AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIUM NEWS

No.2
March 1948

PUBLISHED HALF YEARLY BY THE SYSTEMATIC BOTANY COMMITTEE OF SECTION M (BOTANY) AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Issued by the

SYSTEMATIC BOTANY COMMITTEE:

Dr. R.T. Patton, (Chairman), School of Botany, University of Melbourne, VICTORIA.
Dr. H.H. Allan, Director, Botany Division, Plant Research Bureau, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND.
Mr. S.T. Blake, Assistant Botanist, Herbarium, Botanic Gardens, Brisbane, QUEENSLAND.
Dr. J.B. Cleland, Professor of Pathology, University of Adelaide, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
Miss W.M. Curtis, Lecturer, Botany Department, University of Tasmania, Hobart, TASMANIA.
Mr. C.A. Gardner, Government Botanist, State Herbarium, Perth, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
Dr. H.D. Gordon, Professor of Botany, Victoria University College, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND.
Mr. A.W. Jessep, Government Botanist, National Herbarium, Melbourne, VICTORIA.
Miss J.W. Vickery, Botanist, National Herbarium, Sydney, NEW SOUTH WALES.
Miss N.T. Burbidge, (Secretary), Systematic Botanist, Division of Plant Industry, C.S.I.R., Canberra, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY.

EDITED for the Committee by the Honorary Secretary.

No. 2. March, 1948.

AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIUM NEWS

A journal for the interchange of ideas among the systematic botanists of Australia and New Zealand.

CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

To a certain extent our first number wrote itself since the reports presented at the Adelaide meeting were available for inclusion. Consequently we could give only an indication of the lines along which, it was hoped, future development would proceed. With this, our second effort, the policy becomes clearer though it has not yet become fixed.

It is pleasant to be able to record that our journal has been kindly received by those to whom it was sent. A considerable and encouraging number have asked that their names be placed on our permanent mailing list, a request with which we are happy to comply.

This number of "A.H. News" will appear at the beginning of the new academic year. It seems, therefore, a suitable moment to remind ourselves that one of the items discussed at our first meeting was the recruitment of herbarium staff. At present the teaching of systematic botany has been so reduced in our Universities that practically no graduates with ability, training or taste for the work are available. Botany courses have become strongly biassed by modern developments in physiological research with the consequent and correlated demand for knowledge of physics and chemistry. Similarly in agricultural courses students do not receive adequate training in the principles of identification of common plants and weeds. The result is that, on the one hand, only a minimum of fundamental research into the problems that beset us is being undertaken by the Universities while, on the other, the highly trained and experienced members of our herbarium staffs are forced to spend much time on routine identifications which certain officers of agricultural departments should be capable of handling. It is time we grew more vocal on this matter. The remedy is, to some extent, in our own hands since there is, in all cases, a close liaison between the staff of each Herbarium and that of the Botany Department of the local University.

A letter headed 'National Herbarium for India' printed in "Science and Culture" Vol. 13 No. 2, August 1947, published by the Indian Science News Association is, in its implications, of considerable interest to Australian botanists. The writer protests against the retention of the large number of type specimens of Indian plants in overseas herbaria, particularly citing Kew and the British Museum. He claims that the lack of this material has ahmpered botanical research and also represents a 'loss of India's cultural assets'. The attention of the Government of India is drawn to the position with a view to reclaiming as many types as possible. Since many of the early Australian collections and some of the later ones are held by herbaria in various parts of the world the implications of this protest must also concern us. The claiming of a plant as a 'cultural asset' is doubtful since an opposing claim to a particular type specimen could equally well be made by the country of the systematist who named the plant and hence bestowed on the specimen what value it possesses. The ridiculous result that such claims would lead to need no elaboration. The question of the lack of types being a handicap to scientific progress is much more important. Subject to the common rights of ownership, whether a collection is housed in one herbarium or another should be subsidiary to its being

readily available to as many workers as possible. It is doubtful if types should ever be held in a private herbarium since the owner rarely has time to take proper care of his specimens and room for visitors to work is seldom present, but, on the other hand, no herbarium can be an entirely satisfactory repository since the botanists most concerned with a particular set of plants will vary according to, for example, whether a national flora or a worldwide revision is being planned.

REPORT ON COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, AUGUST, 1947.

After its first year of existence, the Systematice Botany Committee met several times during the week of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science Conference, August 20-27th. There had been activity but no further meetings since the formation of the Committee in the previous August (cf. Australasian Herbarium News No. 1). The Chairman, Dr. R.T. Patton, and most members were able to attend. Apologies had, unfortunately, to be sent by the representatives for New South Wales and Tasmania. The members for Western Australia and New Zealand were present for the first time in the short history of the Committee.

A summary of the discussions is given here, including the resultant resolutions drawn up by the Committee and passed, first by Section M (Botany) and later by the General Council of A.N.Z.A.A.S.

REPORTS:

The following were read and received by the Committee:-

(a) Minutes of the last meetings in Adelaide, August 1946.
(b) Secretary's report on the year's work.
(c) Financial statement and estimates for the coming year.

AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIUM NEWS:

The most important activities during 1946-7 have been the publication of the first issue of this bulletin, and the preparation of a suitable mailing list to include herbaria and systematic botanists in Australia and New Zealand, as well as some of the more important and interested foreign herbaria. (This number of "A.H.News" was subsequently distributed by the committee on a complimentary basis - C.M.E.) The first number contains descriptions of the main herbaria in Australia and New Zealand together with an account of the formation and aims of the Committee, and other bibliographic, personal and general sections of current interest.

Much time was devoted to discussing the contents of future numbers of Australasian Herbarium News.

RESOLUTIONS -

The following resolutions were formulated by the Committee, amended by Section M (Botany), and finally presented to the General Council.

(i) That the Commonwealth Government be requested to consider the possibility of extending an invitation to the International Botanical Congress to meet in Canberra in 1955.

(ii) a. That the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments be urged to expedite the publication of the urgently needed Flora of Western Australia.

b. That the attention of State Governments be drawn to the pressing need for preparation (or revision) and publication of State Floras.

(iii) That the attention of all Governments in Australia and New Zealand be drawn to the urgent necessity for all Government Herbaria to be housed in permanent fireproof buildings.

(iv) That the Systematic Botany Committee be reappointed.

OTHER MATTERS DISCUSSED:

Other matters were discussed which are not embodied in the resolutions quoted above. One of these was the appointment of an Australian Liaison Officer to the Herbarium of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Our resolution that these appointments be resumed had been passed by the General Council at the 1946 meeting of the Association in Adelaide. The matter was reported to be receiving the attention of the proper authorities.

The subject of complete decapitalization of specific epithets was brought forward; the Committee noted that this practice was to be adopted in the Kew Bulletin, beginning with the 1947 issues, but not as yet for the Index Kewensis; it was also followed by the Journal of Ecology. Opinions of members varied and no agreement was reached.

In view of the proposed meeting of the International Botanical Congress in Stockholm during the summer of 1950, the subject of nomina conservanda, to be submitted by Australian and New Zealand botanists was raised for further attention.

AUSTRALIAN TYPE SPECIMENS:

It is hoped ultimately to compile and publish a type register of Australian species, both in our own and other herbaria. One of the greatest difficulties will be to achieve certainty about the exact status of specimens believed to be types. It was thought that immediate purposes might be better served by preparing merely a register

of "important specimens" to include probable types and specimens with a particular value due, for instance, to the destruction of type material in European herbaria.

It was also decided that more detailed information about the general contents of some of our herbaria should be made available.

PERSONNEL OF COMMITTEE:

Changes of membership were as follows:-

(i) Mr. W. Hartley's resignation was accepted and Miss N.T. Burbridge was elected in his place to represent Australian Capital Territory.

(ii) Professor H.D. Gordon submitted his resignation as member for Tasmania, as he had left that State for New Zealand. Miss Winifred M. Curtis was elected as the Tasmanian representative, but Professor Gordon was invited to remain on the Committee as a second member for New Zealand. (He subsequently agreed to do so - C.M.E.)

