

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

(Obituaries, personal news, etc.)
(continued from Volume 10, page 326)

Mr. J.H.A. AHMAD (BRUN) spent 1991 at K to study herbarium techniques.

Dr. H. AKIYAMA (KYO) moved to TI in April 1992. Although his collections are kept in KYO, all communications on the specimens (request on loan, exchange, etc.) should be addressed to his new address.

BALGOOY, MAX MICHAEL JOSEPHUS (14 August 1932, Purbalingga, Java – *)

A new genus of Polygalaceae, *Balgoya* Morat & Meijden, from New Caledonia and also *Alpinia maxii* R.M. Smith (Zingiberaceae) were named after him [P. Morat & R. van der Meijden, *Adansonia* 13 (1991) 3–8; R.M. Smith (1991), respectively]. '*Balgoya*' has a single 'o' because of esthetic reasons.

Dr. J.H. BEAMAN (Michigan State Univ.) assisted by his wife, T. BEAMAN, and son, R.S. BEAMAN, studied the Flora of Mt Kinabalu at K for a year from 20 September 1991.

BEKOOY, JACOB (18 October 1930, Leiden, The Netherlands – *)

Honorary technical staff member of the Rijksherbarium/Hortus Botanicus (L) was awarded the Silver Medal of OranjeNassau (a Dutch Royal Award) on 29 April 1992 for his dedicated service of 38 years in the collection management of the Rijksherbarium until his retirement last year, and for his continuing activities as voluntary guest curator for the cryptogamic and wood collections.

Mr. A. BERHAMAN was appointed Forest Botanist at SAN on 5 May, 1991.

Dr. L.J. BULALACAO (PNH) is currently undertaking a new research project assisted by the National Research Council of the Philippines, Project No. E-178, entitled 'Pollen grains of the Philippines: indigenous and endemic types'. As an output of the first year of operation, 1991–1992, a manuscript entitled 'A catalogue of Philippine pollen grains. No. 1. Gymnospermae' will be prepared.

She was invited by the International Biographical Center to be included in the 11th edition of the World Who's Who of Women. This new edition will be used as a definitive reference tool by those requiring information about the most influential women in the world today.

CORNER, EDRED JOHN HENRY (12 January 1906, London, U.K. – *)

Bot. Jb. 113 issue 2/3 was dedicated to Dr. E.J.H. Corner on his 85th birthday. Also our congratulations here to this nestor in Malesian botany.

Rev. N.E.C. CRUTTWELL (Goroka, Papua New Guinea) due to ill health was forced to leave PNG, his home for the past 40 years. He is now living at the College of St. Barnabas, Blackberry Lane, Lingfield RH7 6NJ, Great Britain. He continues to write up materials of his work in establishing and developing the Mt Gahavisuka Provincial Park, widely acknowledged as the most impressive Park in Papua New Guinea, with a huge collection of orchids and rhododendrons.

Mr. O. GIDEON has officially been appointed as Head of the Botany Branch of the Forest Research Institute (LAE) succeeding Mr. K. KERENGA. Mr. Gideon is currently at JCT for his Ph.D. until 1994. Acting Head is the Keeper, Mr. R. KIAPRANIS.

Mr. D. GLENNY after 2 years at BSIP serving under the New Zealand VSO Program is now back at WELT.

HANSEN, CARLO (10 October 1932, Fyn Isl., Denmark – 7 December 1991, Brunei Darussalam)

I. FRIIS & B. HANSEN, *Taxon* 41: 387–389, portr. Well-known specialist of the Melastomataceae died of pneumonia during an expedition to the Batu Apoi FR.

Herbarium Pacificum (BISH) — This Herbarium has appointed a new Collections Manager, Dr. F.M. NORRIS, and a Research Botanist, Dr. L. MEHRHOFF.

HOLTUM, RICHARD ERIC.

