

ARNOLD ARBORETUM
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PROFESSOR ALFRED REHDER'S RETIREMENT

ON August the thirty-first of this year Professor Rehder retired from active service as Associate Professor Emeritus, after having been a staff member of the Arnold Arboretum for forty-two years.

Born at Waldenburg, Saxony, September 4, 1863, he became a gardener and later studied at the Universities of Berlin and Göttingen, after which he began his scientific career as assistant editor of Möller's *Deutsche Gärtner-Zeitung*, at that time one of the better known German horticultural publications. In 1898, at the age of thirty-five he came to the United States to study American trees and shrubs at their source. He was employed by the Arboretum as a working student for the summer, and at the same time maintained his connection with Möller's *Deutsche Gärtner-Zeitung* by writing articles for publication in that periodical. His intentions were to return to Germany in the autumn.

By mere chance he became associated with Professor L. H. Bailey of Cornell University who was beginning work on his *Cyclopedia of American Horticulture* and was engaged to prepare the data appertaining to the important genera of woody plants for that publication. A year later, Professor C. S. Sargent, director of the Arnold Arboretum, in initiating work on the *Bradley Bibliography* arranged that the important task of compiling the data for this monumental work be assigned to Professor Rehder. During the years 1904-1906 Professor Rehder worked in European botanical libraries compiling the detailed information needed for the preparation of the manuscript. The first volume of this *Bibliography* was not published until 1911. While the *Bradley Bibliography* was in the final stages of publication, Professor Rehder began the preparation of "*Plantae Wilsonianae*" the two great works appearing almost simultaneously.

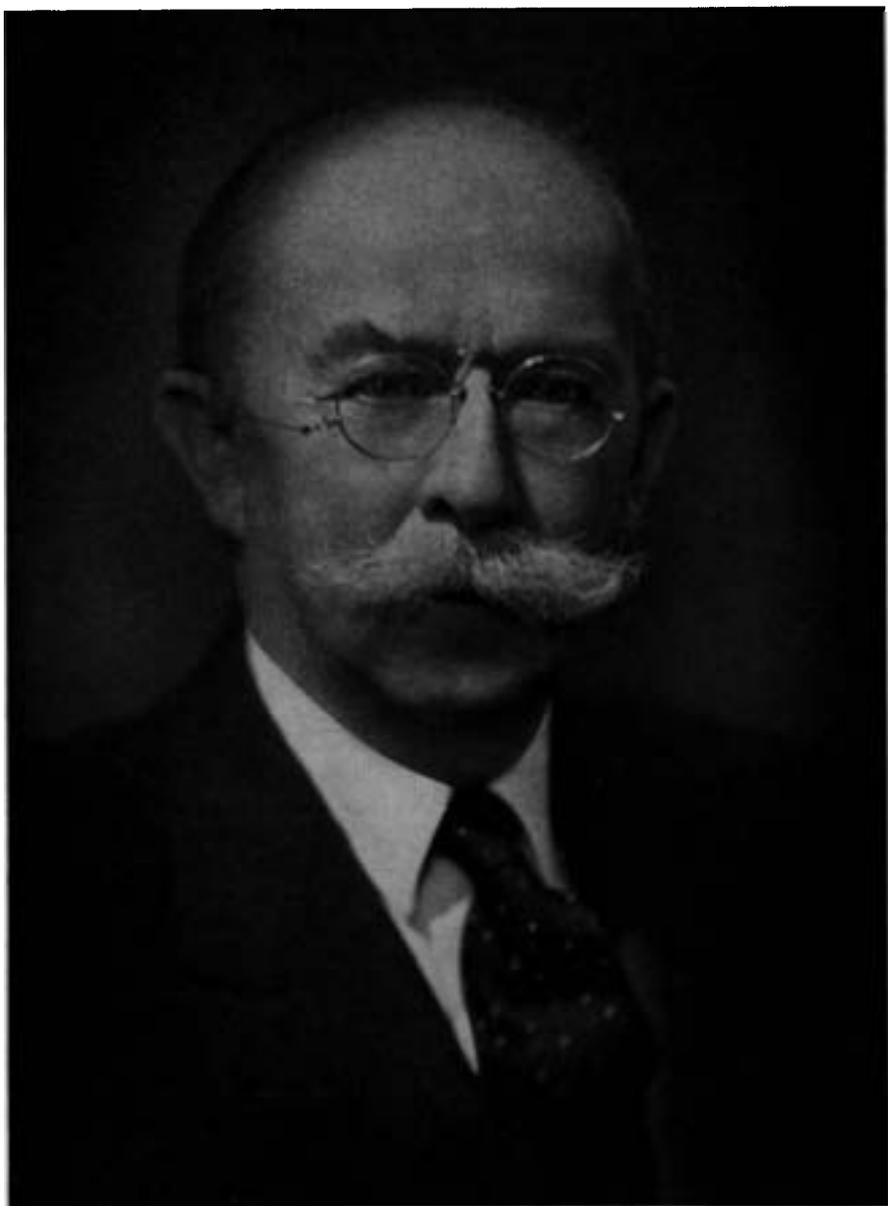
On returning to the United States, after the completion of his

European library work on account of the Bradley Bibliography, he was appointed assistant in the herbarium at the Arnold Arboretum and in 1918 assumed the title of curator. Professor Rehder set the standard for productive taxonomic research at the Arnold Arboretum and vastly widened its scope. At the same time he greatly stimulated the expansion of the herbarium which under his leadership was increased rapidly until it now contains in excess of half a million specimens.