(iii) Since the Secretary-and-Editor expected to be unavailable during 1948, the Committee considered that Miss N.T.Burbridge might be elected to the post. This changeover has now taken place.

REPORT TO SECTION M (BOTANY):

The Chairman of the Committee gave a report to Section M upon our activities for the year, our current deliberations and our financial position. A similar report was also prepared and submitted to the General Council of the Association.

C.M. EARDLEY,

Hon. Sec. Systematic Botany Committee.

14.12.47.

NOMENCLATURE OF NATURALIZED PLANTS.

At the "Herbarium Workers' Session" held during the recent A.N.Z.A.A.S. meeting in Adelaide, (August 1946-Ed.) attention was drawn to the differences in botanical nomenclature used for common naturalized plants and weeds in the different Australian States. These differences in botanical usage are a constant source of irritation and misunderstanding, not only to botanists themselves, but to agricultural officers and others who have occasion to refer to the botanical names in the course of their ordinary work. There seems, therefore, to be a strong case for attempting to secure some uniformity of practice in this matter, especially as such uniformity should be obtainable without the sacrifice of any worthwhile independence of viewpoint. Most of the differences in treatment arise from different conceptions of generic limits, usually in groups which are of no great importance in the indigenous Australian flora. Australian botanists must inevitably be at a disadvantage in attempting to form their own judgments in such questions, and it would seem preferable, wherever possible, to adopt as standard Australian practice the nomenclature generally used in the countries where the groups concerned are principally found.

This is, of course, rarely possible, for overseas usage is just as diversified as that found in Australia. However, the recent publication of a "Check List of British Vascular Plants" by the British Ecological Society (Jour. Ecol. 33(2); 308-347, 1946) provides the opportunity of taking an important step towards uniformity. The purpose of this list, as stated in the foreword, "is not to provide an authoritative statement on the content and taxonomy of the British flora, but to secure uniformity of nomenclature in contributions to the Biological Flora". The list has been prepared with the collaboration of most of the leading British botanists, and it may be accepted that the inclusion of a name in the list implies that "it is believed to be the best binary name for a taxonomic unit which is at least frequently regarded as having 'specific' rank". The authors recommend that the names given in the list be adopted by contributors to the Biological Flora unless they can give adequate reasons for doing otherwise.

This list includes many species which are naturalized in Australia, some of which are commonly known by different botanical names here. In view of the very authoritative nature of the British list, it is believed that it would be wise to adopt the names given in it for general use in Australia unless there are very strong reasons for differing from it.

Adoption of the names in the British check list would not, of course, remove all the inconsistencies in the nomenclature of plants naturalized in Australia, as many plants of importance here are not included, while in some instances differences arise because of uncertainty about the precise identity of the plants concerned. It would, however, be a

useful beginning, and further progress should be possible through consultations between the members of the Systematic Botany Committee established in Adelaide.

As an illustration of the possible changes involved, a list has been prepared of the principal differences between the names used in "Standardised Plant Names" (C.S.I.R. Bulletin No. 156) and the British List. This is given below, 34 changes being included. Some of these have already been generally adopted since the publication of the C.S.I.R. Bulletin, while the majority of the others arise from changes in generic or specific limits.

Subject to the approval of the Systematic Botany Committee, it is proposed in future to adopt the names given in the British check list rather than those in the Standardised Plant Names Bulletin, and to use them in any revision of this publication.

"Standardised Plant Names"	British Check List
Nasturtium palustre (Leyss.)DC.	Rorippa islandica (Oeder) Borbas
Alyssum maritimum (L.)Lam	Lobularia maritima (L.)Desv.
Draba verna L.	Erophila verna (L.)Chevall.
Sisymbrium Sophia L.	Descurainia sophia (L.)Prantl
Brassica adpressa Boiss.	Hirschfeldia incana (L.) Lagreze-Fossat
Lepidium Draba L.	Cardaria draba (L.)Desv.
Tunica prolifera (L.)Scop.	Kohlrauschia prolifera(L.)Kunth.
Silene noctiflora L.	Melandrium noctiflorum (L.)Fr.
Cerastium glomeratum Thuill.	Cerastium viscosum L.
Cytisus scoparium (L.)Link	Sarothamnus scoparium (L.)Koch
Trifolium procumbens auct.	Trifolium campestre Schreb.
Onobrychis vulgaris Hill	Onobrychis viciifolia Scop.
Acaena sanguisorbae Vahl	Acaena anserinifolia (J.R.& G. Forst.)Druce
Callitriche verna L.	Callitriche palustris L.
Epilobium angustifolium L.	Chaemaenerion angustifolium (L.) Scop.
Oenothera odorata Jacq.	Oenothera stricta Ledeb.
Mesembryanthemum edule L.	Carpobrotus edulis (L.) N.E.Br.
Petroselinum hortense Hoffm.	Petroselinum crispus (Mill.)Nym.
Peucedanum sativum (L.) Hook.f.	Pastinaca sativa L.
Scabiosa maritima L.	Scabiosa atropurpurea L.
Matricaria discoides DC.	Matricaria matricarioides (Less.) Porter
Cirsium lanceolatum (L.) Scop. non Hill	Cirsium vulgare (Savi)Ten.
Lactuca Scariola L.	Lactuca serriola L.
Microcala filiformis (L.) Hoffmgg. & Link	Cicendia filiformis (L.) Delarb.

Erythraea Centaurium (L.)Pers.	Centaurium umbellatum Gilib.
Bartsia odontites (L.)Huds.	Odontites rubra Gilib.
Bartsia viscosa L.	Parentucellia viscosa(L.)Caruel.
Beta vulgaris var. maritima(L.)Moq.	Beta maritima L.
Aponogeton distachyum Thunb.	Aponogeton distachyos L.f.
Glyceria aquatica (L.)Wahlanb.	Glyveria maxima (Hartm.)Holmb.
Festuca elatior var. arundinacea (Schreb.)Wimm.	Festuca arundinacea Schreb.
Festuca rubra var. fallax Hack.	Festuca rubra L. subsp. fallax (Thuill.)Howarth
Festuca elatior var. pratensis (Huds.)A.Gray	Festuca pratensis Huds.
Bromus maximus Desf.(as synonum of B.Gussonii Parl.)	Bromus rigidus Roth.

WILLIAM HARTLEY
Division of Plant Industry,
C.S.I.R.

(Note: The above list was circulated to the members of the Committee by the Secretary. The majority expressed sympathy with Mr. Hartley's views. Several stated that they were in the habit of referring doubtful questions direct to Kew and hence inquired whether the list published in the Journal of Ecology had full Kew support - Ed.)

THE GRAMINEAE IN THE SECOND EDITION OF ENGLER AND PRANTL'S DIE NATURLICHEN PFLANZENFAMILIEN.

In 1940 there was published Band 14e of the Second Edition of Engler and Prantl, Die Naturlichen Pflanzenfamilien, which consists of Part 3 of the Gramineae, by R. Pilger, the only part of the account of the family so far published. Our copy is a lithoprint by Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A. (1945), published and distributed in the Public Interest by Authority of the Alien Property Custodian.

Band 14e is devoted entirely to the subfamily Panicoideae, and the entire classification differs in the extreme from that of Hackel in the First Edition, chiefly in the much narrower delimitation of genera in accordance with most modern practice. Keys to tribed, subtribes, genera and, in some cases, to subdivisions of genera are given, although in some genera subdivisions are described without being keyed out (as in Paspalum and Andropogon). The approximate number of species in each subdivision is mentioned by name. A nearly complete key to the species is given for a few genera. The work is freely illustrated, some of the figures being copied from the First Edition and other sources; a goodly number has been prepared for the present work.

Within the subfamily, Pilger has accepted the three tribes Paniceae, Andropogoneae and Maydeae in much the same sense as they are defined by C.E. Hubbard in Hutchinson, Families of Flowering Plants, vol. 2 (Monocotyledons), pp.225, 226 and 229 (1934). To these he has added a fourth tribe, the Arthropogoneae, of four genera previously referred to widely separated divisions of the family.

