



Professor Dr E. REINDERS

PREFACE

The Editorial Board of the *Acta Botanica Neerlandica* most willingly extends hospitality to the Committee in Honour of Dr E. REINDERS on his retirement as Professor of Botany, Agricultural University, Wageningen.

The contributions to this number of the KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE BOTANISCHE VERENIGING's journal have been sent from diverse quarters from at home and abroad and are as many diverse tokens of esteem and regard for Reinders's activities.

The Officers also of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Botanische Vereniging wish to recognize the great merits of Reinders for Botanical Science in general and particularly his significance for Botany teaching in 'Middelbare Scholen' and Gymnasia, and Universities.

Reinders's thorough and sound knowledge of not only many subjects of botany but also of other branches of Science gave his textbooks and his publications in didactic periodicals a great influence on the development of modern Science teaching in The Netherlands. As a collaborator and the editor-in-chief of Vol. I he shares in the responsibility for Koningsberger-Reinders, *Leerboek der Algemene Plantkunde*, a standard work for the study of Botany in the Dutch area.

As a student of Professor Moll, Reinders concerned himself chiefly with plant morphology and plant anatomy. Appointed Professor in Wageningen in 1923 he worked at first along the principles of the Groningen-school, which soon were extended according to his own discretion. Originally a plant physiologist also Reinders encouraged plant physiological work in his laboratory, but unfortunately, being himself to much absorbed by professional duties he had no time left for research work of his own in this field.

His wide knowledge, his intellectual qualities and his broadminded views have made him a teacher the equal of whom will not be easily found. The way in which he taught his students the fundamentals of botany has been of the utmost importance for their further agricultural studies. His students, however, above all hold in high esteem his strong personality that has been giving them more than knowledge alone. Many of his words, also those on non-botanical matters reached farther than the class room and are carried about through life. His intense and warm interest in human matters appealed to them, although a few students only will have realized all the care, time and energy bestowed on them.

The amount of work performed by Reinders cannot be estimated at its proper value. He was not easily satisfied, least of all about his own work. His judgement about persons and things always was given with complete detachment and impartiality and based on a comprehensive knowledge of the facts and thus was always well founded and appropriate.

E. VAN SLOGTEREN