The year following his appointment as curator, Professor Rehder organized the *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* as a vehicle for the publication of technical papers prepared by staff members, and from that date has been its editor. Fortunately, for the best interests of the institution, he has consented to continue as editor of this publication which he instituted twenty-two years ago. Eighty-four numbers have been published and seldom has an issue appeared without at least one article written by him, for during this period Professor Rehder made eighty-two contributions to the *Journal*. However, this is but a small fraction of his published botanical and horticultural papers which to date approximate 980 titles. We sincerely hope that time will permit him to increase this number to well over the thousand mark. (Reprinted from the *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* XXI No. 4, Oct., 1940.)

Dr. A. C. Smith, formerly associate curator of the New York Botanical Garden, has been appointed curator of the Herbarium at the Arnold Arboretum, his duties beginning October 1, 1940. A graduate of Columbia University in 1926, Dr. Smith received his Ph. D. from that institution in 1933, doing his research work at the New York Botanical Garden. He has been very much interested in the plant explorations in tropical regions, having accompanied E. P. Kilip of the Smithsonian Institution into Colombia and later on another trip travelling from Lima, Peru, across the Andes and down the Amazon, studying the plants used by the South American Indians for fish poisons. He also spent nearly a year in Fiji (1933-34) on a fellowship from the Bernice P. Bishop Museum in Honolulu. Again in 1937-38 he made another trip to South America as botanist for the Terry-Holden expedition to British Guiana. Dr. Smith is the author of numerous botanical papers, dealing chiefly with the flora of tropical America, and Fiji. Previous to his appointment at the Arnold Arboretum, Dr. Smith was associate curator of the herbarium at the New York Botanical Garden.

Dr. E. D. Merrill, Director of the Arboretum, has been appointed by the President of the National Academy of Sciences as one of the



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Alfred Bachrach.

eight directors of the Canal Zone Biological Area. This area within the Canal Zone includes Barro Colorado Island, and is set aside by Congress as an area in which the natural features shall, except in event of declared national emergency, be left in their natural state for scientific observation and investigation. The Board of Directors includes the Secretaries of War, Agriculture, and Interior, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the President of the National Academy of Sciences, and three appointed members, Dr. Thomas Barbour (Director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard), Dr. Alexander Wetmore (Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution), and Dr. E. D. Merrill.

A VALUED GIFT OF BOOKS

Mr. Ralph Lowell, Harvard 1912, and Mr. James H. Lowell, Harvard 1914, of Chestnut Hill, recently delivered to the Arnold Arboretum library a distinctly important assortment of botanical and horticultural publications. The gift, which is valued at more than \$700.00, was made in memory of Mr. John Lowell, Harvard 1877, by his children, they being great grandchildren of Mr. George B. Emerson, Harvard 1817, who originated the idea of establishing an arboretum and who induced Mr. James Arnold to make provisions in his will with the hope that such an institution could be established (see Bull. Pop. Inf. ser. 4. 8: 1-11. 1940). With nearly 46,000 bound volumes on our shelves, one of the largest and most important botanical-horticultural libraries in the world, it is noteworthy that this recent accession should contain a number of important items new to the collection.

TROPICAL FRUITS

One of the recent publications of the Arnold Arboretum is a 131 page booklet entitled "Tropical Fruits for Southern Florida and Cuba and Their Uses," written by David Sturrock, Superintendent of the Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum at Soledad, Cuba. Mr. Sturrock has been interested in tropical fruits which can be grown in southern Florida for a long time, and is well qualified to discuss the subject. Many introductions of recent years afford an excellent opportunity for enterprising fruit growers of the sub-tropical areas, and it is the author's hope in discussing many of these exotic fruits that the booklet will induce many local residents to appreciate more fully what is actually available to them, and that some may be inspired to develop local industries based on these exotic fruits, many of which cannot be grown in the United States outside the warmer parts of Florida. Over 125 fruits are discussed and some information given concerning the culture and potential economical possibilities of each. Because so little is known concerning some of these fruits, this booklet should go a long way in promoting interest in growing new fruits among southern Florida residents. (Price \$1.25, at the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.)