The Maydeae are treated in the conventional manner. In the Paniceae and Andropogoneae, however, Pilger has introduced a number of innovations by increasing the number of subtribes and in treating as sections or subgenera some groups which are rather generally recognised as distinct genera and vice versa. But it is very unfortunate that no explanation is ever given for the changes involved. In a few cases reference is made to an earlier paper of his, but even here explanation is but rarely given for changes, and more recent discussions on the subject are ignored. Many new names are introduced as the result of these changes, but they are never so indicated. Many species are transferred from one genus to another as the result of alterations in generic circumscriptions, but only rarely is any reference made to the basinyms of the proposed names, which are, accordingly, nomina nuda.

Within the Paniceae, the number of subtribes has been increased by the raising of the group designated Meliniastreae by Stapf and Melinideae by Hitchcock to subtribal rank as Melinidinae Pilger, and by the erection of four new subtribes, Anthephorinae, Boivinellinae, Lecomtellinae and Trachyinae, to accommodate a few peculiar genera (six in all, four of them monotypic). By far the greater number of genera are within the subtribe Panicinae, in which Pilger includes those genera segregated by C.E. Hubbard (Hutchinson, l.c., 226) as subtribe Isachninae. A happy innovation is the transfer of Neurachne to the Panicoideae, with which the genus is more closely allied than it is to the genera Zoisia and Tragus with which it has usually been associated.

The circumscription of the genus Panicum follows that earlier proposed in Notizbl. Bot. Gart. & Mus. Berlin-Dahlem 104: 241 (1931). Contrary to the opinion of several agrostologists, Pilger has reduced the genera Acroceras Stapf, Commelinidium Stapf, and Neohusnotia A.Camus to subgenera of Panicum. Subgenus Urochloides Pilger comprises species referred partly to Urochloa Stapf and partly to Brachiaria by Stapf and by Gardner and Hubbard (Brachiaria reptans (L.)Gardner and Hubbard, etc.); it is a matter for regret that Pilger has ignored or overlooked the detailed study of this group by Gardner and Hubbard in Hook. Ic. Pl.t. 3363 (1938), and the reasons advanced there for treating these species as members of the genus Brachiaria.

Twenty sections are recognised under subgenus Eupanicum, and a partial key to these is given. Most of the Australian species would appear to come under sect. Virgata Hitchc. & Chase, em. Pilger, though P.decompositum R.Br. is mentioned under sect. Repentia Stapf, possibly by mistake.

Urochloa is treated in the sense of Hughes in Kew Bull. (1923) 318-319, more stress being laid on the mucronate fertile floret than on the orientation of the spikelet. Thus we find such Australian species as Panicum Gilesii Benth. and P. praetervisum Domin cited as species of Urochloa and not as species of Brachiaria, although they have the first glume directed towards the axis of the raceme.

In the Andropogoneae, six subtribes are recognised, namely: Dimeriinae, Saccharinae, Ischaeminae, Rottboellinae, Sorginae, and Andropogoninae. Stapf's group Andropogoneae-Androponinae-Sorghastrae is raised to tribal rank, and this appears to be an improvement on earlier classifications. On what appears to be valid grounds the generic name is spelt Sorgum, instead of Sorghum, otherwise Pilger's treatment of the genus follows that of Snowden. Pilger regards Chrysopogon Trin. and Rhaphis Lour. as distinct on the grounds that the former has the leaves folded in bud and perfect awns, while the latter has imperfect awns and leaves inrolled in bud, and is restricted to a single species R. aciculatus (Retz.)Honda. But so far as I have seen, the leaves of both are at first convolute in bud, though in some species of Chrysopogon the leaves assume a folded position fairly early. At least one species (C. setifolius Stapf) is awnless, though otherwise apparently typical. Sarga Ewart & Davies is referred to Chrysopogon though shown by Gardner and Hubbard to be a Sorgum.

Andropogoneae-Saccharinae-Eulaliinae is proposed as a new name for Stapf's group Andropogoneae-Saccharinae-Polliniastrae. Pilger's treatment of the group is very different from that of C.E.Hubbard in Hook. Ic. Pl. t.3262 (1935). Both Polytrias and Pseudopogonatherum are treated as part of the genus Eulalia, and it is very unfortunate that a figure of Polytrias is given, apparently as an illustration of the genus Eulalia.

A curious feature of the treatment of the subtribe Ischaeminae is that Digastrium is kept as a genus distinct from Ischaemum without any comment on the detailed evidence brought forward by C.E.Hubbard in Hook. Ic. Pl. t.3263 (1935) to show that such a separation cannot be justified. He has even transferred Ischaemum Baileyi C.E. Hubbard to Digastrium as its second species, a species which Pilger may not have seen, and which does not accord with his description of Digastrium.

The sense of Rottboellia has been extended to include Coelorhachis, Chasmopodium and Lasiurus, but Coelorhachis at least seems to be as distinct a group as most of the well-recognised genera of the subtribe.

A brief history of the classification of the subfamily concludes the volume. In a recent letter Dr. Pilger informs me that he hopes that Part 2, the Pooideae, will be published, as most of the manuscript was saved from the Berlin catastrophe and has since been completed.

S. T. BLAKE
Queensland Herbarium
Botanic Gardens, Brisbane.

HANDBOOKS OF THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

In 1920 and 1921, just after the conclusion of what we then called the Great War, the South Australian Branch of the British Science Guild was very active in investigating ways in which science could be brought more under the notice of the man in the street and scientific activities directed into useful channels. Having returned recently myself to this state after a long absence and having found Ralph Tate's "Flora of South Australia", 1899, difficult to work with and necessarily out-of-date, it occurred to me that in Mr. J.M. Black we had some one in our midst who had the knowledge and experience, to compile an entirely new Flora. Why should not the British Science Guild approach Mr. Black - then a vigorous, youngish man of 66 - and see if he would be prepared to undertake this rather formidable task? And might not the Government be approached to see if they would print it? And if a Flora, why should not other Handbooks on the Mammals, the Fishes, the Reptiles, the Shells, the Seaweeds, and so on be compiled? So I put this suggestion to the Science Guild and it was readily adopted. Mr. Black was prepared to undertake a flora, we had Wood Jones in mind for a Handbook on the Mammals and Waite on the Fishes. It was decided that a small deputation, consisting of Professor Wood Jones, Professor T.G.B. Osborn and myself should wait on the Premier of the day, Mr. (afterwards Sir) Henry Barwell and put the proposal to him. Now I thought it might be an advantage, instead of talking to the Premier, to submit to him a short memorandum covering the ground. This I drew up in manuscript, and my colleagues approving, presented it when we waited on the Premier on 25th February, 1921.

The memorandum was entitled "Proposed Scheme for the Preparation of Handbooks on the Fauna and Flora of South Australia." The following are the more important of the items of this proposal.

I. There is an almost complete lack in South Australia of any handbooks dealing with the Fauna and Flora of the State.

II. In consequence, many individuals with scientific tastes are unable to develop these. This is a great loss to the State, as these persons, with suitable handbooks available, might be led on to contribute voluntarily to the State additions to scientific knowledge of great value to our pastoral, agricultural and other interests.

III. A scheme under the auspices of the South Australian Branch of the British Science Guild is proposed for the preparation of a series of such handbooks to be edited by a sub-committee of experienced workers, the individual parts to be prepared by specialists (in an honorary capacity).

. . . . . .
. . . . . .

The work involved will be highly skilled and laborious. In the interests of science the authors will be prepared, we believe, to devote their time and knowledge to this work without fee, if a means of publication can be obtained.

VII. The value to the community of the works of these authors, thus offered as a gift to the State and to the world of Science, can be put at a very high figure. Would the Government be prepared to accept this offer of gratuitous service and as a return - on the 'pound for pound subsidy' principle - arrange for the publication of the Handbooks by the Government Printer?

.....
.....

X. The educational value of these handbooks will be great. A copy of each might be placed with advantage in every public school in the State, when it could be made available not only to teacher and scholars but to the interested public of the district as well. To meet this demand and to enable distribution to be made to private individuals (at a nominal price to induce the wide use of these handbooks) about 1500 copies of each should be printed.

.....

