenous, eutrophic lowland peats, a subject of importance for agriculture. She survived the Japanese camps and continued work at Bogor. In 1952 she was appointed professor of botany in the Medical College at Jakarta; in 1955 she was attached as pedologist at the Agricultural Faculty at Wageningen, where she was pensioned in 1966. See Fl. Males. i 1: 411, portr.; an account of her work in English on p. 71-81 in Bartstra & Casparie (ed.), *Modern Quaternary Research in SE. Asia 1* (1975).

Betje Polak was a most pleasant personality and her work is held in high esteem by her colleagues. We lost a dear old friend. — Van Steenis.

R a y n a l, Jean (1933-1979)

Addition to page 3365: portr. in *Candollea* 35 (1980) 115, under *Schefflera rainaliana* Bernardi; brief appreciation on p. 116.

S c h o m b u r g k, R. H. (1804-1865)

Collected in W. Malesia (Fl. Males. i 1: 475). An annotated list of his 'naturalized weeds' by P.M. Kloot, *J. Adelaide Bot. Gard.* 2 (1980) 195-220.

S e t i o d i w i r y o, Kusnoto (died 27.iv.1981)

The first Indonesian Director of the Botanic Gardens, Bogor (1950-1960) died in a Jakarta hospital, after a long suffering. Through his enthusiasm

and understanding, the Foundation Flora Malesiana came into being, as part of the rehabilitation of his institution. He was instrumental in establishing the Akademi Biologi (1955) for the education of Indonesian Biologists, initiated the plans for a new Herbarium Bogoriense building, and founded a botanic garden Setia Mulia at Padang, Sumatra Westcoast. In 1977 he became a corresponding member of the Royal Botanical Society of the Netherlands. His name is commemorated in Schrebera kusnotoi Kosterm. from Borneo.

S l e u m e r, H. O. (born 21.ii.1906)

Brief biographical note, with portr., in his Flora Neotropica Monograph 22, on Flacourtiaceae (1980), containing 273 sp. in 30 genera. Congratulations!

S t. J o h n, H.

Specialist in pandans. Career synopsis and bibliography in Pacif. Sci. 33 (1979, issued 1980) 435-447.

T h u n b e r g, C. P. (1743-1828)

Y. Kimura, Thunberg, the founder of modern botany in Japan. Symb. Bot. Upsal. 22, 4 (1979) 12-20. Also notes on Kaempfer, Maximowicz, Rudbeck.

V a a s, Karel Frederik (29.x.1911-27.iv.1980)

Hydrobiologist, who from 1938 till c. 1957 was attached to the Fisheries Department at Bogor. He published various papers on fish ecology. He collected in S. Celebes. Back in Holland, he became Director of the Delta Biological Station at Yerseke; he retired a few years ago. Since 1970 he was editor of the journal Hydrobiologia.

E.K. Duursma, Vakbl. Biologen 60 (1980) 240-241.

V r i e s e, W. H. d e (1806-1862)

In the National Archives, 2 m of file relating to his travels in Indonesia (Fl. Males. i 1: 552, portr.) and work for plant industry has been sorted out, revealing tremendous activities.

A.M. Tempelaars, Inventaris van het archief van Prof. Dr. W.H. de Vriese (1806-1862) betreffende zijn onderzoek naar de kultures in Nederlands-Indië, 1857-1862, met retroacta vanaf 1817. Alg. Rijksarch. 2e Afd. Hulpdepot Schaarsbergen (1977) 56 p., 2 portr.

W i j k, Roelof v a n d e r (28.iii.1895, Lippenhuizen - 16.ii.1981, Groningen).

Bryologist, who was involved in the Flora Malesiana effort from an early stage. As his collections do not contain phanerogams, he is not mentioned in the Cyclopaedia of Collectors. At the beginning, 5 FM series were projected, and late in 1948 Van der Wijk agreed to be the editor of series iii, Bryophytes, to which task he devoted considerable facilities of his institute. That it never materialised finds its cause in the amount of spade-work that had to be done first on the one hand, and the very wide distribution of most bryophytes across the boundaries of Malesia.

