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DITLEV THAANUM: 1867–1963

A Memorial Sketch¹

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WITH THE DEATH OF DITLEV THAANUM on October 24, 1963, at the age of ninety-six, there passed away from the scenes of his labors the last of that enthusiastic band of early 20th-century shell collectors in the Hawaiian Islands—Thaanum, Langford, Cooke, Thurston, and Spaulding, to name but a few. Because of his renown as a skilled and assiduous collector, a keen observer of nature, and a warm-hearted and generous person, this belated sketch of his life is presented as a memorial to a great man, and as an inspiration to others.

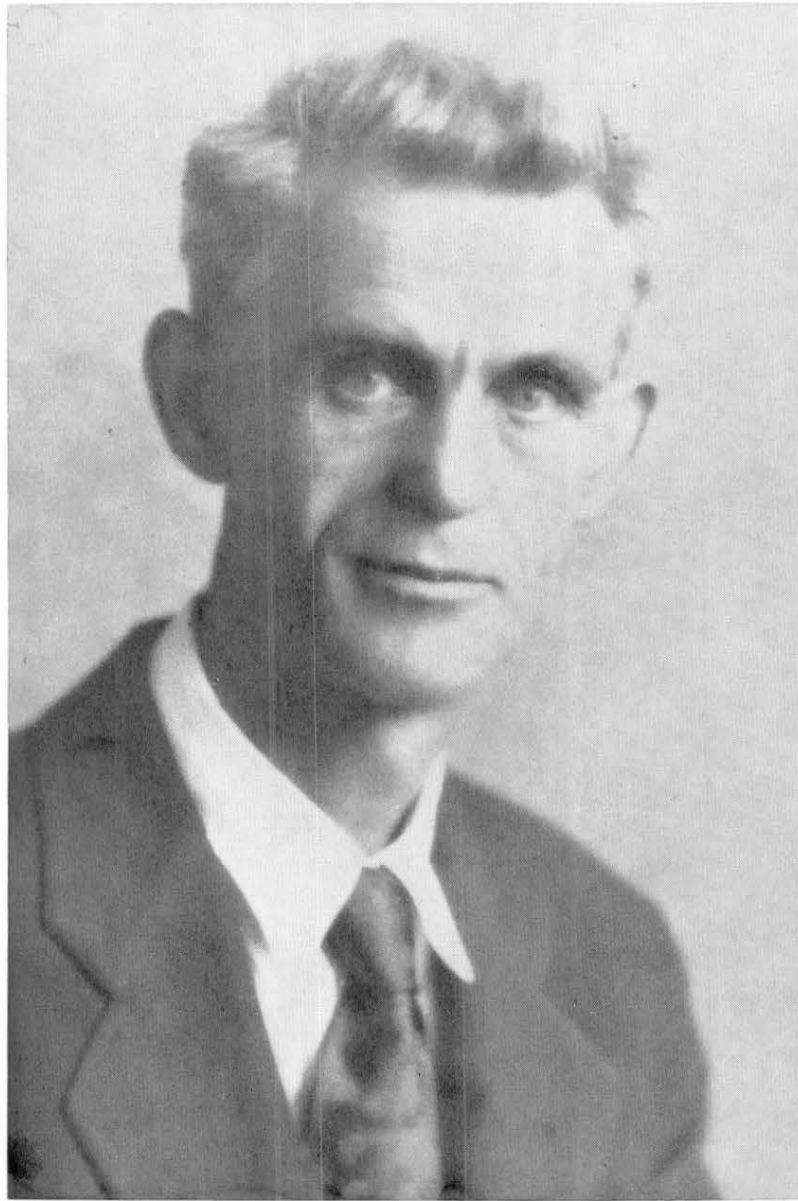
Ditlev Due Thaanum (he rarely used his middle name, even as an initial, after he came to America) was born on February 11, 1867, in Aalborg, a town of about 12,000 people in the northern

* Volume XXIV of the Occasional Papers is published in honor of Edwin H. Bryan, Jr., whose service to Bishop Museum began in 1919. He was for many years Curator of Collections, and at present is Manager of the Museum's Pacific Scientific Information Center. Many of the papers in this volume were read at a Symposium, held at the Museum on April 13, 1968, honoring Mr. Bryan on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

