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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.
- Miss C.N. Eardley, Systematic Botanist, Botany School, University of
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AUSTRALASIAN HERBARIUM NEWS

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

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CYRIL TENISON WHITE, 1890-1950

The death of Mr. C.T. White on 16th August last bereft Australia of one of its foremost scientists and naturalists. He had been Government Botanist since 1917, and building on the foundations laid by F.M. Bailey, he raised the status of the Queensland Herbarium to that of an important institution. (A few hours before his death he read the proofs of his Memorial Address to the Royal Society of Queensland on F.M. Bailey's life and work).

As a tribute to his memory the Queensland Naturalists' Club has instituted a yearly Memorial Lecture on Natural History and has published a Memorial Number (Vol. 14 no.3) of the "Queensland Naturalist." The Royal Society of Queensland will include in its "Proceedings" for the year 1950 (Vol.62) a Memorial Supplement which includes a number of contributions from botanical friends; it is unfortunate that financial stringency must limit the number and size of contributions. These are but small tokens, but we hope they may prove to be a lasting tribute to a great man.

His staff remember him most for his kindness, tolerance, good humour and personal enthusiasm, characters which endeared "C.T." to a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances. He loved plants. His knowledge of the flora of Australia, New Guinea and New Caledonia was unsurpassed. The quickness with which he recognised and named plants either in the field or as fresh or dried pieces amazed everybody on a first acquaintance. Only after a prolonged acquaintance did one appreciate the fact that he was just as quick to recognise that such and such a plant was unknown to him.

His wide knowledge of gardening and garden plants caused many to look to him for advice in these matters. He was always ready and willing to offer advice, but rarely offered it unless asked; he never forced his opinions on anybody. This willingness to help caused him to be imposed upon by some, but it is due to this same helpfulness and kindness and to his willingness to allow others to develop their own particular interests in plants that he gathered round him a group of enthusiastic botanists devoted to him and to the institution in which they worked together. "C.T." was ever a student, always seeking to learn and pleased if others found.

S.T.B.
S.L.E.
L.S.S.

This body was formed at the 1950 International Botanical Congress, partly to meet the need for a permanent international organisation to deal with all work on nomenclature between the times of meeting of International Botanical Congresses (previously done to some degree by various committees now superseded), and partly to separate this great volume of work from the International Congresses - for the 1950 Congress in Stockholm, a special preliminary session of five days was necessary. The work on nomenclature includes (i) receiving proposals for revision of the International Rules from world-wide sources; (ii) the judicial consideration of these; (iii) the preparation of revised editions of the Rules from time to time to incorporate the modifications accepted; - and perhaps eventually, some nomenclatural control of new names proposed.

The "I.A.P.T." will be supported by a membership of taxonomists and plant geographers, both as individuals and societies. Australian botanists interested are encouraged to join by application to the Secretary: Prof. Dr. Lanjouw, International Bureau for Plant Taxonomy, 106 Lange Nieuwstraat, Utrecht, Netherlands. The "I.A.P.T." is connected with the International Union of Biological Sciences and also received some financial support from that source. Australia contributes some funds towards the maintenance of various International Scientific Unions, and will probably take an increasing part in their work, through her scientists. The conditions and privileges of membership of the "I.A.P.T." are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP:

A. Individual persons.

(a) Regular Members - this group will receive "Taxon" free of charge and all other publications at reduced prices. They have a right to vote on all questions that are raised in the Association and are eligible for all functions. Fee \$3 per year.

(b) Associate Members - "Taxon" free, but no reduction for other publications, no voting rights and not eligible for functions. Fee \$1 per year.

B. Institutes, societies, etc.

(a) Regular Members - Same rights as regular individual members. Fee \$ 25 per year. Institutes, Societies, Horticultural firms, etc., with a sufficiently high annual budget are expected to pay a fee of \$ 50 or more. This group will be known as "Supporting Members".

(b) Associate Members - Same rights as the Regular Individual Members. Fee \$ 10 per year.

AIMS

To consider measures for the future development of Plant Taxonomy and Plant Geography, and to organise the execution of such plans as require international co-operation. To the latter belong:

Symposia and congresses in Plant Taxonomy and Plant Geography
 Rules of Nomenclature
 Standardization of phytographical terminology
 Monographs of plant groups
 Exchange of materials and literature
 Index Herbariorum
 Bibliographic work on the names of plants and illustrations of plants
 Photographing of type specimens
 Phytogeographical cartography

PUBLICATIONS

"Taxon" - The official News Bulletin of the I.A.P.T. In the beginning this will be issued at irregular intervals, but soon, it is hoped, monthly or bimonthly. It will contain various news of interest to Taxonomy and Phytogeography.