The Premier read the proposal through. He then said, 'A very generous offer gentlemen, I shall lay it before Cabinet.' On the 10th of March, the following reply was received:

"With reference to the proposed scheme under the auspices of The South Australian Branch of the British Science Guild for the preparation of a series of handbooks on the Fauna and Flora of South Australia which was submitted by yourself and Professor Wood Jones to the Premier on the 25th ultimo, I am directed by the Premier to inform you that in consideration of the contributors in the compilation of the handbooks undertaking the work in an honorary capacity the Government is prepared to undertake the printing of the publication at the Government Printing Office at the expense of the State."

During the twenty-seven years since this arrangement was made the following Handbooks have been issued:

The Flora of South Australia (J.M.Black), Part I.,1922, 3s.; Part I.,1943 (Second Edition) 7s.6d.; Part II.,1924,5s.; Part III.,1926, 5s.; Part IV., 1929, 7s.

The Mammals of South Australia (F.Wood Jones,D.Sc.), Part I.,1923, 3s.; Part II.,1924, 4s.; Part III.,1925, 5s.

The Fishes of South Australia (Edgar R.Waite, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S.), 1923, 6s.

The Building of Australia and the Succession of Life: with Special Reference to South Australia (Walter Howchin, F.G.S.), Part I., 1925, 5s.; Part II.,1928,7s.6d.; Part III.,1930, 7s.6d.

The Crustaceans of South Australia (Herbert M.Hale), Part I.,1927, 5s.; Part II.,1929, 5s.

The Reptiles and Amphibians of South Australia (Edgar R.Waite, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S.), 1929, 7s.6d.

The Toadstools and Mushrooms and other Larger Fungi of South Australia (J.B.Cleland, M.D.), Part I.,1934, 5s.; Part II.,1935, 5s.

The Seaweeds of South Australia (A.H.S.Lucas, M.A., B.Sc.) Part I., 1936, 2s.6d.; Part II. (the late A.H.S.Lucas, M.A.,B.Sc., and Mrs. Florence Perrin, H.B.S.Womersley and J.R.Harris), 1947, 8s.6d.

The Vegetation of South Australia (J.G.Wood, Ph.D.,D.Sc.), 1937, 4s.

The Molluscs of South Australia (B.C.Cotton and F.K. Godfrey), Part I., 1938, 7s.6d.; Part II.,1940, 7s.6d.

The Primitive Insects; Silverfish, etc., of South Australia (H.Womersley, F.R.E.S., A.L.S.), 1939, 7s.6d.

Soon after the early issues of these Handbooks, the South Australian Branch of the British Science Guild ceased its activities in Adelaide and later the main body itself in Britain became incorporated with the British Association for the Advancement of Science. A small sum of money was available on the assets of the South Australian Branch and together with a generous donation of a sum (about £10) was used for illustrations and other purposes on the early Handbooks. In the revision of the Flora, through the good offices of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, £50 has been made available from the Commonwealth for Illustrations in Parts II and III., otherwise all the expenses of preparing the various manuscripts have been borne by the authors or at least the authors have made the necessary arrangements.

The complete revision of Black's Flora is being achieved and the type of Part II. has been completely set up. Mr Black is engaged now in the revision of Part III. Part III of the Molluscs by Messrs. Cotton and Godfrey is practically ready for presentation to the Government Printer when he can undertake the work. Professor Wood has also agreed to revise his Handbook on the Vegetation of South Australia, the supply of which has been exhausted. It is anticipated that very soon other handbooks will be in course of preparation.

The Handbooks Committee at present consists of:

Dr. J.B. Cleland: Professor of Pathology, University of Adelaide (Chairman)
Dr. T.Harvey Johnston: Professor of Zoology, University of Adelaide.
Mr. H.M. Hale: Director, South Australian Museum (Editor)

Mr. J.M. Black: Honorary Lecturer in Botany, University of Adelaide.
Dr. J.G. Wood: Professor of Botany, University of Adelaide.

The Government of South Australia and the Government Printer and the Handbooks Committee are all justly proud of the production of these Handbooks and of the field of work covered.

J. B. CLELAND
University of Adelaide.
Adelaide, South Australia.

THE SEAWEEDS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA : THE RED SEAWEEDS.

by

The late A.H.S. Lucas, M.A., B.Sc. and Mrs. Perrin. (With Introduction and Appendices by H.B.S. Womersley, B.Sc. and J.R. Harris, B.Sc.) Handbooks of the Flora and Fauna of South Australia, Adelaide 1947.

This book is of definite value since there is a dearth of publications on the algal flora of Australia. However, having recognised this value, one proceeds to find fault. Unfortunately, there appears to be conflict in outlook shown by the various authors.

A.H.S. Lucas was the senior author. His work is taxonomically outdated and lacks critical revision, but it was written from experience about plants he knew and the comments apply particularly to the Australian flora. Mrs. F. Perrin as the second author had the difficult job of collecting incomplete manuscript and completing the latter part of the work. Of necessity there is a change in the style. H.B.S.Womersley and J.R. Harris have, on the other hand, attempted to superimpose modern taxonomic schemes, produced overseas, on an essentially provincial manuscript. The result is strained.

VALERIE MAY
Division of Fisheries,
C.S.I.R., Cronulla,
New South Wales.

NOTE ON THE CONSULTATION OF RUSSIAN FLORAS.

It is sometimes convenient to be able to find one's way about a Russian flora and extract some information from it, in the absence of a knowledge of the language. The important standard flora, at present in course of preparation, is that being edited by V.L. Komarov (4) and written in Russian. So far, vols. 1-11 have appeared, and include

vascular cryptogans, gymnosperms and angiosperms, (Typhaceae - Leguminoseae) arranged according to Engler's system.

Recently an English translation by Airy-Shaw of the section of the genus Allium has appeared (9), also a very helpful article by Stearn (8) providing maps and a key to the geographical zones and distribution quoted throughout Komarov's work. And Grossheim (3), in at least one of his Russian manuals on the flora of the Caucasus, gives distribution maps for almost every species described.

Another short paper by Stearn (6) deals with Ledebour's "Flora Rossica", hitherto the standard work, and other early Russian floras; these were written before the annexation of Western Turkestan, and do not include the plants of that floristically rich area. Various regional accounts of the ecology are available, particularly in Russian journals, e.g., Bull. Appl. Bot. Genet. and Plant Breeding, Leningrad, usually with English summaries.

For transliteration of the Cyrillic characters to Roman see (1) and (5); but Stearn's article alone (8) makes it a very simple matter to interpret the geographical and other abbreviations in the "Flora U.R.S.S." by Komarov and his Soviet co-workers.

References.

(1) CARPENTER, J.R. 1939 : Recent Russian work on community ecology. Jour. Animal Ecol. 8 (See p.366-7 : Transliteration of Russian names.)

(2) GROSSHEIM, A.A. 1936 : Analiz flory Kavkaza. Analysis of the flora of the Caucasus, Trud.Bot.Inst.Akad.Nauk S.S.S.R., Azerbaijan. Filial, I. Baku.

(3) GROSSHEIM, A.A. 1939 : Flora Kavkas, I. Baku. (Polypodiaceae-Gramineae). (Copy at the Waite Institute, Adelaide).

(4) KOMAROV, V.L. 1934 : Flora U.R.S.S. Inst. Bot. Acad. Sc. URSS. Leningrad. (Copy in Botany Dept., University of Sydney).

(5) PACLT, J. 1946 : Studie o Transliteraci Azbuky. (Nat. Museum, Prague) (with English summary)

(6) STEARN, W.T. 1941 : Ledebour's "Flora Rossica", "Icones Plantarum Novarum" and "Flora Altaica", with a note on Pallas' "Flora Rossica". J.Arnold Arbor. 22; 225-30.

(7) STEARN, W.T. 1946 : The floristic regions of the U.S.S.R. with reference to the genus Allium. Herbertia, 11 (for 1944) 45-63. Stanford Univ. Calif.

(8) STEARN, W.T. 1947 : Geographical and other abbreviations in the Flora U.R.S.S. by Komarov and others. New Phyt. 46 : 61-68.

