

CHARLES E. DEVOL (1903-1989)

by

TSENG-CHIENG HUANG

This is a brief statement regarding the life of Dr. Charles E. DeVol, who was one of our late professors in the Department of Botany at National Taiwan University (NTU).

Dr. DeVol was born on Oct. 2, 1903 in Luho, Kiangsu, China and died on June 28, 1989 at his home in Marengo, Ohio, U. S. A. His parents belonged to the Friends Church and were stationed in China as medical doctors. His primary school education was mostly received in China: in Kuling, Shanghai and Nanking. However he received his BA in 1926 from Marion College, Marion, Indiana; and MA in 1939 and Ph. D in 1946 from Indiana University. In July 28, 1926, he was married to Leora Van Matre, and went to China as a missionary under the Friends Church, where he taught in the Friends Academy, Luho, Ku, from 1932 to 1949, whenever he was in China. His academic experience was as follows: Professor of Botany in Marion College from 1928 to 1931, from 1937 to 1939, from 1944 to 1945, and from 1949 to 1957, he then came to the Botany Department of NTU in September 1957. Dr. DeVol had retired from his active teaching duty in the August 1973, then remained in our department on the research staff to complete his research on the "Pteridophytes of Taiwan" because he had been serving as one of the editorial members for the "Flora of Taiwan" project sponsored by US-China scientific cooperative program.

During his association with us in the Botany Department of NTU, he had offered several courses including: General Botany, Plant Morphology, Plant Anatomy, Microbiology, Taxonomy of Pteridophytes and of the Grasses. He had been in charge of seminars and been a graduate student adviser (see Table 1). Since he was born and grew up in China, his spoken Chinese was excellent, and much better than most of our Botany professors. He offered his courses in a clear and orderly way. They were well organized so his students could easily grasp the materials he presented. I had always been confronted with a difficulty in finding enough laboratory assistants for him, as usually more than a hundred students wanted to take his microbiology laboratories, although there were several microbiologists in NTU. In addition to teaching, he had served our department as Librarian, Curator of the Herbarium and English Editor of our Botany Journal "Taiwania". The number of our books and journals had been increased from year to year because of the donation of his salary to purchase books. The English in our "Taiwania" and Flora of Taiwan, first edition had been improved greatly by his editorial assistance.

Dr. DeVol also offered scholarships for students of Botany. Not only had he made these academic contributions, his Christian life and conduct had greatly affected and improved the moral standards of everyone working around him—He gave his best to others.

Dr. DeVol had held membership in the American Fern Society, British Fern Society, AIBS, and AAAS. In 1958, DeVol cooperated with Dr. A.N. Steward of the University of Nanking in the preparation of the Flora of the Lower Yangtze

Valley and wrote the section on the Pteridophytes. Other publications are listed in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 1. Students who obtained their MS. degrees from Charles E. DeVol.

- Chien-chang Hsu, (許建昌), 1961. The Paniceae of Formosa. Co-advisor with Dr. T. S. Liu.
- Chao-shieung Feung, (馮朝勳), 1962. The *Athyrium* of Taiwan.
- Tsang-pi Chang, (張蒼碧), 1966. Studies on thermal algae of Taiwan.
- Charles Shi-chung Chang, (張世重), 1972. The effects of chewing betel nut on the mouth and on oral bacteria.
- Wen-hwei Hsu, (許文輝), 1972. Use of fluorescent antibody techniques to define mating reactions in the Basidiomycetes. Co-advisor with Dr. S.H. Wang.
- Chen-meng Kou, (郭城孟), 1973. The Thelypteridaceae of Taiwan.
- Tai-ying Yang, (楊台英), 1973. The anatomy of *Isoetes taiwanensis* with Dr. Su-Hwa Tsai Chiang.
- Cynthia Shan-yuan Liang, (梁上元), 1973. Identification of fungi obtained from mushroom composts. Co-advisor with late Prof. Bao-yu Yang.
- Nancy Hsiau-mann Ho, (何小曼), 1973. Mucorales from Yang Ming Shang. Co-advisor with late Prof. Bao-yu Yang.
- Jenn-Che Wang, (王震哲), 1978. A Revision of *Polystichum* in Taiwan.
- Yuan-Chuen Jeng, (鄭元春), 1978. A Revision of Taiwan *Dryopteris*.

Table 2. Botanical papers written by Charles E. DeVol.