"Forum Phytotaxonomicum" - Scientific Journal of the I.A.P.T. It will appear at irregular intervals. One volume will consist of four parts of about 100 pages each. This journal is meant for such scientific contributions as are of general importance to Plant Taxonomy and Plant Geography and will be open to all members of the Association.

"Regnum Vegetabile" - A series of Handbooks for the use of Plant Taxonomists and Plant Geographers, e.g. Monographs of Plant Groups, Index Herbariorum, Genera Plantarum, Rules of Nomenclature, Distribution maps, etc.

C. M. EARDLEY
 Dept. of Botany,
 University of Adelaide.

(NOTE: The circular regarding the above which has been distributed to Australian botanists appears to be that designed for the United States of America and subscriptions are therefore, given in dollars. Inquiries are being made regarding the equivalent sterling rate - ED.)

LEONARD RODWAY, (Late TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT BOTANIST)

AN APPRECIATION (Concluded)

By One Who Worked With Him.

In continuation and conclusion (v. A.H.N. No. 6 March 1950) of this sketch, the writer feels that the task of reducing to small

dimensions, to suit the space available, will not in any way do justice to the comparatively long activities, exceeding half a century, of so indefatigable, unselfish and useful citizen and scientist of Tasmania as Rodway. Therefore, in the circumstances, those readers who happen to have had a close contact with his life's work, will understand why so many important doings by Rodway are left unsaid.

Rodway joined the Royal Society of Tasmania in 1884; became a member of the Council in 1911, and also was a trustee of the Tasmanian Museum and Botanical Gardens. After 1921 he was a senior vice-president and in 1924 was presented by the Royal Society with a medal in recognition of his meritorious work. Dr. A. H. Clarke, who was Chairman, in making the presentation, said "That for 40 years Mr. Rodway had worked in the cause of science without pause. He had put many papers on the Society's Transactions. His most important works were "The Tasmanian Flora" and a handbook entitled "The Wild-Flowers of Tasmania" illustrated from fine photographs taken by Miss Olive Barnard, which had already gone into a 2nd and enlarged edition."

The contemporaneous work on the genus Eucalyptus which was being carried out by Maiden, induced Rodway to undertake further examination of the genus in Tasmania, which gave the writer an incentive on every expedition made to new collecting areas, to bring in fresh material of eucalypts for that purpose.

Rodway had served as Chairman, Hobart Branch, Board of Agriculture, as a member of the Tasmanian Fisheries Board, and on the Technical School Board. He was associated with such organisations as the Queen's Domain Committee and had charge of the Domain before it was transferred to the City Council. He served on the National Park Board, and was the life and soul (after E. A. Elliott, now Dr. Elliott, a co-founder) of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club. Rodway's other interests included rifle shooting and swimming. He was a member of the now defunct Hobart Garrison Rifle Club, and was one of the organisers of the Sandy Bay Rowing Club.

After the agitation for a University had finally fructified, under statutory authority, into its firm establishment, Rodway felt that the land of his adoption was truly growing and developing into nationhood. The advent of the University meant more work for him and consequently more overtime in organising and preparing students for examinations, but his unselfish love for the science of botany and desire to enlighten young people with a similar predilection only enthused him the more though it was not until July, 1923 that his connection with the august body was made more intimate by his appointment to the Department of Tutorial Classes as Lecturer. This appointment, unlike that of Government Botanist, carried with it a honorarium of £100 per annum and was held by Rodway until December, 1929 when ill-health induced his retirement. The writer felt privileged to be amongst the first students at the University to further benefit under his tutorship, which was of a high standard. At

that stage it might be mentioned that botany and zoology were included in the Faculty of Biology under the charge of T. Thomson Flynn, D.Sc., Ralston Professor, who subsequently permitted members of the Microscopical Section of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club, including Rodway and the writer, to assemble for work in the biological laboratory of the University under his purview.

