

Arthur C. Langlois 1902–1977

The Palm Society lost a charter member and devoted student of palms when Mr. Arthur C. Langlois died on August 4, 1977 at his home, "The Retreat," in Nassau, Bahama Islands after a long illness. Before suffering a stroke three years ago, he had completed the manuscript for a "Supplement to Palms of the World" that is being published this year (see Palm Literature). This book was the result of a hobby of long standing devoted to the study and collection of rare palms that he and his wife Margaret ("Wumpsie"), who survives him, grew with loving care in sink holes of the limestone that underlies their garden.

Mr. Langlois was born June 13, 1902 on Jersey, Channel Islands, but from 1922 onward made his home in Nassau, where he had stopped enroute to British Guiana (now Guyana) and found it to his liking. Joining the Bahama civil service in 1922, he worked first as a wireless operator in the Out Islands but was later transferred to New Providence on the harbor deepening scheme. Subsequently he joined the Public Works, where he was associated with the Water Department. His work in supplying Nassau with water during World War II was recognized when he was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE). He retired in 1965 after 40 years of service in the Bahamas Government.

Mr. Langlois was a member and trustee of Trinity Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday School for many years. He also served as an officer of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Langlois followed their interest in palms to many parts of the world—British Honduras (see *Principes* 1: 48–53, 1957), Costa Rica, Madagascar, New Hebrides, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western Samoa, and Trinidad. Many of the specimens they collected to document the plants they studied were sent to the



1. Mr. A. C. Langlois in his garden at Nassau. Photo by Dent Smith.

late L. H. Bailey or later to the writer at the L. H. Bailey Hortorium, where they are preserved in the herbarium.

Mr. and Mrs. Langlois were responsible for growing to maturity some of the handsome palms collected by the late David Fairchild on the voyage of the Cheng Ho. *Siphokentia beguinii*, *Drymophloeus oliviformis*, a striking *Pinanga*, and the beautiful *Areca langloisiana* were among them. *Euterpe langloisii* from Trinidad also commemorates Mr. Langlois and *Schippia concolor* was introduced by them.

Many members of The Palm Society have had the privilege of visiting The Retreat and I count my visits among the rich experiences of a professional life spent with palms. The enthusiasm, knowledge, and growing ability exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Langlois have been and will continue to be an inspiration to many of us.

HAROLD E. MOORE, JR.