

II. OBITUARIES AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

(continued from page 132)

AIRY SHAW, see H.K.A. SHAW.

ALLEN, Betty Eleanor Gosset Molesworth (1913, Opotiki, New Zealand — x)

Fl. Mal. I, 5 (1958) cclii, portr.; Fl. Mal. I, 8 (1974) ix; E. FERNANDEZ GALIANO, Acta Bot. Malacitana 8 (1983) 5—10. (Spanish) Bibliogr.

BIANCHI, André Thomas Johan (1893, Amsterdam, The Netherlands — 27 September 1985, Bussum, The Netherlands)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 56; 8 (1974) xiv.

Well-known wood anatomist at the Forest Experiment Station, Bogor.

BORSSUM WAALKES, Dr. Jan van (25 November 1922, Groningen, The Netherlands — 12 October 1985, Groningen)

Fl. Mal. I, 5 (1958) cclx, bibliogr., itiner., portr.; 8 (1974) xvi.

Jan attended the primary and secondary school at Groningen (the Netherlands) between 1928 and 1941. He entered the State University of Groningen in 1941, where he studied under Dr. B.H. DANSER. He was then an assistant at the Department of Systematic Botany. In May 1943 he was transported to Germany for forced labour until September, when he escaped and went into hiding looked for by the Gestapo. In June 1945 he resumed his studies and obtained his M. Sc. in December 1949. He remained an assistant until September 1950. In October he was recruited for the rehabilitation of the Herbarium Bogoriense, where he stayed until May 1957, only interrupted by a European leave.

During his stay in Bogor he started to make a revision of the Malvaceae for the Flora Malesiana and published some small papers on the species of Abutilon and floral observations on Sida spp. He also made local observations on the rapid spread of Eupatorium odoratum, a noxious weed and reported on small excursions in the vicinity of Jakarta, e.g. the swamp flora of Rawa Tembaga and the flora of P. Damar Kecil, a small islet in the Bay of Jakarta. In 1951 and 1952 he paid three visits to the islands of the Krakatau group, including Prinsen Eiland together with Dr. A. HOOGERWERF. On these field studies he published three papers which were rather important in connection with the succession studies on Krakatau itself and the new island Anak Krakatau.

In 1953 he explored in West Central Sumatra collecting also in the Mentawai Islands together with Mssrs. P. GROENHART and D.R. PLEYTE (May 29 — July 17). In 1956 he joined an expedition to the Lesser Sunda Islands and the Tenimbar Islands with PLEYTE and N.G. BISSET (February 20 — May 3).

After his repatriation in mid-1957 he could dedicate his time to the study of the Malvaceae and by means of a grant of the Dutch foundation Z.W.O. he studied the Malvaceous species described by Cavanilles in M and P (typed report in L). This finally led him to compose his excellent thesis on the representatives of the family in Malesia, a study of 213 species, which excels in accurate detail. Because of the very large number of specimens this was a tedious work. He also prepared an Identification list which must have been a great help to the curators of those institutes of which he was unable to see the material.

In the mean time he had been appointed on the staff of the Groningen University the main subject being the naming of the cultivated plants of the Botanical Garden there, a job he did not really enjoy as revisional work had his preference. Through his faithful personality he nevertheless dutifully acquitted himself of this work. In view of a final version of the Malvaceae for the Flora Malesiana he spent his spare time as much as possible on the identification of all new malvaceous material coming in in the Rijksherbarium. He very much regretted that he was officially forbidden to do so, a most peculiar order. He was well occupied when the Department of Botany moved to Haren, a suburb of the town of Groningen, where a huge, modern greenhouse was built under his supervision. He was rightfully proud when it was finished.

A few years before his retirement he was struck by a paralytic stroke from which at first he seemed to have recovered, but it proved to be fatal, as it was caused by a brain tumor.

Jan was a rather isolated person. He was not married and had, as far as I know, not many intimate friends. He was a dedicated, agreeable person, always prepared to share information and very conscientious in his work and duties. We regret very much that his final goal, the revision of the Malvaceae could not be finished. — C.G.G.J. van Steenis.