The Royal Society of Tasmania, in September, 1932, placed on record its keen appreciation of the exceptional services of Mr. Rodway in the interests of science, and an expression of regret at his relinquishment of the position of honorary Government Botanist. Dr. W. L. Crowther, who presided at the meeting said "that the value of the work done by Mr. Rodway was incalculable. His work fell under three headings - professional work as a dental surgeon, work as Government Botanist, especially in the matter of noxious weeds, and his monumental monographs on the flora and the mosses of Tasmania. His influence on the men around him, particularly the young men, had been marked. Every worker in the field of science in Tasmania would find himself indebted to Mr. Rodway."

The then newly appointed Director of Agriculture (Mr. F. E. Ward) at the same meeting spoke of the valuable help that Mr. Rodway had given to the Department.

LIST OF PAPERS CONTRIBUTED TO SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS.

PHANEROGAMS

Additions to the Tasmanian Flora.	Papers and Proceedings, Royal Society of Tasmania,	1892.
Notes on some plants new to Tasmania.	Do.	1892.
Botanical Notes.	"	1893.
Notes on some new and rare Tasmanian Plants	"	1894.
A new <i>Centrolepis</i>	"	1894.
On some new Botanical Specimens	"	1895.
The Botany of the Hartz and Adamson's Ranges	"	1895.
Notes on a new <i>Trithuria</i>	"	1897.
Botanical Notes	"	1898.
Forestry for Tasmania	"	1899.
Botanical Notes	"	1899.

- Some varieties of Tasmanian Eucalypts (Botanical Notes). Papers and
Proceedings, Royal Society of Tasmania,
1899.
- Botany " 1902.
- Additions to Tasmanian Flora " 1902.
- Tasmanian Flora. Govt. Printer, Hobart pp. xix. + 320, 50 pl.; 1903.
- Tasmanian Myrtaceae. Pap. & Proc. Royal Soc. Tas. 1907.
- Notes on Eucalyptus gunnii. Tasmanian Naturalist 1907.
- Grasses and Their Identification Bull. No. 17. Council of Agriculture.
32 pp.; 1908.
- Tasmanian Heaths Tasmanian Naturalist 1909.
- Tasmanian Onagraceae. Pap. & Proc. Royal Soc. Tas. 1909.
- Notes on Brachycome melanocarpa. " 1909.
- The Billardieri Berry Tasmanian Naturalist 1909.
- Notes on Eucalyptus risdoni. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1910.
- Wildflowers of Tasmania. Govt. Printer, Hobart pp. 119, 37 pl.; 1910. 2nd
edition. 1922.
- Notes on the Tasmanian Flora. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1911.
- Notes on Plant Classification Tasmanian Naturalist 1911.
- Additions to the Tasmanian Flora.
Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1915.
- Tasmanian Eucalypts " " " " " " 1917.
- Botanical Notes " " " " " " 1917.
- Botanical Notes Tasmanian Naturalist 1917, also i.c. 1918, 1919, 1920,
1921 and 1922.
- Some Additions to our Recorded Flowering Plants.
Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1922.
- Endemic Phanerogams of Tasmania. Pan-Pacific Science Congress 1923.
- Tasmanian Ecology Notes. Proc. Aust. Assoc. Adv. Science 1924.

- Botanical Notes. Tas. Nat. Easter Camp Report, 1924.
- On the occurrence of *Wolffia arrhiza* in Tasmania.
Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1925.
- Botanical Notes " " " " " " 1926.
- BRYOPHYTA
- Tasmanian Mosses. Hobart 1914.
- Tasmanian Hepatics. " 1916.
- THALLOPHYTA
- Tasmanian Fungi. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1896.
- A List of the Tasmanian Fungi " " " " 1897.
- Additions to the Fungus Flora " " " " 1898.
- Underground Fungi of Tasmania Proc. A.A.A.S. 1898.
- Notes on Some Tasmanian Fungi. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1903.
- The Hymenogastraceae of Tasmania " " " " " " 1911.
- Pseudopezzia casuarinaeae*. " " " " " " 1915.
- Notes and additions to the Fungus Flora of Tasmania
Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1919.
- Additions to the Fungus Flora of Tasmania Part 3 " " 1920.
- On *Polyporus pulcherrimus*, sp. nov. " " " " " 1921.
- Description of Two Underground Fungi " " " " " 1923.
- Tasmanian Hymenogastraceae. " " " " " Nov. 1923.
- Two Interesting Fungi. " " " " " Apr. 1924.
- Tasmanian Discomycetes " " " " " Nov. 1924.
- Note on some rare and interesting Cryptogams " " " " 1925.
- Tasmanian Discomycetes. Issued separately 1925 (ex. Roy. Soc. Tas.)
- Notes on the genus *Poria*. By J. Burton Cleland and L. Rodway.
Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1928.