His longtime friend and collaborator Dr. B. O. v a n Z a n t e n, Plant Systematics, Biological Centre, Box 14, Haren, The Netherlands,

kindly prepared an obituary, of which here follows an English version.

Professor R. van der Wijk began his career as a primary school teacher, and through study qualified himself to teach sciences in teacher's college at Meppel and later at Groningen, the town where he studied biology and took his degree in 1930, with J.C. Schoute. The subject was anatomical: the development of peristomatal teeth in *Polytrichum*, and he prepared the thesis (Rec. Trav. Bot. Néerl. 26: 289-395) in one year. It was an expression of his lifelong interest in bryophytes, especially mosses. In 1947 he became full professor of plant systematics at Groningen.

Among his earlier bryological papers are one on *Treubia* and the leaf of hepatics, Ann. Bryol. 1 (1928) 147-152, and the chapter on morphology and anatomy of Musci (in German, like his thesis), p. 1-40 in F. Verdoorn's Manual of Bryology (1932). During his professorship he concentrated on mosses of the Malesian region, and in Fl. Males. Bull. (8) 264-267 (1951) explained the plans for series iii Bryophyta. Owing to the small number of workers, progress was far too slow, and the plan was later abandoned. He obtained permission to take duplicates from the Malesian collections in the Rijksherbarium, for the Herbarium at Groningen. Of the several manuscripts he prepared, some were published, namely a Revision of *Dawsonia* (Rev. Bryol. Lich. T. 26: 8-19. 1957), *Distichous* and *Pseudodistichous* Mosses (Acta Bot. Neerl. 6: 386-391. 1957), and a key to Malesian moss genera (*Blumea* 9: 143-186. 1958).

He also compiled a glossary of terms relevant to the morphology of mosses, for the preparation of diagnoses. It was used internally for 20 years and amply showed its value; during a meeting in his house in October 1980 (attended by the present writer), S.W. Greene suggested to him that it be published in *Lindbergia* (see *Bryological Times* 7. 1981). Professor Van der Wijk was pleased and honoured, and offered to give the manuscript another critical reading.

His most important contribution is the Muscorum, 5 vol. (1959-1969). The plan for it was adopted by the Botanical Congress at Paris in 1954; the final volume was presented to the Congress at Seattle. Van der Wijk was assisted by W.D. Margadant; when in 1961 the latter left, the work suffered a setback, yet Van der Wijk persevered and completed it within reasonable time (he retired from his professorship in 1965).

Research on Malesian mosses was slowed down by the Index but went on, and he published, together with R. S. Chopra, A preliminary key to the genera of Indian mosses (Res. Bull. Panjab Univ. n.s. 17: 149-191. 1966). Not all the work he did has been published; he was framing keys to the Malesian species of Sphagnum and the big genus Fissidens, and was extending his key for the Malesian genera to the whole world. He also made MS. keys to the hepatics genera Chiloscyphus and Bazzania.

In 1952 he made a journey to Indonesia, collecting many mosses and liverworts in west and east Java and Sumatra (tour report in Versl. Kon. Ned. Ak. Wet. Amst. 61: 117-121. 1952; the material, pre-identified by himself, in most cases down to species, is now at GRO). In 1972 and 1980 Professor Van der Wijk, accompanied by his wife Aline, again visited Indonesia. The country had taken to his heart; during the last journey they revisited the stations of the first (without collecting, this time) and

even during the last year of his life he played with the idea of going again.