(9) VVEDENSKY, A.I. 1946 : The genus Allium in the U.S.S.R. (Translated by H.K.Airy Shaw from Komarov, Flora U.R.S.S. 4: 112-280. 1935). Herbertia,11 (for 1944) 65-218. Stanford Univ. Calif.

C. M. BARDLEY,
University of Adelaide.
Adelaide, South Australia.

MEMBERS OF THE STAFFS OF AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIA.

At the request of members of the Committee and also of other interested persons a list of those working in the various Herbaria, and of their special interests, has been collected by the Secretary with the assistance of the state representatives.

AUSTRALIA:

New South Wales -

National Herbarium:

R.H. Anderson : Government Botanist, Director of Botanic Gardens Administration, Eucalyptus spp., Chenopodiaceae

Joyce W.Vickery : Botanist - Amphipogon, Danthonia, Gramineae of N.S.W. for Flora of N.S.W.

Mary Tindale : Pteridophyta for Flora of N.S.W., Revision of genus Acacia for N.S.W.

H.K.C. Mair : Liliaceae for Flora of N.S.W.

Joy Garden : Early families of Monocotyledons for Flora of N.S.W., Revision of the genus Zieria. Investigation of some species of Veronica in continuation of some unpublished work of the late W.F. Blakely.

Nerida C. Ford : Families Palmaceae and Araceae for Flora of N.S.W.

Marjorie C.Bowyer : Librarian - Interested in genus Boronia in N.S.W.

G.Chippendale : Trainee, on leave to complete University course. In vacation periods is engaged in checking the naming of plants in the Botanic Gardens.

D.O. Cross : Gramineae and weed problems.

H.M.R. Rupp : Honorary Curator - Orchidaceae.

Valerie May Jones : of the Division of Fisheries, C.S.I.R., Honorary Curator - Algae of Australia.

L.A.Johnston : Research Student - Revision of the genus Casuarina.

University of Sydney -

Professor A.Burges : Systematics and taxonomy of Mosses.

S.Smith White : Cytology of Australian plants. (Mr. Smith White was formerly attached to the Sydney Technological Museum - Ed.)

Queensland -

Queensland Herbarium:-

C.T. White : Government Botanist - Flora of Queensland and South-west Pacific with special attention to woody plants.

W.D.Francis : Botanist - Australian Rain-forest trees, general dendrology.

S.L.Everist : Botanist - Poisonous plants, weeds, climatology and ecology of semiarid regions.

S.T.Blake : Assistant Botanist - Australian Gramineae, Cyperaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Apocynaceae and Sapotaceae; Cyperaceae of New Zealand and New Guinea; Eucalypts of North Australia; Nomenclature; Plant Communities of Queensland.

L.S.Smith : Assistant Botanist - Queensland Myoporaceae, Mangroves, Queensland Pteridophyta, Rainforest trees of eastern New Guinea, especially the Dipterocarpaceae, Queensland Meliaceae.

South Australia -

(Note : As South Australia differs in not having an official State Herbarium the list has been divided into those whose positions involve systematic botanical work and those whose interest is nonprofessional - Ed.)

Professional:-

Constance M.Eardley : Systematic Botanist, Herbarium of the University of Adelaide - General systematics of the native and introduced flora of South and Central Australia; desert floras and a developing interest in the cytology of Australian plants.

H.B.S.Womersley : Botany Department, University of Adelaide - Marine Algae of South Australia, their taxonomy and ecology.

C.D. Boomsma : Woods and Forests Department - Field study of Eucalyptus spp.

H.E. Orchard : Weeds Adviser, Department of Agriculture - local weeds.

Non-professional:-

J.M.Black : Author of two manuals, "The Flora of South Australia" and "The Naturalised Flora of South Australia". At present engaged on a second edition of the "Flora", of which Part I is already published and Part II almost so.

H.Goldsack : South Australian Orchidaceae.

J.B.Cleland : Author of the South Australian Handbook "Toadstools and Mushrooms and other larger Fungi". Also a keen collector of the South and Central Australian Flora.

E.S.Booth : Coniferous trees and general carpological collection, Herbarium of the University of Adelaide.

Tasmania -

There are no botanists engaged solely in systematic work. The Herbarium of the Tasmanian Museum is on loan to the Botany Department of the University.

Victoria -

National Herbarium:-

A.W. Jessup : Government Botanist and Director of the Botanic Gardens - Administration.

P.F.Morris : Botanist - Native and introduced flora of Victoria.

J.H.Willis : Botanist - Native and introduced flora of Victoria; revision of Ewart's "Flora of Victoria".

P.Bibby : Botanist - special interest in the Lichens of Australia.

R.V.Smith : Botanist - routine Herbarium work.

T. Clifford : Temporary Botanist.

(Visitors to the Herbarium, who are also engaged in Systematic Botany, include the following.)

R.T. Patton : Botany Department of the University of Melbourne. Chairman of the Systematic Botany Committee - Dr. Patton's interests include the Honey Flora of Victoria, Australian Eucalyptus spp. and the ecology of Victoria.

R.A.Black : Possesses an extensive private herbarium of Australian plants to which he is constantly adding.

W.H.Nicholls : Australian Orchidaceae

A.K. Cameron : Victorian Eucalyptus spp.

Western Australia -

State Herbarium:-

C.A. Gardner : Government Botanist - Administration, preparation of a flora of Western Australia.

G.R. Meadley : Assistant Government Botanist - Weed Control and seed testing.

R.D. Royce : Agricultural Advisor. Herbarium routine.

Australian Capital Territory:

Division of Plant Industry, C.S.I.R.:-

W.Hartley : Senior Research Officer, in charge of Section of Plant Introduction - systematics and nomenclature of introduced species, Eriachne spp. of Australia.

Nancy T.Burbridge : Systematic Botanist in charge of the Herbarium of the Division - Triodia spp. and Enneapogon spp. of Australia, Eucalyptus spp. of South Australia, plants of the arid regions of Australia.

New Zealand:

(Owing to incomplete data the list of workers in New Zealand will be delayed until a subsequent issue of "A.H.News" - Ed.)

EXPEDITIONS TO NORTHERN AUSTRALIA DURING 1948.

1948 is to be a year of considerable activity by exploring and surveying parties. These are (1) the Archbold Expedition (of the American Museum of Natural History) to Cape York Peninsula, of which Mr. L.J. Brass is leader and botanist. The party will also include a mammalogist, ornithologist, herpetologist, entomologist and a field co-ordinator. (2) The National Geographic Society and Department of Information Expedition to Arnhem Land of which Mr. C.P. Mountford will be the leader and Mr. R. Specht the botanist. This will be a combined American and Australian Expedition. It is proposed to establish base camps at Groote Eylandt, Roper River (100 miles from the mouth), Melville Bay and at Oenpelli Mission Station. The party expects to be in the north for about eight months. (3) The Northern Australian Regional Survey Party of the C.S.I.R. will again spend the winter months in the field. The party is under the command of Mr. C.S. Christian and will complete the survey of the Barkly Tableland, on the Queensland-Northern Territory Border, which was commenced last year. The botanist, this year, will be Mr. R. Perry.

NEWS AND NOTES ON CURRENT WORK.

NEW ZEALAND.

In a progress report of the Botany Division of the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research, Wellington, 17/10/47, we note under 'Taxonomy' that a detailed study of the genus Danthonia in New Zealand is nearing completion. Work is also being carried out on the plants of the southern fiords and the Subantarctic Islands.

Under 'Ecology' it is reported that a study is being made of the flowering and seeding of Nothofagus species is being made by the State Forest Service, also studies of the behaviour of forms of Agropyron scabrum, the vegetation of the Tararuas and Eastern Wairapa hills. A paper on the distribution of species of northern and north-western South Island has been submitted for publication. An article on the fodder trees and shrubs of New Zealand has appeared in I.A.B. Joint Publication No, 10.

It is stated that in the herbarium the McKay collection has been mounted on standard sheets.

Writing of the herbarium of the Auckland University College, Professor V.J. Chapman reports that efforts are being made to build it up and enrich it not only with additional specimens of the native flora, but also with overseas specimens. The latter purpose is being achieved by exchange of material with important overseas herbaria. In addition Professor Chapman has donated an extensive collection of Ceylon plants.