Notes on Gautieria in Tasmania. Pap. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas. 1928.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The writer wishes to thank the Librarians and staffs of the Parliamentary Library, and the Public Library, Melbourne as well as the Director and staff of the National Herbarium, South Yarra, for granting him access to their respective Libraries in connection with some published accounts of Rodway's activities.

CORRIGENDA -

The following corrections are necessary with regard to A.E.H. No. 6;

page 1. - eleventh line: read "Barron" for "Barrow"
 " 3. - 41st " : " "Fitz Roy" for "Fitzroy"
 - last line : " "Chilöe" for "Chile"

A FURTHER NOTE ON VALID AND LEGIMATE

NAMES.

My discussion in Australasian Herbarium News, No. 6 pp. 12-15, arose from difficulties experienced in determining the correct names to be applied to certain species of Melodinus and other genera of the Apocynaceae, of which I began a revision of the Australian species in 1943. The solution of most of the difficulties depends on the strictness with which the term "reference" is to be understood and with which Arts. 37 and 44 are to be applied.

A number of these problems was assembled, chiefly from the works of F. Mueller, and a more elaborate study may be presented in the future. The case of Chilocarpus australis has been studied again and again during the past seven years, and since it illustrates many of the difficulties, the discussion in the previous number of this journal was offered for criticism. Some typographical errors were made when my typescript was copied on the stencil; that they appeared uncorrected was doubtless due to the very late submission of the typescript.

I am grateful to Mr. L.A.S. Johnson for his lengthy criticism (Aust. Herb. News No. 7 pp. 1-4) and for his pointing out an error in the penultimate paragraph concerning illegitimate names. Melodinus chilocarpoides cannot be considered as a name for the species if we regard this name as being based directly on Chilocarpus australis, but I do not agree that this is the only possible interpretation as claimed by Johnson. But it is a matter for regret that so much of his criticism

is based, not on the International Rules themselves, but on his personal opinion of the merits of some of the Articles, on certain proposed amendments to them, and on some of the typographical errors mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

Johnson is particularly severe on the question of alternative names and states that their acceptance as being valid is contrary to the principle enunciated in Art. 4. To me, neither Art. 4 nor his statement that "an author can hardly accept two "positions" for a group at the same time" has much bearing on the subject. There need be no question of accepting two "positions" for a group; alternative names are two names proposed simultaneously for one group in one position, to judge from the example in the Rules. There are many groups of plants in which no finality has been reached concerning generic limits. A botanist who has studied the group may accept certain generic limits, and may publish the name of a new species in one of these genera. But it is quite certain that as soon as this name is published, somebody else will make a new combination under another genus with a wider or narrower circumscription, often without having studied the group at all or without having seen any specimens and with a profound contempt for Rec. III; The validating of alternative names should discourage such careless work and permits the person who actually studied the plant to provide a name which will be acceptable to botanists with different ideas on generic limits. The whole question has been well discussed by Furtado in Gardens' Bull. Straits Settlement 9: 239-240 (1937). Doubtless the provision can be abused as can other provisions, but in his final paragraph Furtado has shown how the most serious of these abuses can be readily overcome. (If my studies had been confined to such distinctive genera as Casuarina and Eucalyptus, I would probably have thought that the validating of alternative names was at least unnecessary, but studies in genera related to Andropogon and Panicum show the advantage of such a provision.

In the examples quoted by me, Johnson objects to treating Mueller's second name as an alternative name because it represents "his former opinion, no longer held at the time of publication." But the two names were chosen by Mueller and were published simultaneously for the same plant, so that it is difficult to reject the possibility of an alternative name. In my efforts to reduce the written discussion to essentials and to exclude remarks on taxonomy, I did not quote Muller's passage in full. However, on p. 89 there is a definite description of Chilocarpus Sect. Rhytileucoma, and on p. 90 there is a definite statement that the species could easily be treated as a distinct genus allied to Melodinus. So whatever may be the objections against treating Rhytileucoma chilocarpoides as a valid name, it is quite clear that Mueller treated the species as belonging to a section of Chilocarpus and at the same time stated it could constitute a genus allied to Melodinus. There are no "ifs" either; Mueller was perfectly satisfied with his evidence, but could not quite make up his mind about the generic position of the plant and shortly afterwards treated it as a species of Melodinus. We must also consider examples like Bulbophyllum elisae F. Muell. Fragn. 6: 120 (1868). This

name was published as follows:-

Cirrhopetalum Elisae
Bolbophyllum Elisae, F.M. coll.