My own acquaintance with Professor Van der Wijk dates of 1947 at the Groningen teacher's college, where he taught and I was a pupil. Later we met in the University, he being a professor and I a student. From the beginning we liked each other, and this stimulated me to chose plant taxonomy, and bryology in particular. He coached me in a friendly and relaxed manner, stimulating while giving me a free hand, so my Ph.D. thesis was completed in 1959: *Trachypodiaceae*, a critical revision (*Blumea* 9: 477-575). It is a matter of regret that students' interest in plant taxonomy during his time was at low ebb, and no more Ph.D.'s graduated with him.

It is partly owing to him that in 1959 I could participate in the Star Mountains Expedition to west New Guinea, and he took a large part in dealing with the harvest. Thus together we described *Sphagnum antarensense* as a new species.

His merits were acknowledged by H. Crum who, when *Anthockadium* (an illegitimate name) needed renaming, he called it *Wijkia* (*Bryologist* 74: 170. 1971). His comment was characteristic: "Crum should not have done this, my work has not been that important". He was fond of E. Heimans's motto, which was typical of him:

Wie werkte met liefde blijft leven,

Wie gaf van zijn gaaf heeft voor altijd gegeven.

In English this would read: Who worked with love will die never / Who gave of his gifts, has given forever.

With his sudden death, a good, friendly and modest man has gone. May the fine memories of all who knew him be a consolation to his wife, children and grandchildren.

W i l l d e n o w, C. L.

N.A. Harriman, An index to the vascular plants of Willdenow's *Species Plantarum*, volumes I-V (1), 1797-1810. Univ. Wisconsin, Oshkosh (1978). Offset computer printout, 16,092 entries. Unfortunately, the numerals are not clearly printed in this important index.

W i t, Hendrik Cornelis Dirk de (born at Purmerend on 24.x.1909) On 9 October 1980, during a strictly informal meeting with his staff, a *Liber Gratulatorius in honorem H.C.D. de Wit*, edited by J.C. Arends e.a., Landbouwhog. Wageningen, Misc. Pap. 19, 449 p. was offered the retiring professor, who long ago was involved in the Flora Malesiana enterprise. The *Liber* contains 27 contributions (see Jacobs, Jacobsen, Kostermans, van der Maesen, van Steenis, Veldkamp in the Bibliography), a nearly one-page biographical account (p. 1)*, two photographs (frontispiece and p. 97), but conveys no idea of De Wit's botanical interests or contributions to the sciences. We therefore attempt to do this here as regards our province, in addition to the accounts of the plants he collected (*Fl. Males. 1 1*: 582) and of his papers (this Bulletin).

After grammar school and completion of his study in biology at Amster-

* Some dates given there differ from mine, which were taken from the Flora Malesiana reports and from the Annual Report of the Director of the Rijksherbarium.

dam (1937) he went to South Africa, where in 1941 he took his Ph.D. He was appointed at the Bogor Herbarium as a taxonomist for the Gardens and not long after arrival was imprisoned by the Japanese. In 1946 he returned to Holland.

He joined the Flora Malesiana on 1 October 1947, to work up the Caesalpiniaceae, to assist in the editing of the Flora, and to occupy himself with nomenclature (report from the Stockholm congress on pages 197-231), history, and dates of publication (pages 137-141, 164-168). When Dr. Van Steenis from November 1949 to November 1950 was in Indonesia, De Wit acted in Leiden as his deputy - "I could not wish a better one" wrote Van Steenis. Numbers 6 and 7 of the FMBulletin were edited by De Wit. On 1 September 1951 he became a teacher of biology at a secondary school and reduced his Malesian efforts to half-time.

His Ph.D. thesis, on Setaria in South Africa, was published in abbreviated form in Bull. Jard. Bot. Buit. iii 17 (1941) 1-87. He subsequently published revisions of Malesian Eurya, *ibidem* 17 (1947) 329-375, and Caesalpiniaceae: Intsia and Pahudia, 17 (1941) 139-154; Koompassia, 17 (1947) 309-322; Endertia, 17 (1947) 323-327; Sindora, 18 (1949) 5-82; Crudia, 18 (1950) 407-434; Archidendron, in Reinwardtia 2 (1952) 69-96; Cassia, in Webbia 11 (1955) 197-292; Bracteolanthus, Bauhinia, Gigasiphon, Lasiobema, Lysiphyllum, Phanera and Piliostigma, in Reinwardtia 3 (1956) 381-541. Abdallah & De Wit monographed the Resedaceae: Belmontia 8 (1978).