The professor also possesses an extensive herbarium of marine algae from all parts of the world. It contains also a full set of the exsiccatae distributed by Mr. Lindauer. This collection is particularly rich in the genus Enteromorpha, upon which the Professor has been working. For the next few years this herbarium will also house the important R.M. Laing Collection of New Zealand marine algae, which will be on loan from the Botany Department of Canterbury University College.

AUSTRALIA.

New South Wales.

Miss Vickery reports that the staff of the herbarium are busy on the preparation of material for the proposed new Flora of New South Wales but much of their time is taken up with routine work. It is anticipated that the task will take a long time, but it is satisfactory to feel that some steady progress is being made towards its achievement.

Proofs have been received and returned of a revised edition

of "Trees of New South Wales" by R.H. Anderson, and it is hoped that the Government Printer will shortly see his way clear to complete the printing of this book. The new edition has been completely revised and a considerable amount of new material added.

The revision of the genus Swainsona by Alma Lee, which is to appear in "Contributions from the N.S.W. National Herbarium Vol. 1. No.4." is also in the proof stage.

Material for the "Contributions Vol. 1. No.5.", has been submitted for printing. This number will contain a List of the Naturalised Grasses of N.S.W., by D.O. Cross and J.W. Vickery (to complete the list of naturalised plants published in No.1); a Revision of the genus Amphipogon by J.W. Vickery; some new species of Danthonia by J.W. Vickery and probably a note on the nomenclature of Sturt's Desert Pea.

Miss Vickery is nearing the end of a revision of the Australian species of the genus Danthonia and it is hoped that the manuscript will be ready for publication before very long.

Exchange of specimens with a number of overseas herbaria has been renewed. This has been facilitated by the appointment of a collector.

From correspondence received it is understood that the following institutions would like to receive specimens of certain groups of Australian plants, on an exchange basis:-

The Curator of the Bolus Herbarium, University of Cape Town, Rondesbosch, South Africa, is anxious to obtain Australian specimens of the Restionaceae.

Any Australian specimens of Acacia would be gratefully received by the Director of the Bailey Hortorium, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.

Dr. H.G. Schweickerdt, Department of Botany, University of Pretoria, Brooklyn, South Africa, would be interested to receive Australian grasses.

Queensland.

Mr. White is engaged in the preparation of results of a botanising trip to the British Solomons in 1945, which should be finished by June 1948 and will include descriptions of new species and critical notes on others. A general account of the species collected, with field descriptions, will be published in F.S. Walker's report on the forest resources of the Protectorate of which the final proofs have been checked and which should be available shortly. Arising partly out of these studies, a paper on the genus Finschia Warb. (family Proteaceae) by Mr. White has been accepted by the Editors of "Pacific

Science". General work on the systematics of the Queensland flora has been held up for some time but a "Contributions to the Queensland Flora" (No. 10) is in course of preparation.

Mr. Francis has completed the typescript of a revised and enlarged edition of his "Australian Rain-Forest Trees."

Mr. Everist undertook a number of field trips during which general collecting (670 numbers) was done in addition to the special objects. During the year two visits were paid to Boatman Station, between Charleville and Bollon, for field studies on Mulga. In June he visited the Blackall district to inspect Mulga-lopping experiments begun in 1942 and pasture enclosures fenced in 1937; also, in company with officers of the Division of Animal Industry, he visited the Nonda-Julia Creek district in connection with walkabout disease in horses and paralysis in sheep. Later in the year he visited St. George to investigate mortalities in travelling cattle and also the Georgina River area to study "Georgina River Disease". Papers on the following subjects are in course of preparation: biology of mulga, plants poisonous to cattle, taxonomy and poisonous properties of species of Nicotiana native and naturalised in Queensland, Georgina River Disease and climatology of pastoral areas of Queensland (in conjunction with Miss J. Farmer and Mr. G. Moule, both of the Division of Animal Industry, Dept. of Agriculture and Stock).

Mr. Blake was again seconded to C.S.I.R. for a period of six weeks in April - June to act as botanist to the Northern Australian Regional Survey, during which time an extensive collection of some 650 numbers was made on the Barkly Tableland and in the neighbourhood of Katherine. A much smaller collection (180 numbers) was made in Western Australia during a brief visit in August-September. Also during this period visits were made to the Perth, Sydney and Melbourne Herbaria where a number of types, particularly of Eucalyptus spp. were studied. Collections made in Western Australia in 1947 and in South Australia in 1946 were determined and labelled. Some progress has been made with the determination of the collections from the Northern Territory obtained in 1946-7; the greater part of the Brass collection of Cyperaceae has now been determined and the third paper dealing with them has appeared; revisions of Oreobolus and the Australian-Malaysian species of Scleria are making good progress; three papers dealing with some miscellaneous grasses, new Apocynaceae and Asclepiadaceae and a new species of Gahnia are about ready for the printer.

Mr. Smith visited Kingaroy (south Burnett District) in April for a survey and made a collection of weeds; in July and August, in company with Mr. L.J. Webb (of C.S.I.R.) he visited North Queensland in connection with Mr. Webb's testing of plants for alkaloids etc., (primarily rain-forest species), collections being made chiefly on the Kirrama Range (near Cardwell), the Atherton Tableland and between Clermont and Charters Towers; in October field work was carried out in

the neighbourhood of Biloela, collections being made in the Callide Valley and on the Dawes Range; the collections for the year amounted to 590 numbers. At present Mr. Smith is drawing up the botanical descriptions and supervising the preparation of drawings for an account of 25 New Guinea timber trees being prepared in co-operation with Dr. H.E. Dadswell (Wood Structure Section, C.S.I.R. Forests Products Lab.) and Mr. J.B. McAdam (Secretary, Dept. New Guinea Forests) along the lines of "Forest Trees and Timbers of the British Empire" (prepared by the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford), to be published by the New Guinea Department of Forests; and the descriptions of a number of new species of miscellaneous ligneous plants collected by himself in New Guinea are being prepared.

Ten publications by members of the staff have appeared during the year in various Australian and overseas journals.

During 1947 several visitors worked at the Herbarium. Mr. J.S. Womersley worked for several weeks while en route to resume his duties as Forest Botanist to the Department of Forests, New Guinea. Mr. T.E. Hunt spent a short time examining orchids. Mr. R. Perry (C.S.I.R.) spent several weeks on Northern Territory plants. Mr. F.W. Hely worked on a collection made by himself in the Burdekin River basin. Mrs. M.S. Clemens, who has been a visitor since 1942, spent several months on the Eungella Range collecting, chiefly for American institutions. Mr. L.J. Brass is at present making arrangements for the Archbold Expedition to Cape York Peninsula.

Victoria.

The main project in hand at present is the accumulation of material for the preparation of a new Handbook to the Flora of Victoria.

The Victorian Plant names Sub-Committee of the Victorian Field Naturalists Club will complete its work in a few months.

Mr. Herbert Dickins has another (3rd) edition of his Victorian Orchid Studies due for publication.

Tasmania.

The major research project in progress is the accumulation of material for a revised edition of Rodway's "Tasmanian Flora." This is under the control of Miss W.M. Curtis who reports that she expects the work will take some years. Other work being done at the Department of Botany at the University includes experimental taxonomy and cytology of the following genera; Tmesipteris, Pultenaea, Dianella and Wahlenbergia.

Australian Capital Territory.

Miss Burbidge, most of whose time is being given to the development of the Canberra Herbarium and the determination of material collected on field trips by officers of the C.S.I.R. visited Melbourne in June to check the identification of a number of specimens. She also took the opportunity after the Perth Conference in August of remaining in Western Australia for three weeks collecting. The areas visited were the sandplains north of Geraldton, the country of the Great Southern and South West Districts and the Goldfields between Kalgoorlie and Norseman. In the latter area she had the co-operation of Mr. Brockway of the W.A. Forests Department. A total of 888 specimens were collected in this period the majority of which have been added to the herbarium.