A description follows. In Fragm. 8: 28 (1873) Mueller remarked that Bolbophyllum Elisae had been found at Toowoomba, without any reference to Cirrhopetalum, and in Census Austr. Pl. III (1829) listed under Bulbophyllum "B. Elisae F. v. M., fragm. VI, 120 (1868)", again without any reference to Cirrhopetalum; the two variations in spelling, Bulbophyllum and Bolbophyllum, were noted. The case of Grevillea bleasdalei, considered by Johnson in par. 4 (pp. 1-2), is rather different. The remarks following the description support Johnson's contention that Bleasdalia on p. 91 is a provisional name, but I am not sure that they affect the validity of at least the epithet in Bleasdalea cupanioides on p. 90, if we accept the conclusions reached by Sprague and Hubbard in Kew Bull. 1933: 18 (1933)

When Johnson states (par. 6, p. 2) that Bentham did not work "according to our present Rules nor were his methods of citation those of today" and (par. 11, p. 2) that "'established custom' surely does not mean the practice of 19th century botanists of accepting any name they thought fit ..." he apparently ignores the whole history of botanical nomenclature. The present International Rules are based on the practice of the 19th century, a practice largely codified by A. de Candolle and accepted with some modifications by the Paris Congress of 1867. If Johnson would compare these two sets of Rules, he would find some strong similarities - as well as differences. Some of the Articles may be traced back to Linnean times or earlier. At least Bentham's citations are full and entirely free of ambiguity (which is more than can be said for some of those of later botanists), even if he did sometimes strain his courtesy to Mueller by giving him the "credit" for some names.

If there is any confusion between the terms "superfluous" and "illegitimate" (par. 7 p. 2) it is on Johnson's part. Melodinus chilocarpoides was not a superfluous name when published, because no other name was available for the group if treated as a species of Melodinus; an epithet in a combination under another generic name was available, but this is a different matter (cf. Art 60, (1) and (2)).

I cannot follow Johnson's reasoning when he invokes Sprague's proposal (Art. 37, prop. 4) to justify the acceptance as valid of Melodinus australis (F. Muell.) Pierre (par. 10 p. 3) and yet rejects as "far-fetched" my suggestion that Melodinus chilocarpoides could be regarded as indirectly based on Rhytileucoma chilocarpoides. The case of Melodinus chilocarpoides is much clearer in that a reference to one page only is involved. In the case of Pierre's name, reference must be made to at least two quite discreet passages before there is any possibility of interpreting the name. (It would be more precise to say that the name Melodinus australis (F. Muell.) Pierre is based on a combination of references. I cannot see that this is allowable under

any passage or passages of the Rules: if it is permissible to select passages from different parts of a work to provide an argument for the acceptance of any name, then Arts. 2, 37 and 44 become meaningless). Although I have no real doubt that Pierre intended to base his name on Chilocarpoides australis, there is no proof and in any case I do not believe the publication of the name satisfies the conditions for validity demanded by the present International Rules of Nomenclature. Johnson has also stated that the name should be accepted unless it can be proved that "Pierre did not intend to base his name ..." and yet previously he stated that "What Bentham thought he was doing is irrelevant" to the acceptance of a name appearing in Bentham's work. Why should Pierre's intention be accepted as relevant and Bentham's intention rejected?

I quite agree that Melodinus australis Maiden & Betche has nothing to do with the nomenclatural status of Melodinus australis (F. Muell.) Pierre. It was mentioned to show that the solution of the main problem was not entirely independent of other problems. Since this discussion is purely nomenclatural, I have tried to avoid taxonomic discussion. But for those who may treat Rec. III as of minor importance, it may be as well to mention that taxonomic studies have led me to believe that the name Melodinus australis Maiden & Betche is one of three later synonyms for a species widely distributed in the rainforests of north-eastern Australia, and that the species discussed by Pierre has had other names given to it (based on specimens from beyond Australia), one of which is the type of yet another generic name.