#### Selected bibliography:

1951. Enkele Abutilon-soorten (Malv.). Meded. Blad Nat. Hist. Ver. Indon. 3: 42—44.
- , Pulau Penaitan (Prinseneiland): botanisch gedeelte. 31e Dienstrapport 'Bagian Perlindungan Alam dan Pemburuan' or 'Djawatan Penyelidikan Alam': 159—181.
1952. Krakatau-eilanden: Botanisch gedeelte. 33e Dienstrapport 'Bagian Perlindungan Alam dan Pemburuan' or 'Djawatan Penyelidikan Alam': 185—198.
- , Een bezoek aan de Krakatau-eilanden. Trop. Nat. 32: 35—44.
- , Botanische waarnemingen in en om de Rawa Tembaga. Meded. Blad Nat. Hist. Ver. Indon. 3: 87—90.
- , Over de flora van Pulau Damar Ketjil. Meded. Blad Nat. Hist. Ver. Indon. 3: 91—92.
1953. Enkele bloeiwaarnemingen bij twee Sida-soorten. Trop. Nat. 33: 21—30.
- , Over Eupatorium odoratum. Trop. Nat. 33: 52—57.
1954. The Krakatau-Islands after the eruption of October 1952. Peng. Alam 34: 97—104.
1956. Notes on Malaysian Malvaceae. I. Reinwardtia 4: 41—68.
1958. Notes on Malaysian Malvaceae. II. A new Thespesia species from New Guinea. Blumea, Suppl. 4: 154—157.
1960. The typification of the genus Malvastrum (Malv.). Taxon 9: 212—213.
- , Botanical observations on the Krakatau Islands in 1951 and 1952. Ann. Bog. 4: 5—64.
1966. Malesian Malvaceae revised. Blumea 14: 1—213. (Thesis).
- , Malvaceae. Identification list 25: 362—422.
- , Proposals on Hibiscus and Malvaviscus. Taxon 15: 43 (together with R.C. Bakhuizen v.d. Brink f. & C.G.G.J. van Steenis).

BREMEKAMP, Cornelis Elisa Bertus (7 February 1888, Dordrecht, The Netherlands — 21 December 1984, Bilthoven, The Netherlands)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 78, portr.; F.A. STAFLEU, Taxon 34 (1985) 390: brief biogr.

BRENAN, John Patrick Micklethwait (19 July 1917, Chislehurst, Great Britain — 26 September 1985, London)

Fl. Mal. Bull. 28 (1975) 2306; 30 (1977) 2742; 35 (1982) 3718; D. de W. & W.G. W(elman), Forum Botanicum 23/11 & 12 (1985) 58—59; P.S. GREEN, Taxon 35 (1986) 221—223, biogr., portr.

Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, from 1976 to 1981. A learned and affable man, he will be remembered with affection by botanists throughout the world.

A Memorial fund in his name has been established. Cheques should be made payable to the 'Pat Brenan Memorial Fund', c/o R.M. Polhill, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew TW9 3AB, Great Britain.

DEGENER, Otto & Isa

Fl. Mal. Bull. 33 (1980) 3375; S.W. MILL, W.L. WAGNER & D.R. HERBST, Taxon 34 (1985) 229—259. Publication dates of their Hawaiian floras.

DOMIN, Karel (1882 — 1953)

R.J.F. HENDERSON, Taxon 33 (1984) 673—679, 2 tab.: Bibliography with dates on Australian taxa.

JONCHEERE, Gerardus Johannes ('Piet') de (6 July 1909, Den Helder, The Netherlands — x)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 265; Fl. Mal. Bull. 26 (1972) 2002; 29 (1976) 2544; 30 (1977) 2755; 31 9178) 2982; 33 9180) 3374, 3375, 3386

On 24 June 1985 he was awarded the Silver Carnation, an award instituted by the Dutch Prince Bernhard Foundation, for his outstanding work on the taxonomy of the Pteridophytes. This award is yearly given to persons who have made commendable contributions to subjects completely unrelated to their education and regular work (See also Leids Dagblad, 26 June 1985, portr.). We wish to congratulate him with this honour.

Although he had wanted to study biology his parents urged him not to do so and, instead, he became employed in the merchant navy in the former Dutch East Indies. There the only recent book on the local vegetation available in the stores was Backer & Posthumus' Varenflora voor Java, so fortuitously he became interested in ferns. His early collections were lost during the war, which he spent in Japanese internment. He continued his studies, however, and after his retirement he became a regular guest and later an honorary collaborator of L, where after the departure of Dr. E. HENNIPMAN to U he became the unofficial curator in charge of the group. He is well-known for his work on Platyserium and in Dutch floristic circles for his revision of the Dutch ferns. Not hampered by old age he made an expedition to Celebes when he was 70 years old in 1979 (see Flora Malesiana Bulletin 33: 3374, 3386—3388).

