

OBITUARY

Euphemia Cowan Barnett, D.Sc., died at her home, 120 Hamilton Place, Aberdeen, Scotland, on 12th March 1970. She was a daughter of the late Mr. James C. Barnett, a well-known Headmaster in Aberdeen, and was educated at the High School for Girls, Aberdeen, and the University of Aberdeen. She graduated B.Sc. in 1918 and on graduation she was invited by the late Professor J.W.H. Trail to assist him in the Botany Department of the University. When the late Professor W.G. Craib succeeded Professor Trail she was appointed Senior Assistant and on Professor Craib's request her term of office as Assistant was extended to seven years, instead of five usually allowed by the University Regulations.

When her extended term of office expired Dr. Barnett was appointed to the Botany Department of the West of Scotland College of Agriculture, Glasgow, where she was responsible for the teaching of Mycology and Plant Pathology. During this time she worked for a short time with Mrs. Alcock, Plant Pathologist for Scotland, in the laboratories of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh.

In 1930 she was appointed Lecturer in Biology in the School of Pharmacy, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen, which post she held until 1945. She was then offered the post of Head of the Department of Biology in the College of Education in Aberdeen, and remained there until her retirement in 1955.

During her time as Professor Craib's Assistant Dr. Barnett became interested in the work carried out by the late Dr. A.F.G. Kerr and by Professor Craib himself in connection with the identification and classification of the large collections of specimens made by Dr. Kerr while he was in Siam, and which collections were subsequently sent by him to the Herbarium at Kew Gardens, London. Having already done a considerable amount of research in this field, Dr. Barnett on her return to Aberdeen continued this research, and in 1940 obtained the Degree of D.Sc. from Aberdeen University, the subject of her thesis being: "A survey of the genus *Quercus* and related Genera of the Fagaceae in Asia with a more detailed account of the Siamese species of these Genera and Notes on the use of Leaf Anatomy in Taxonomy."

Until she retired Dr. Barnett had no time to continue this work, but after her retiral she was granted a Research Fellowship by the University which enabled her to continue the work and this she did partly at the Herbarium in Aberdeen and partly at Kew.

In addition to her professional work Dr. Barnett had many other interests. She was a member of the Business Committee of the General Council of the University from 1942 onwards. She was associated with the Girl Guide movement in Aberdeen from its inception 60 years ago. She was County Commissioner for Aberdeen for 10 years and afterwards become County President. She was also a keen member of the Soroptimist Society and served a term as President of the Aberdeen Branch.

WORKS RELATING TO THAI BOTANY:

1938. Contributions to the Flora of Siam. XLVII: Kew Bull. Misc. Inf. 1938: 98-106.
1942. The Fagaceae of Thailand and their Geographical Distribution. Trans. Proc. Bot. Soc. Edinb. 33 (3): 327-343. With one map and 3 tables.
1944. Keys to the Species Groups of Quercus, Lithocarpus, and Castanopsis of Eastern Asia, with Notes on their Distribution. Ibidem 34 (1): 159-204. With 4 tables.
1961. Contribution to the Flora of Thailand. LV. Kew Bull. 15 (2): 249-259.
1962. (Edit.) Florae Siamensis Enumeratio. III (3): 181-238. Siam Society, Bangkok.
1963. Contributions to the Flora of Thailand. LVI. Description of new species from Dr. Kerr's manuscript. Kew Bull. 16 (3): 485-490.
1966. Contribution to the Flora of Thailand. LVII. A new species of Bignoniaceae. Kew Bull. 20 (2): 233-234. (With N.Y. Sandwith)

Elizabeth Barnett

120 Hamilton Place

Aberdeen, Scotland

(Communicated by Tem Smitinand),