Finally, if Johnson's "conservative" interpretations of synonym and alternative name be adopted, the "dozen of cases" looked at by him (par. 3 p. 1) as well as many others he has not looked at will have to be closely re-studied. No doubt this will provide the opportunity for at least some name-changes!

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

WILDFLOWERS OF VICTORIA.

Here at last in this publication by Miss J. Galbraith is a handbook for naturalists which is worthy of the name. It is a commonsense treatment of the flora of Victoria which will be of real value to the amateur or field naturalist who is not a specialist in botany. The arrangement of the text is simple but assumes that the reader has an elementary knowledge of the plant families which may be encountered. Where necessary, simple keys to genera have been provided and under the species named there are notes which, while not fully descriptive, should

permit the making of tentative identifications in the field. The text is greatly enhanced by the clear though small photographs of 175 species at the end of the book.

All too often the books on Australian plants published for the benefit of the layman or non-specialist have been too general in character and too pretentious for use in the field. Miss Galbraith is to be congratulated on producing a small volume of convenient size whose economy of words obviously covers a real knowledge of her subject. The book will be most useful to all whose work or pleasure involves a visit to her part of Australia.

N. T. B.

THE AUSTRALIAN BUSHLAND.

This book embodies the results and experiences of a life-time spent studying the Australian flora in affection for which the author has few peers. Covering so wide a range the book is occasionally diffuse and despite the well-prepared index it is not always easy to check particular items. However, a broad picture of the flora of the different states is given and this will be of value to those of us whose work, being narrower in its limits, entails a risk of "missing the wood" through preoccupation with the trees.

There is one particular point which the reviewer feels is to be greatly regretted. This is the publication of two "new" species. Apart from the undesirability of printing the description of new species in amongst the general text of a comprehensive work neither of these particular ones is published here for the first time and neither of the descriptions is in accord with the best usage. In one case a latin diagnosis has been omitted and in the other no type specimen is quoted. The species and their correct citations are:-

p. 131: Persoonia corriacea Audas and Morris in Jour. Roy. Soc.
W. Austral. 15. 18: 1929.

p. 283: Trynialium ramosissimum Audas in Vict. Nat. 33. 35: 1921.

We feel sure that Mr. Audas's book will be of interest to all who desire a general account, prepared by a botanist, of the Australian flora.

N. T. B.

NEWS AND NOTES ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES.QUEENSLAND:

We regret to announce the death of Mr. C. T. White on 16th August, 1950.

Shortly after his death, the whole of the advisory work on weed control previously carried out by the Department of Agriculture and Stock, as well as identification was transferred to the Herbarium. Mr. R. W. Johnson returned to the Herbarium for six months to assist in this work.

Mr. W. D. Francis returned to duty on December 6th after six months long service leave. He was appointed Government Botanist in October. The second edition of his "Australian Rain-forest Trees" has passed the page-proof stage.

Mr. S. L. Everist acted as Government Botanist from the death of Mr. White until the return of Mr. Francis. He is now in charge of weed investigations; most of his time is now taken up with this work which has demanded several field surveys.

Mr. S. T. Blake completed the manuscript of the first two Botanical Contributions of the Northern Australia Regional Survey; one of these deals entirely with about 50 species of Eucalyptus, the other with a number of families. The final part of the account of the Cyperaceae of the Archbold Expedition has been completed. For about four weeks in September-October he acted as Botanist to the Land Research and Regional Survey unit of C.S.I.R.O. (late Northern Australia Regional Survey) during part of the survey of the lower Burdekin Basin.

Mr. L. S. Smith spent about five weeks in September-October in North Queensland, firstly on the survey of the Burdekin Basin and later with the Drug Plants Survey, C.S.I.R.O. He has been studying the genera Pilidiostigma, Rhodomyrtus and Myrtus (Myrtaceae) and Diploglottis (Sapindaceae).

Mr. E. C. Gillam was appointed as Assistant on probation in February.

Working visitors to the Herbarium included Dr. C. G. G. J. van Steenis (Buitenzorg and Leiden), Professor E. St. John (University of Hawaii), and Mr. E. Jayasekara (University of Ceylon).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

The 95th Annual Report of the Adelaide Botanic Garden records a very successful year.