A recent letter from Mr. W. Hartley states that he had met Professor Arturo Burkart (Instituto Botanico "Darwinian", San Isidro, Buenos Aires), whose publications on South American Leguminoseae are well known, particularly to those of us whose libraries subscribe to "Darwiniana" and "Revista Argentina de Agronomia". Professor Burkart would be pleased to receive any literature on Australian systematic botany in exchange for his own publications.

Mr. Hartley also visited Professor Lorenzo Parodi, whose papers on South American grasses, published in the same Argentinian journals are also familiar to us. Professor Parodi is keen to obtain material of Australian grasses especially Microchloa but also Stipa, Eriachne and Microlaena. His address is Lavalle 4680, Buenos Aires.

General.

It is stated in "Biologia" i.: (6), 21. Autumn 1947, that proposals referring to the Rules of Botanical Nomenclature should be submitted, before Jan. 1st, 1949, to the acting Secretary: J. Lanjouw, Botanical Museum, Utrecht, Netherlands. At least five (5) printed or typewritten copies of each proposal are required.

This means that any suggestion we may wish to present will have to be decided by the Systematic Botany Committee before its next meeting in Hobart in January 1949.

We have also had a letter from Dr. Lanjouw stating that there will be a small international conference in Utrecht in June, 1948. He asks whether any Australian taxonomist would be able to attend. As Miss Eardley will be in England the Committee has asked her to attend this Conference, if possible, on our behalf.

In a letter from Professor T.G.B. Osborn, formerly Professor of Botany at Adelaide, to Miss Eardley, reference is made to the plants of

the Sherardian Herbarium of the Department of Botany at Oxford. Speaking of Dampier's plants he states that the Clianthus has retained its colour surprisingly well. (These plants were dealt with in a recent paper: Dampier's Australian Plants; T.G.B. Osborn and C.A. Gardner. Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond. Session 151., 1938-9 pt.2, April 1939). Oxford possesses some of Drummond's material and also specimens of Gunn and Hooker. Professor Osborn says that it is sometimes necessary, for lack of other material, to use these classic specimens for class demonstration purposes. We must all deplore such a necessity and feel sure that our members would be glad to assist the Professor by sending him such plants as he most particularly requires.

In the event of an officer being appointed as Liaison Officer to Kew, in the near future, it is suggested that one piece of work which might be well worth while is the preparation of a report for the Systematic Botany Committee on the Australian Collections in the different English Herbaria.

At the Adelaide meeting it was considered that it would be useful to have available lists of the more important specimens in the Australian and New Zealand herbaria, and of the most important books in our libraries. It is hoped that a forthcoming number of "A.H. News" will deal as fully as possible with rare books. In the meantime readers may be interested to know that Mr. E.S. Booth has provided us with a list of the species represented in the conifer collection of the University of Adelaide. Also a list of the family revisions published in Engler's Das Pflanzenreich was prepared by Miss Eardley, before the change in secretaryship. The present secretary has obtained the necessary information concerning the libraries in which this publication is available. Both these lists are too long to publish in this journal. Anyone interested, however, may obtain a copy from the Secretary, Systematic Botany Committee, Box 109 City, Canberra, A.C.T.

PERSONAL NOTES.

AUSTRALIA.

General.

Professor N.A. Burgess (recently appointed to the chair of Botany, University of Sydney) now succeeds Dr. A.B. Walkom as Honorary General Secretary of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Walkom retired after the 26th Meeting of the Association, held in Perth in August 1947. All Australasian scientists have benefited

from the labours of Dr. Walkom's 21 years of office. The Systematic Botany Committee is indebted to him for a number of kindnesses during its first year of existence. The Committee would also like to wish Professor Burges a successful term of office.

Mr. J.M. Black, the author of the valued "Flora of South Australia" reached his 92nd birthday on April 28th, 1947. The Committee therefore sent him a letter of appreciation for his past and present work and good wishes for the future. The letter bore the signatures of the nine committee members.

New South Wales.

Mr. D.O. Cross is resigning from the staff of the National Herbarium at the end of January to study Fourth Year Medicine. During 1947 he was on long service leave for a substantial part of the year to enable him to take the Third year Medical Course.

Miss Nerida Ford has been appointed Temporary Assistant Botanist, and Miss Marjorie Bowyer appointed Librarian during the last year.

Miss Mary Tindale has been appointed a Linnean Macleay Fellow for one year, and granted leave of absence from the staff to take up this appointment. She intends to work on the Pteridophyta during this period.

Since his return from war service Mr. G. Chippendale, who joined the staff many years ago in a junior capacity, has undertaken a course in science at Sydney University under the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Scheme, and has successfully completed his first year,

The Herbarium received a visit from Dr. Tore Levring, the well known Swedish Algologist, who was working for some time at the C.S.I.R. Fisheries Division at Cronulla. He intends visiting all the States of the Commonwealth. Mrs. Levring accompanied her husband, and they have collected extensively on the N.S.W. coast.

Mr. J. Souster, formerly of the staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, has spent the last two years in Australia, and has made some extensive collections in Western Australia and New South Wales. A set of his W.A. specimens have been presented to the National Herbarium. During his stay Mr. Souster visited various Botanic Gardens, nurseries and other horticultural establishments. He has now left for England, where, it is understood, he will take up a position in one of the horticultural institutions.

South Australia.

Miss Eardley, whose enthusiasm and hard work was largely responsible

for the formation and development of our Committee, has been granted a year's leave of absence from her work at the Botany Department of the University of Adelaide and at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. She intends studying cytological methods and developments in England and will spend much of her time at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, Wisley. Her colleagues wish her a most interesting and successful trip abroad. For the period of her absence Professor J.B. Cleland, who has long taken a keen interest in botanical and other scientific research in South Australia, has been asked to act as representative for South Australia, on the Committee.

Mr. B. Bednall, formerly of the Forests Department in Western Australia, is now Conservator of Forests in South Australia.

Mr. N. Lothian, formerly Lecturer in Horticulture, Lincoln College, Christchurch, New Zealand, has recently taken up his appointment as Director of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens in succession to Mr. H. Greaves.

Dr. T. Levring, the Swedish Algologist from Gotenberg, and Mrs. Levring spent a fortnight on Kangaroo Island where they joined a party, from the Botany Department of the University of Adelaide, engaged on an algal survey of portions of the coast.

Tasmania.

Dr. H.N. Barber has been appointed as the first Professor of Botany at the University of Tasmania. Dr. Barber was previously on the staff of the Botany Department of the University of Sydney and, before that, at the John Innes Horticultural Institution, Merton. He is a cytologist.

Western Australia.

Dr. B.J. Grieve is now in charge of the Botany Department of the University of Western Australia. Formerly on the staff of the Botany School, University of Melbourne, where, apart from teaching duties, he carried out research into the physiological condition of plants affected by spotted wilt virus.

Australian Capital Territory.

Mr. William Hartley is at present in South America, where, in association with an officer of the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture, he is searching for legumes and other plants likely to be of particular value for the development of Northern Australia. During his absence Mr. C.A.N. Smith is in charge of the plant introduction work at Canberra.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST.

Readers are also referred to "Australian Science Abstracts" published as a regular Supplement to the Australian Journal of Science. The entries given below are designed to fit standard 5" x 3" index cards.

Allan H.H. 1947. Notes on New Zealand Floristic Botany - including descriptions of new species, etc., - No. 8. Trans. Roy. Soc. N. Zeal. 76: (4), 589-596, 5 figs. one pl.

Aellen, P. 1939. Klarstellung von Chenopodium triandrum Forster und einigen Australischen Chenopodien. Candollea 8: 5-11.

Aellen, P. 1940. Chenopodium Hubbardii sp. nov. Candollea 8: 19-20.

Atchison, E. 1947. Chromosome numbers in the Myrtaceae. Amer. J. Bot. 34: (3), 159-163 (includes 26 spp. of Eucalyptus)

Barrett, M.F. 1946. Ficus in Florida - I. Australian species. Amer. Mid. Nat. 36: (2), 412-430 (with notes on synonymy).

Black, J.M. 1947. Additions to the Flora of South Australia. Trans. Roy. Soc. S.Aust. 71: (1), 20-21. (four new spp. in genera Acacia, Daviesia and Grevillea.)

