



Dedication

Frankie Farrell was born on 29th December 1907, and educated at Tranquility Boy's Government School and Queen's Royal College. In 1927 he failed to win an island scholarship by just a few marks and so, unfortunately, was deprived of the benefits of a university education. After leaving school he worked for a while as a laboratory assistant to Dr. Fred Hardy in the Soil Science Department at I.C.T.A. before joining the Civil Service as Clerk in the Supreme Court Registry. From there he rose through the ranks to become Chief Electoral Officer under the Elections and Boundaries Commission, from which post he retired in 1966.

Frankie cannot remember exactly when he joined the club and the club's relevant records have been lost, but he is reasonably sure it was in 1933. Later on he was elected Hon. Treasurer and served in the post for many years until the club lapsed into a period of inactivity in the late 1940s. When the club was reactivated in January 1954, Frank resumed his membership. His name appears in the minutes on the list of those present at the meeting of 18th February, 1954. Since then he has been a very active member, attending most meetings and field trips, and serving as Management Committee member, Vice-President and finally President for two years. He has delivered lectures at meetings of the club and has been a dedicated member of the Botany Group from its inception in 1977. He contributed an article on weeds to the club's journal of 1973 and co-authored the publications arising out of the studies of the Botany Group, one of which appears in this issue.

Frankie has been a member of the club for about 55 years ; he is, in fact, the only member still with us from the period before World War II and has the distinction of being a fellow member with some of the club's founder members. For his many contributions to the life of the club during this long period we dedicate to him this issue of our journal. It was originally conceived as an eightieth birthday present; unfortunately, it is late, but this fact in no way diminishes our gratitude. It simply means that we have that much more to thank him for. May you have many more happy birthdays Frankie.

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Cover

Melipona favosa queen laying (see p. 34)