Holtum, R.E. A personal view of orchids. In J. Arditti (Ed.) (1977), *Orchid biology, reviews and perspectives*. 1: 15–24, (autobiography); C. Jermy, *Bull. B.P.S.* 4 (1990) 1; R. John, *The Guardian* 28 September 1990; W. Stearn, *The Independent*, 28 September 1990; *The Friends*, February 1991; Anon., *The Times* 25 September 1990; *The Telegraph*, 2 October 1990; C. Jermy, Richard Eric Holtum MA, ScD, DSc, FLS. *IAP News* 6 (1991) 1–5, portr.; W.T. Stearn, Richard Eric Holtum (1895–1990) botanist and religious thinker. *Linnean* 7/3 (1991) 12–18, portr.

INOUE, HIROSHI (30 March 1932, Inabu-mura, Nagaoka-gun, Kochi-ken, Shikoku, Japan – 29 December 1989, Nichinan, Miyazaki, Japan).

S. HATTORI, Dr. Hiroshi Inoue, 1932–1989. *J. Hattori Bot. Lab.* 70 (1991) i–iv, portr.

Dr. C. KALKMAN (L) has been elected Foreign Member of the Linnean Society as a successor to Dr. C.G.G.J. van Steenis (*Linnean* 8, 1992, 30).

Mr. K.M. KOCHUMMEN rejoined FRIM after his retirement as a consultant botanist working specifically for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Mr. J. KULIP (SAN) is making an inventory of the medicinal plants of Sabah, for which he made a visit to the Faculty of Pharmacology, Chiba University, Japan, between 23–28 October, 1991.

Mr. P. MATIUS, Samarinda, has studied herbarium techniques at L between March and June 1992.

Dr. J.P. MOGEA has been installed as the Head of the Botany Division, which covers the former Treub Laboratory and the Herbarium Bogoriense, of the Biological Research and Development Centre Bogor to replace Dr. S. RISWAN.

Dr. K.A. MONK (Mataram, Lombok) is working with Environmental Management Development in Indonesia (EMDI) to write the volume of Ecology of Nusa Tenggara and Moluccas in the context of A. Whitten's series. It is intended to have it published by early 1994. The original version will be in English, but an Indonesian edition will be published almost simultaneously.

Dr. F.S.P. NG took optional retirement from the Forest Research Institute (FRIM) as Deputy Director General at the end of December, 1990. He had served 26 years, starting in 1964 as 'First year pupil botanist'. For 6 more weeks he stayed on in FRIM as a Contract Research Officer to work full-time on his 'Manual of Forest Fruits, Seeds and Seedlings'. In mid-February 1991 he joined the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as Chief of the Forest Research, Education and Training Branch in Rome, Italy.

PNH — The Merit System for Scientific Career System has provided recognition and award to Dr. L.J. BULALACAO, Senior Museum Researcher, Dr. D.A. MADULID, Curator I, and Dr. R.M. DEL ROSARIO, Curator II, all of PNH. To Dr. Bulalacao was conferred the rank of Scientist II, to Dr. Madulid that of Scientist III, and to Dr. Del Rosario that of Scientist IV. The Scientific Career System seeks to develop a pool of highly qualified and productive scientific personnel in the public service. This career path allows scientists to develop with-in their respective areas of expertise without leaving their status as scientists.

PURSEGLOVE, JOHN WILLIAM (11 August 1912, Peak Distr., Derbyshire, Great Britain – 27 November 1991, Cranbrook, Great Britain)

Fl. Males. I, 5 (1958) cccxiii, photo; 8 (1974) lxxviii; Fl. Males. Bull. e.g. 11 (1955) 404; 13 (1957) 551; 14 (1959) 625; 22 (1967) 1528; 23 (1969) 1678; Anon., Daily Telegraph, 2 December (1991) 21.