Blake, S.T. 1946. Two new grasses from New Guinea. Blumea Suppl. III, 56-63.

Blake, S.T. 1946. Notes on Australian Cyperaceae VII. Proc. Roy. Soc. Q. 58: 35-50 (first issued Sept. 1947)

Blake, S.T. 1948. The Cyperaceae collected in New Guinea by L.J. Brass. III. (with one text fig.) J. Arn. Arb. 29: (1) 90-

Buchholz, J.T. & Gray, N.E. 1948. A Taxonomic Revision of the genus Podocarpus. I. The Sections of the genus and their subdivisions with special reference to leaf anatomy. J.Arn. Arb. 29: (1) 49-

Burbidge, N.T. 1946. Foliar Anatomy and the delimination of the genus Triodia R.Br. Blumea, Suppl. III, 83-89.

Burbidge, N.T. 1947. Key to the South Australian species of Eucalyptus L'Herit. Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Aust. 71: (2), 137-163.

Camp, W.H., Bicket, H.W. & Weatherby, C.A. (Eds.) 1947. International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature, unofficial special ed. Reprint from Brittonia 6: (1) (Order from W.H.Camp, New York Bot. Gard. N.Y. 58) $3.50

Carter, C.E. 1946. Eucalyptus of the Australian Capital Territory. Vict. Nat. 63: (7) 167. (a list only)

Chatterjee, D. 1947. Botany of the Wild and Cultivated Rices. Nature 160: (4064) 387. (includes Australian species).

Cheel, E. 1946. Notes on the Gippsland Waratah (Telopea Ordeaes F. Muell.), with a description of a new species. Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. 71: (5-6), 270-272.

Chippindale, L.K.A. 1946. The common names of grasses in South Africa. S. Afr. Dept. Agric. Bull. 265. pp. 91.

Cook, V.J. 1947. Descriptions of New Species of Scirpus. Trans. Roy. Soc. N. Zeal. 76: (4) 567-571., one pl.

Curtis, W.M. 1946. Phyllachne Colensoi Berggren, an Addition to the Lists of Sub-Antarctic Plants in the Tasmanian Flora. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 31-33.

Dadswell, H.E. & Ingle, H.D. 1947. The wood anatomy of the Myrtaceae, I. Tropical Woods No. 90. 1-7. a note on the general Eugenia, Syzygium, Acmenia and Cleistocalyx. (from Div. For. Prod. C.S.I.R., Melbourne)

Dadswell, H.E. et al. 1947. The extension of the card sorting method to wartime problems in timber identification. Jour. C.S.I.R. 20: (3), 32-1338.

Fuaux, L. 1948. A critical Discussion of Modern Taxonomy with special reference to the Cactaceae. "The Spine" Journal of the Cactus and Succulent Society of Australia, 1: (1), 21. Melbourne.

Gardner, C.A. 1941. Contributiones Florae Australiae Occidentalis, XI. J. Roy. Soc. W.Aust. 27: 165-210.

Guillamin, A. 1934. Les regions florales du Pacifique. Contrib.de l'Etude du Peuplement (Zool. et Bot.) des Iles Pacifique. Soc. de Biogeographie 4: 255-270.

Guillamin, A. 1934. Les affinites de la flore de Nouvelle-Hebrides. Contrib. de l'Etude du Peuplement des Iles Pacifique. Soc. de Biogeographie 4: 249-254.

Guilleband, W.H. 1946. Botanical names of forest trees. Quart. J.For. 40: (2), 93-4 (For. Commission in 1934 issued list of botanical names to be adhered to in dept. record and publications. This is reproduced with the English names and latest name according to Int. Rules of Nomen).

Hatch, E.D. 1947. The New Zealand Forms of Prasophyllum R. Br. Trans. Roy. Soc. N. Zeal. 76: (3) 289-293.

Hatch, E.D. 1947. The New Zealand Forms of Acianthus R.Br. Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Zeal. 76: (4) 567-571.

Hatch, E.D. 1947. The New Zealand Forms of Corybas Salisb. Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Zeal. 76: (4) 574-580. 4 plates.

Hurst, E. 1942. The Poison Plants of New South Wales. (for Poison Plants Committee of N.S.W.) Sydney.

Hutchinson, J.B. 1947. Notes on the Classification and Distribution of genera related to Gossypium. New Phyt. 46: (1), 123 -

Index Kewensis 1947. Supplement X. (1936-1940) Clarendon Press, Oxford. £4/4/-.

Jacobs, M.R. 1935. A survey of the genus Eucalyptus in the Northern Territory. Commonwealth For. Bur. Bull. No. 17: pp.92. Canberra.

Kuehne, P.E. 1946. Four Marine Algae from Australia and New Zealand. Lloydia 9: 31- (new species in Ceramium and Ectocarpus).

Lambert, J.M. 1947. Glyceria maxima (Hartm.) Holmb., Biol. Flora of Brit. Isles no. 2190. J.Ecol. 34: (2), 310. (with note on distrib. including Aust.)

Lindauer, V.W. 1947. An annotated List of the Brown Seaweeds, Phaeophyceae, of New Zealand. Trans. Roy. Soc. N. Zeal. 76: (4), 542-566.

May, V. 1946. Studies on Australian marine algae III. Geographical Records of Various Species and Observations on Acrocheetium botryocarpum and Pterocladia capillacea. Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. 71: (5-6) 273-277.

Merrill, E.D. 1947. A botanical bibliography of the Islands of the Pacific. Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb. 30: (1) 1-322. Subject index by E.H. Walker. l.c. 323-402. (two earlier versions 1924 and 1937).

Merrill, E.D. 1948. On the Control of Destructive Insects in the Herbarium. J. Arn. Arb. 29: (1), 103-110.

Moldenke, H.N. 1944. A preliminary classification of the plant kingdom to families. with suppl. I. New York Bot. Gard. (Based on modification of Engler and Gilg, Engler and Diels and J.Hutchinson's dicots. There are 938 families arranged under 255 orsers. Suppl. brings families to 1560)

Salter, T.M. 1944. The Genus Oxalis in South Africa: a taxonomic revision. (355 pp.) J.S.Afr. Bot. Suppl. vol. No. 1. Cape Town 35/-.

Savage, S. 1945. A catalogue of the Linnean Herbarium (pp. xvi + 226) Linn. Soc.Lond. £2 net.

Smith, L.S. 1946. The Ligneous genus Endospermum Benth. (Euphorbiaceae) in New Guinea. Proc. Roy. Soc. Q. 58: 51-60.

Standards Association of Australia, 1940. Australian Standard Nomenclature of Australian Timbers. pp.84. Technical Standard No.0.2 - 1940, Sydney, 7/6.

Stevenson, G.B. 1947. The growth of a species of the genus Lilaeopsis in Fresh water Reservoirs near Wellington. Trans. Roy. Soc. N.Zeal. 76: (4), 581-588. 2 figs. one pl.

Wall, A. & Allan, 1946. The botanical names of the flora of New Zealand: Their origin history and meaning. p.88. Whitcomb and Tombs Ltd. 4/6.

White, A.R., Dyer, A. & Sloane, B.C. 1941. The succulent Euphorbiaceae (Southern Africa); pp. xvi+990. ill. 2 vols. Abbey Garden Press, Pasadena, California $12.00

White, C.T. 1946. Papuodendron, a new genus of Arborescent Malvaceae from New Guinea. J. Arn. Arb. 27: (3) 272-274. one pl.

White, C.T. 1946. The Australian species of Antirhea and a new name for a Cuban species. J.Arn.Arb. 27: (1) 121-2. one pl.

White, C.T. 1947. Notes on two species of Araucaria in New Guinea and a proposed new section of the genus. J. Arn.Arb. 28: (2) 259-260.

Wiggins, I.L. 1946. The Australian Blue Gum in Ecuador. Lloydia 9: 310.

Willis, J.H. 1947. A new name for the Australian cotton Plant (or Sturt's Desert Rose) (Gossypium Sturtianum nom. nov.) Vict. Nat. 64: (1) 9.