Early in the 1950's he took an interest in Cryptocoryne (Araceae), published many papers on this genus in aquarium keepers' journals, and gave a key to its 49 species (8 new, some of Malesia) in Landbouwhog. Wageningen Misc. Pap. 6 (1970) 257-280. He monographed Lagenandra (Araceae) in 1978.

In the Flora Malesiana he contributed History of Malaysian Phytography (i 4: lxx-clxi. 1949), which I regard as a masterful essay. In answer to the accusation (*ibid.* p. 592. 1954) that he did not account for the contributions to botany of the Forestry Service, Dr. De Wit told me on 16 May 1976 that he certainly had done this, but that this part of his text was not printed. He did not have a copy of it any more, nor does the Editor have one. De Wit published some precursory papers to the History, thereafter to concentrate on Rumphius. In Taxon 1 (1952) 101-110 he published a memorial paper on him (Dutch version in Madj. Ilmu Alam Indon., formerly Chronica Naturae 108: 161-172. 1952), edited Rumphius Memorial Volume, 462 p. (Amsterdam, 1959, criticized for supposed inaccuracies in Blumea 10: 318-319; author's reply was never printed), and a commentary on Rumphian orchids in J. Arditi, Orchid Biology 1 (1977) 47-94.

On the other hand, he widened his spectrum; in Wageningen he taught history of biology, producing a 87-page tentative syllabus in 1974, and is now preparing a book on the subject. This is one of the connections he has cultivated between biology and the humanities; another is through popularization. His annual 'spring lecture' in Wageningen, shot through with slides, bits of music, aphorisms and stories from the classics, drew crowds. He became a prodigious photographer, and published a 2-volume entertaining book on plant families (Dutch edition, De Wereld der Planten, 1963, 1965); the cryptogams volume was written by his friend K.B. Boedijn.

He also wrote a census of aquarium plant species for amateurs (vol. 1 of 1957, vol. 2 shortly thereafter).

A man of letters, during captivity in 1944 he made a translation of Dickens's Christmas Carol; under the title Een Kerstverhaal (91 p.) it was published as a book in 1968. For a long time, in association with J.D.P. Warners, professor of French literature, he worked on a translation of Rabelais (preliminary papers in Raster 4: 386-418. 1970 and 6: 235-250. 1972; in Maatstaf 24: 18-37. 1976).

On 1 September 1953 he was appointed Lecturer in plant taxonomy at Leiden University for one day a week and on a temporary basis, to give a general course on angiosperms; shortly thereafter he was appointed Lecturer in tropical botany at the Agricultural Faculty in Wageningen; his inaugural address on 23 March 1954 was on the tropical rain forest. At Leiden he remained till 1 October 1959, to become full professor at Wageningen; his address in this capacity was on the science of taxonomy (22 October 1959). The 'Herbarium Vadense' at Wageningen concentrates on tropical Africa, and henceforth he set himself to build up that institute. It involved a great deal of travelling.

Here our sketch of this complex botanist must end. The sequel in Wageningen is covered in a less systematic, more esoteric, but also more playful manner in J.J. Bos e.a. (ed.), HCDelia gaat in ontwikkelingshulp/zwart-witboek over de periode 1953-1980, 100 p. (Veenman; Wageningen), a 'black-white' book of limited distribution. Controversies about him, his ambitions in underdeveloped Africa, his gifts as a talker and man of intrigue, his love for the good things of this earth among a variety of people are there alluded to, with a wealth of witty cartoons. 'Non sine pugna' is the motto in his letterhead. What ways to happiness will he discover next? — M.J.