1. A new fern from Lushan. *Lingnan Sci-Journ.*, 21: 79-81, 1945, Pl. 5.
2. Ferns and fern allies of East-Central China. *Musee Heude Notes Bot. Chin.*, 7: 1-154, 1945.
3. *Ceratopteris deltoidea* disappears from the type locality. *Amer. Fern Journ.*, 46: 131-133, 1956.
4. The geographic distribution of *Ceratopteris pteridoides*. *Amer. Fern Journ.*, 47: 67-72, 1957.
5. A key to the genera of the pteridophytes found on Taiwan and adjacent areas. *Quart. Journ. Taiwan Mus.*, 12: 55-65, 1959.
6. The Gleicheniaceae of Taiwan and adjacent areas. *Taiwania*, 7: 17-31, 1960.
7. Additional observations on the Gleicheniaceae of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 9: 93-94, 1963.
8. Some new records for Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 9: 95, 1963.
9. The pteridophyta of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 10: 89-104, 1964.
10. Unexpected new finds on Taiwan. *Taiwania* 10: 151-154, 1964.
11. The pteridophyta of Taiwan-2, Lycopodiaceae. *Taiwania*, 11: 41-55, 1965.
12. The pteridophyta of Taiwan-3, Selaginellaceae. *Taiwania*, 12: 65-90, 1966.
13. The pteridophyta of Taiwan-4, The aquatic ferns of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 13: 1-12, 1967.
14. *Selaginella* stem anatomy and additional notes on Taiwan species. *Taiwania*, 13: 13-14, 1967.
15. The pteriophyta of Taiwan-5, Hymenophyllaceae: *Trichomanes*. *Taiwania* 14(1): 89-132, 1968.
16. The pteridophyta of Taiwan-6, Hymenophyllaceae: *Hymenophyllum*. *Taiwania*, 15(2): 271-299, 1970.
17. *Isoetes* found on Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 17(1) 1-7, 1972.

18. The *Plagiogyria* of Taiwan. *Taiwania* 17(3): 277-292, 1972.
19. A correction for *Isoetes taiwanensis* DeVol. *Taiwania* 17(3): 304-305, 1972.
20. Azollaceae, Blechnaceae, Cheiropleuriaceae, Cyatheaceae, Dicksoniaceae, Dipteridaceae, Equisetaceae, Gleicheniaceae, Grammitidaceae, Hymenophyllaceae, Isoetaceae, Lycopodiaceae, Marattiaceae, Marsileaceae, Onocleaceae, Ophioglossaceae, Osmundaceae, Parkeriaceae, Psilotaceae, Salviniaceae, Selaginellaceae, Schizaeaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 1*, 1975.
21. Bibliography, Checklist (Pteridophyta). *Flora of Taiwan Volume 6*, 1979.

Table 3. Botanical Papers by C. E. DeVol with others

1. M. T. Kao and C. E. DeVol
Notes on "The woody flora of Taiwan". *Taiwania*, 9: 97, 1963.
2. M. T. Kao and C. E. DeVol
The Primulaceae of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 15(1): 51-72, 1970.
3. M. T. Kao and C. E. DeVol
Gesneriaceae of Taiwan, 17(2): 142-169, 1972.
4. Charles S. C. Chang and C. E. DeVol
The Effects of Chewing Betel Nuts on the Mouth. *Taiwania*, 18(2): 123-141, 1973.
5. M. T. Kao and C. E. DeVol
The Valerianaceae of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 18(2): 146-159, 1973.
6. Nancy S. M. Ho, B. Y. Yang and C. E. DeVol
Studies on the Mucorales Isolated from Yang-ming-shan. *Taiwania*, 19(1): 75-87, 1974.
7. M. T. Kao and C. E. DeVol
The Campanulaceae of Taiwan. *Taiwania*, 19(2): 123-147, 1974.
8. S. S. Severinghaus and C. E. DeVol
Notes on the Distribution of Taiwan Beech. *Taiwania*, 19(2): 235-237, 1974.
9. C. E. DeVol and C. M. Kuo
Aspidiaceae, Aspleniaceae, Athyriaceae, Dryopteriaceae (in part), Lomariopsidaceae, Oleandraceae, Polypodiaceae, Vittariaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 1*. 1975.
10. C. E. DeVol and C. Y. Lu
Plagiogyriaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 1*, 1975.
11. C. E. DeVol and T. Y. Yang
Davalliaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 1*, 1975.
12. C. E. DeVol and M. T. Kao
Campanulaceae, Gesneriaceae, Primulaceae, Valerianaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 4*, 1978.
13. C. E. DeVol and M. T. Kao
Juncaceae. *Flora of Taiwan Volume 5*, 1978.
14. C. E. DeVol and C. M. Kuo
Additional Notes on Taiwan Pteridophytes. *Taiwania*, 24: 106-114, 1979.

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