

Dedication

It was understandable that Victor Quesnel as Chief Editor of Living World should protest against this issue of the journal being dedicated to him. However, it was unanimously agreed by co-editors and members of the Centenary Planning Committee that our sentiments be recorded.

While the Centenary Celebrations pay tribute to the foresight of the founding fathers, who have all passed away, we cannot underestimate the role of those members who revived the club and survived to mark this event. As such, Victor's contribution to the club is immeasurable. Through his efforts the club has been functioning continuously since his return to Trinidad in 1953 when he offered his services as Honorary Secretary, in which post he served from 1954 to 1959 and again in 1980 - 1981. Subsequently, he was President from 1986 to 1988. Almost single handedly he oversaw the production of 12 of the 17 issues of the journal from 1956 onwards, to which he has contributed over twenty articles and remains totally committed, through his conviction that the journal has a vital role to play in recording and disseminating sound scientific data on the flora and fauna of our islands.

Victor Clement Quesnel's formative years were tailored for Academia. Born in P.O.S. on 23 November 1925, he was privately tutored from 1930 to 1934, and attended St. Mary's College from 1934 to 1944 where he excelled. Placing first in the Higher School Certificate Examination in 1944, he was awarded the Jerningham Gold Medal plus winning the science scholarship in that year. Leaving Trinidad in 1944 for the University of Toronto, he obtained his B.A. in Physiology and Biochemistry (1949) and his M.A. in Plant Physiology (1950). Postgraduate studies on the dependence of protein synthesis on RNA synthesis, continued at the University of Cambridge where he was awarded his doctorate in 1955.

Returning to Trinidad in 1953 he took up a research appointment with the Colonial Microbiological Research Institute at Federation Park. This was followed in 1961 by a seventeen year sojourn with the Cocoa Research Unit at the U.W.I. investigating how the fermentation process affects the flavour of cocoa. He quit U.W.I. in 1978 to start his hydroponic farm which consumes much of his time today, but remains very involved with the affairs of the club.

Yasmin Baksh-Comeau.

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Club Information

Cover

On the left: Henry Caracciolo, the first president. (Thanks to David Rooks for finding this historic cartoon).

On the right: Frankie Farrell, the present president. (Thanks to Dunstan E. Williams (DEW) for this admirable response to the editors' request for a cartoon of Frankie Farrell).