KERLING, Louise Catharina Petronella (1900, The Hague, The Netherlands — 24 August 1985)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 277.

Former Professor in phytopathology of the Phytopathological Laboratory, Baarn, The Netherlands.

KINGDON WARD, F. (6 November 1885 — 8 April 1958)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 560; Fl. Mal. I, 8 (1974) civ; U. SCHWEINFURTH: F. Kingdon Ward, 1885—1958: a commemorative note. Mountain Chronicles (1985) 379—381.

MELCHIOR, Hans (5 August 1894 — 12 March 1984)

F.A.STAFLEU, Taxon 33 (1984) 560. Brief biogr.

SAUVEUR, Emile Gaston (1915, Groningen, The Netherlands — 1984, Bogor)

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 464, 606; 8 (1974) lxxxiv.

SHAW, Herbert Kenneth Airy (7 April 1902, Woodbridge, Great Britain — 19 August 1985, Great Britain)

Fl. Mal. Bull. 28 (1975) 2310; 35 (1982) 3713, biogr.; A. RADCLIFFE-SMITH & R.M. HARLEY, Taxon 35 (1986) 218—220, biogr.

Best known (as 'Airy Shaw') for his editorship of the 7th and 8th editions of Willis' Dictionary of the flowering plants and ferns of the world and as the world authority on the Euphorbiaceae writing more than 250 articles about them! He revised or enumerated the family for Thailand, Sumatra, Borneo, the Philippines, Central Malesia, New Guinea, laying a firm base for a future revision for the Flora Malesiana.

A 4-page autobiography is in L.

STEENIS, Cornelis Gijsbert Gerrit Jan van (31 October 1901, Utrecht, The Netherlands — 14 May 1986, Leiden, The Netherlands.

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 499—503, portr.; 5 (1958) cccxxiii; 8 (1974) xciv; M.J. VAN STEENIS-KRUSEMAN, Blumea 20 (1972) 1—6, biogr.; M. JACOBS, Blumea 20 (1972) 7—24, biogr.; M.M.J. VAN BALGOOY, Steenisiana (1972) 38 pp., anecdotes; Fl. Mal. Bull. 31 (1978) 2979; 34 (1981) 3537; 35 (1982) 3753—3754; 37 (= 9/2) (1984) 58, world map of collecting localities; 9/2 (1985) phot. on frontispice with his wife; ANON., Warta LBN-LIPI 158 (1986) 1 (in Indonesia); P. BAAS, Mare 9/40 (26/6/1986) 13, phot., necrol. (see also Introduction).

TSIANG YING (23 September 1898, Kunshan County, China — 6 March 1982, China)

P.-T. LI & P. P.-H. BUT, In commemoration of professor Tsiang Ying (1898—1982). J. Wuhan Bot. Res. 4 (1986) 69—77, biogr., bibliogr.

VERDOORN, Frans

Fl. Mal. I, 1 (1950) 540, portr.; 5 (1958) cccxxviii; Fl. Mal. Bull. 30 (1977) 2741; 2750 (biogr.); 9/2 (1985) 131; A.P.M. SANDERS: In memoriam Frans Verdoorn, bryologist, publisher and biohistorian. Janus 71 (1984) 165—179, portr., bibliogr.

WOMERSLEY, John Spencer (1920, Bristol, Great Britain — Sidney, Australia, 2 September 1985)

Fl. Mal. I, 5 (1958) cccxxxiv, portr. (prev. p.); 8 (1974) cix; Fl. Mal. Bull. 28 (1975) 2345; 29 (1976) 2541; B. MORLEY, Austr. Syst. Bot. Newsl. 45 (1985) 17.

For nearly thirty years 'Big John', as he was usually called (behind his back), was the key figure in botanical research in Papua New Guinea. Arriving as Forest Botanist in 1946 he transformed the Botanical Garden and the Herbarium from humble beginnings to centres of excellence of the region. To increase their wealth he made numerous expeditions and field trips all over the area, and later, when he had become Assistant Director he initiated many newcomers in their first experience with tropical botany and actively supported everybody, who wanted to make expeditions in PNG. After his retirement in 1975 he returned to Adelaide, Australia, but managed to return often to his beloved country by organizing botanical trips and by lecturing on the flora and vegetation on cruise ships (see also p. 2345).