New plant introductions of particular interest are: a collection of 30 species of Salix (Willows); a dozen species of Ceanothus; the recently

discovered deciduous conifer from China, Metasequoia; some Tamarix species new to Australia and various carnivorous plants.

The Botanic and Economic Museum is being restored and re-arranged. Details of the exhibits are given in the Report.

The Library is still in the formative stage but this year received a collection of books from the Adelaide Public Library; many of these books had been held temporarily by the Public Library for some years on behalf of the Garden and are now returned.

Preliminary steps are being taken to re-establish a herbarium at the Botanic Garden. The project has still to be placed before the State Government for approval and financial support.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Overseas visitors whom we have been pleased to welcome to the National Herbarium of N.S.W. during recent months have been Dr. C.G.G.J. van Steenis of the Botanic Garden, Bogor (Buitenzorg), Java; Dr. Andre Guillaumin, of the Musee National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris; Professor Lily Newton of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; Colonel and Mrs. R. F. Montgomery of the Fairchild Memorial Garden, Florida, U.S.A.; and Professor H. St. John of Hawaii.

Miss J. Vickery has prepared a census of the native Gramineae which occur in New South Wales.

Mr. L. S. Johnson has undertaken to revise the family Casuarinaceae for the Flora Malesiana.

Mr. Johnson and Miss J. Garden have been engaged in a study of the group of Australian species which have, in the past, been referred to Cardamine hirsuta, and some interesting results are being obtained.

Miss Garden is devoting some attention to the genus Leptospermum in which there are, at least in New South Wales, many taxonomic and nomenclatural problems. She has also reviewed our material of Epacris, especially some of the alpine species which superficially resemble one another so much.

Several members of the staff have spent considerable time in reviewing generic concepts of a number of groups in order to be able to offer an informed opinion on certain changes proposed for the revised edition of "Standardized Plant Names", the well-known C.S.I.R.O. publication. In a number of cases in the proposed list the generic position of species has been altered to conform with practice in overseas literature, but other species of the same genera have been left in their old position. This has at times led to incongruous results, and it has been felt that

the difficulties should be resolved as far as possible by taxonomic and nomenclatural investigations before this valuable reference work is reprinted.

There has been some renewed activity in the introduction of plant species not previously represented in the Botanic Gardens, some introductions being of horticultural value and others of botanical interest. A list is being prepared of the many new introductions which have been successfully raised and planted out in the public section of the Gardens.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY:

Mr. W. Hartley has recently published a paper on the distribution of the tribes of the Gramineae, in the Australian Journal of Agricultural Research. He has also been busy on the compilation of a second edition of "Standardized Plant Names" C.S.I.R.O. Bulletin No. 156. Co-operation in the carrying through of this project is being received from the staffs of the Herbaria and Agricultural Departments in the various States.

Miss N. T. Burbidge has completed her revision of the Australian grass genus Triodia. The paper includes 13 plates by the author, illustrating all species.

She has also completed a final draft of the list of the more important books in various herbarium libraries, prepared on behalf of the Systematic Botany Committee. It is hoped that copies of this will soon be available.

The library of the Division of Plant Industry, C.S.I.R.O. much appreciated receiving a number of publications on Malaysian plants from the authorities at the Bogor Botanic Gardens.

GENERAL:

The news of the death of Mr. C. T. White, Government Botanist for Queensland, was received with great regret by all botanists and many others in Australia who were happy to have known him. He had a profound knowledge of the Australian flora not only in the herbaria as dried specimens but also as living individuals in the field for he had travelled widely in certain areas. He was a Naturalist in the best sense of that now rather old-fashioned word. An appreciation of his personal qualities is published earlier in this journal.

A number of the Australian Herbaria, including Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Adelaide, enjoyed working visits from Dr. C.G.G.J. van Steenis (Bogor and Leiden) and Professor H. St. John (University of Hawaii) during the last six months.

Flora Malesiana Bull. 7. received recently contained a note on the death of Mr. C. T. White by Dr. van Steenis, an article on some of the more obscure papers published by Baron von Mueller in the "Chemist and Druggist" and other journals not readily available today and also a personal account of the meetings on Nomenclature, during the Stockholm Congress, by Dr. de Wit.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST.

Readers are also referred to "Australian Science Abstracts" published as a regular supplement to the Australian Journal of Science.

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