Purseglove was an international authority on tropical biology. He wrote a number of books, notably four volumes on tropical crops, which remain standard texts throughout the world, and was an inspiring teacher. On the award of a colonial scholarship he spent a year studying agriculture in Cambridge before going to the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad. In 1936 he entered the colonial Service and was posted in Uganda as an agricultural officer, where he carried out major land reforms and resettlement programs. He encouraged the growing and curing of tobacco, described in his book 'Tobacco in Uganda' (1951). In 1952 he returned to Cambridge for two years lecturing on tropical agriculture. He then became Director of SING (1954–57) and made 1000–2000 collections in Malasia, deposited in SING and elsewhere. In 1957 he returned to Trinidad as Professor of tropical Agriculture at the University of the West Indies where he set up an impressive orchid section in the botanical garden. In 1967 he was posted as a tropical crops specialist to the East Malling Research Station, Great Britain, also lecturing at Wye College, London University. He retired in 1975. He was president of the Kent Association of tropical Biology from 1962 to 1965 and a founding member of the Association of Tropical Biology. In 1973 he was appointed Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (CMG).

Ms. RUGAYAH (BO) obtained her M.Sc. from the Birmingham University, U.K., after completing a small thesis on genetic variations in some S. African *Solanum*.

SAINT ('ST.') JOHN, HAROLD, Pittsburgh, U.S.A. (25 July 1893 – January 1992, Honolulu, U.S.A.)

Pac. Sc. 33 (1980, '1979') (323), 435–447, photo, career synopsis and bibliography; Anon., Hb. Pacif. News 9 (1992) 1, photo.

The tradition of longevity amongst botanist is strengthened by the long and varied career of Harold St. John, who died peacefully at his home in Honolulu in January. Rivaling the example of long life of Henry Ridley but not quite surpassing it, St. John lived a life in botany that commenced, from an academic viewpoint, at Harvard, and later encompassed much of the world. However, the two geographic areas that claimed most of his devotion were the American North-west, and the islands of Polynesia. After a number of years at Washington State (Pullman, Washington), St. John moved to the University of Hawaii at the time of the Great Depression. There he remained for the rest of his career, or rather, until retirement meant that he had the opportunity to work elsewhere. At any rate, about thirty years in the Hawaiian Islands led to his constant concern for the taxonomy of Hawaiian plants. During this period, St. John published numerous papers and personally achieved a familiarity with the Hawaiian flora which was challenged only by a very few botanists, among whom was Otto Degener. Sadly, these two remarkable botanists frequently disagreed on matters taxonomic, nomenclatural, and otherwise. St. John's academic work enabled him to provide some of the teaching, research support, and background influence on a number of botanists who are more or less well-known today, including R.S. Cowan, F.R. Fosberg, W.B. Storey, G. Webster, R.E. Wilbur, and the undersigned, among others.

It is not feasible to provide here anything resembling a full account of St. John's life or career; that is the task of another occasion. However, some discussion of his work particularly in relation to the Flora Malesiana is appropriate.

St. John's primary concerns, floristically, were in the Pacific Islands, and especially Polynesia. He traveled with the Bishop Museum expedition to Mangareva, an opportunity that permitted collecting and observing plants in several parts of Polynesia. St. John collected in some of the remotest islands of the planet, including Henderson Island and Pitcairn. He was a climber and attempted (and often scaled) some of the most difficult peaks in Polynesia. He also had field experience in New Guinea; in Micronesia; in Southeast Asia, including Burma; and in Africa. (And, it must be added, in South America to some extent because of the *Cinchona* work during the Second World War.)

In the 1960's St. John obtained one of several grants to work on the Pandanaceae monographically. This led to one of the longer of his series of publications, 'Revision of the Genus *Pandanus*' most of which appeared sequentially in the journal 'Pacific Science'. (The writer of this obituary commenced his studies during this period as a research assistant at UH.)

St. John had a strong work ethic, and believed in a seven-day work week; but the seventh day should be a field trip day. This regular adherence to exploration was a strong influence on his students, many of whom will recall the always interesting and often arduous trips on trails throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

Prodigious as a collector, St. John assembled perhaps 25,000 numbers in his own series. The main set at least of those collected after 1930, is in the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, which was his other academic 'home' for many years. The collections are generally excel-

lent, and his labels are often written in his own hand, in India ink, in the upright script which is highly recognizable.

An example (possibly apocryphal) of St. John's stamina and outlook is provided by this story, which allegedly occurred on the Mangarevan expedition. Because St. John often had only one day on a given island (the expedition vessels preferring to move during the night), he collected in all available daylight hours, and then prepared the specimens during the evening and night when back on board. These preparation sessions could last until two or three in the morning. Finally, some others on the vessel who found it difficult to get to sleep because of the plant-specimen operations, asked St. John to halt the processing at an earlier hour so people could sleep. And so he did. However, he then began rising at 3:30 a.m. to continue the processing of specimens ...

It is probable that St. John wanted to complete two of his major on-going projects, one being a Flora of the Hawaiian Islands, and the other a monograph of *Pandanus*. He issued a checklist of the Hawaiian Flora, published by the Pacific Tropical Botanic Gardens; unfortunately a flood ruined much of the stock of copies of this work, though a reasonable number survived. However, the Flora itself materialized in a very different manner, as D. Herbst, S.H. Sohmer, and W. Wagner organized a major project at the Bishop Museum and saw it through to completion (in 2 volumes) just over two years ago. As to the monograph of *Pandanus*, the method of publication was somewhat inimical to a monographic approach. St. John's method was essentially to prepare a series of partial revisions based on a geographic demarcation. Moreover, these were often not intended as comprehensive, but only to details new taxa and new records. The last part of the series (no. 51) dealt with the Bismarck Archipelago; like several just before it, this part was privately published in a mimeo/typescript style.

As a taxonomist, St. John was an amalgam. His academic training was with M.L. Fernald, and like his mentor, he was an absolutist. His taxonomic philosophy inclined strongly to the specimen-based taxon, and his species concept was a narrow one. This tendency appeared to increase over the years. It became more and more apparent that 'taxa' and 'individuals' were becoming almost identical in his work. He paid little attention to such developments as the use of chromosome number, phytochemical characters, or anatomical data, in taxonomy.

On the other hand his descriptions were almost always full, carefully prepared, and understandable, and his concurrence with the ICBN generally scrupulous. This usually makes interpretation of his work quite an easy matter.

St. John's library will be permanently maintained in the Botany Department of the University of Hawaii, which a number of years ago dedicated the Plant Science Building to him with the name 'St. John Plant Science Laboratories'. Certainly in the future botanists will accept, reject, or modify the scientific results of St. John's botanical work; they will benefit from the large herbarium he personally assembled; students will enjoy the use of the library he left; and the name St. John will be an addendum to many plants' binomials. (Incidentally, he should not be confused with Edith St. John, who worked, I believe, exclusively on ferns in the early 20th century.)

In conclusion it should be noted that St. John's researches included some work on ferns, but he dealt almost entirely with spermatophytes. In relation to the Flora Malesiana, it is undoubtedly the work on *Pandanus* which is most relevant. The incorporation of that work into the FM Pandanaceae, as part of the continuing study of the family, will show its extent and durability. In this connection, this writer must issue a general notice or 'caveat' to bot-

anists: St. John left a very large number of unpublished names, in the form of annotation slips on herbarium sheets (there are probably over 300 of these).

Unfortunately, (and probably due to increasing age) duplicate sheets of the same number do not always bear the same name. Herbaria should note that many names 'in scheda' dating back to as early as 1955 were evidently later rejected and St. John did not intend to publish these; others apparently were meant for eventual publication, but were not (and now never will be) published. In hopes of preventing inadvertent use, especially of published nomina nuda, the writer is attempting to list such names and will try to answer any queries about them.

A full biography of St. John would be an interesting document, but this brief biography must conclude here.

St. John's spirit will undoubtedly remain in the air of the localities along the sea at Kalalau in Kaua'i in the vicinity of those few remaining rosettes of *Hedyotis st.-johnii* which I discovered there almost forty years ago; or perhaps in Johor, type locality of *Pandanus saint-johnii*; or in any of a number of places where St. John collected specimens that were to become eponymous type specimens. — B. C. STONE.

His last will and testament stated that his body be donated to science, so interment and memorial services were held, after these wishes had been honoured, in January 1992 (Ed.).

Ms. A.M. SCHOT on 1 June 1992 has been appointed 'Assistant in training' at the Rijks-herbarium/Hortus Botanicus, Leiden. She will revise *Aporosa* (Euphorbiaceae) for her Ph.D. thesis.

Mr. M.Q. SIRIKOLO has taken over the job of Herbarium Manager at BSIP from Mr. D. GLENNY.

SLEDGE, WILLIAM ARTHUR (1904 – 27 November 1991, Leeds, Great Britain).

The botanical, especially the pteridological world has suffered a severe loss with Dr. Sledge's death.

His botanical career began with work on phanerogams, but in middle age his interest became strongly focussed on pteridophytes. He was asked to join the Botanical Expedition of the University of Leeds to Ceylon in 1950–1951, on which Irene Manton made the first karyological inventory of a tropical fern flora. Arthur was responsible for the identification and taxonomy of the ferns that were sampled; the results were published in a joint paper [Philosoph. Trans. Roy. Soc. London B, 238 (1954) 127–185] that was very often cited in subsequent work on fern cytotaxonomy. This involvement led to a long series of revisions of fern genera and families for Ceylon by Sledge, beginning in 1956 with a revision of *Leptochilus* and ending with an important paper on the Thelypteridaceae of the island in 1981; a comprehensive paper on the Ceylonese fern flora followed in 1982 (Bot. J. Linn. Soc. 84: 1–30). As the flora of Ceylon has appreciable ties with that of Malesia, beside the more intimate ones in southern India, his work is of considerable importance for pteridologists working in the Malesian fern flora. The more so as he was a particular painstaking worker, unraveling problems wherever possible to the very bottom and thereby clarifying many tangles in nomenclature, typification, circumscription of taxa, etc. He put his knowledge freely at the disposal of others and will be universally remembered as a most kind and helpful person. In his later years he worked on his fern collections from the Pacific, especial-

ly Samoa, from where he assembled a very fine set of specimens. Unfortunately he was unable to publish much on them, but his knowledge remains available to others in his critical identifications. — K.U. KRAMER.

Ms. R.M. SMITH (E) retired in May 1992. She will continue her research on the Zingiberaceae of Southeast Asia, but in a very much reduced capacity. A provisional account of *Alpinia* for Flora Malesiana is amongst her projects and she will be pleased to help other workers on the family. Leisure pursuits permitting! Her address remains the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh EH3 5LR, Great Britain.

Ms. L. TIPOT (FRIM) was appointed as Forest Botanist in January, 1991.

Mr. A. VINAS (Bulolo, PNG) has studied Herbarium management in BISH between December 1991 and January 1992.

Mr. K.M. WONG has left BRUN in 1991 and is since 2 January 1992 employed at SAN as Senior Forest Botanist. He is coordinator for the Tree Flora of Sabah Project.

MATERIAL WANTED

During an attempt to prepare a useful guide to *Aristolochia* in New Guinea it became evident that knowledge of *Aristolochia* is far from complete, and much more material needs to be collected in order to solve the taxonomic problems. Dr. M.H.P. Jebb (Christensen Research Institute, POB 305, Madang, Papua New Guinea), has therefore prepared a preliminary paper, which can be had on demand, in the hope it will inspire people to both make observations, and more importantly to collect adequate material for a proper revision.

Aristolochia is the larval food for the magnificent Birdwing butterflies, and as such, knowledge of this genus of climbers is vital in understanding the life histories of these biggest of butterflies.

Please, send anecdotal or detailed information and especially specimens to Dr. Jebb, 'the final manuscript will be fulsome in singing your praise'. Especially knowledge of species in Irian Jaya is necessary, so far only 6 specimens have come to his attention!