¹ To Mrs. F. W. McConnell of San Diego, California, I am indebted for much valuable information and for first encouraging me to write this biography. Mrs. McConnell, related to Thaanum by marriage, has prepared a detailed genealogical and biographical account of the Thaanum family, and from this booklet I have gleaned many facts of Ditlev Thaanum's early life. She has very kindly allowed me to reproduce pictures of Thaanum, taken in his youth and first published in this work. Dr. Yoshio Kondo and Mr. Edwin H. Bryan, Jr., of Bernice P. Bishop Museum have also furnished me with much information. Mr. John C. Wright, then archivist of the Dillingham Corporation, now Historian at Bishop Museum, and Miss Sylvia L. Charlock, Hawaiiiana librarian of the Hawaii County Library in Hilo, have been very helpful in clearing up certain details in Thaanum's early life in the Islands. Dr. Alexander Wetmore has allowed me to use a photograph that he took of Thaanum on Wake Island in 1923.



FIGURE 1.—Children of Hans Peter and Margarethe Due Thaanum. Standing: Jens, Anders, Christian, Mandrup, Hans. Seated: Wilhelm, Mathilde, Ditlev.



DITLEV THAANUM

DITLEV THAANUM

1867-1963

part of the province of Jutland, Denmark. He was the sixth of eight children born to Hans Peter Nicolai Thaanum and Margarethe Gertrude Due. His father operated a grocery and general store in Aalborg for a number of years, he and his family living in the upper story of the brick building that housed the store.

When Ditlev was three his mother died at the age of forty, making it necessary for Hans Peter's motherless children to be brought up by relatives. At the age of eight or nine he was sent to Kolding in southern Jutland to live with Konrad Jørgensen, a publisher and printer. In 1881, as a lad of fourteen, Ditlev was accepted into the shop as an apprentice, and here became thoroughly familiar with all phases of the printing trade. The final sentences of the letter of recommendation given to Ditlev at the end of apprenticeship, dated March 31, 1886, are worthy of being repeated here:

He has, by his wonderful disposition and excellent character and his diligent effort to secure a first class education, earned the love and affection of everybody with whom he has come in contact. I am sure he is worthy of all the trust that will be given him by his future employers.

The next year Ditlev, being as he said himself, a "roving fellow," left for America with his older brother William (Henrik Wilhelm). Their older brother, Andrew (Anders), had gone to America the previous year, and later three other brothers were to cross the Atlantic to live in this country.

Ditlev landed in New York on July 4, 1887, with, in his words, "eight big silver dollars, a debt to William of \$65 on my shoulders, and in my heart a great wanderlust." He was at this time twenty years old.

From Chicago, where the two brothers separated, Ditlev went to St. Paul, where he stayed with his brother Anders for a while. His adventuresome spirit, however, would not let him rest. In 1889, against the advice of his brother, he traveled on to Washington. He worked for a while in Seattle and Tacoma, as a printer, and in 1892 went on to San Francisco, finding employment there also as a printer.

In 1894 Ditlev sailed to Honolulu, "to see the volcano," as he once expressed it, intending to stay only a short while on his way around the world. He left San Francisco on March 17 on the schooner *Emma Claudina*, commanded by a Captain Neilsen, possibly a countryman of Thaanum's. After nineteen days at sea the ship reached Honolulu on April 5, 1894. From the Hawaiian Islands he planned

to continue on to Australia, then to South Africa and home, where he intended to go into the print shop of his foster father in Kolding and eventually take it over. He actually embarked for Australia, boarding the *Emma Claudina* again after spending only six days in Honolulu. At Fanning Island, however, where the vessel made a call, having brought cargo from San Francisco consigned to this island, he was offered a three-month job as custodian for a copra company on nearby Washington Island. A group of contract laborers were being sent back to their homes in the Gilbert Islands, and the new laborers



FIGURE 2.—Ditlev Thaanum with his sister Mathilde (left), and Johanne Andrea Hoy, who married his brother Christian.

had not yet arrived, and thus Thaanum was alone on the island for a considerable period. Here, to occupy his time, he made a survey of the natural history of the island, and thus began his interest in mollusks.

At the end of his term he was taken back to Honolulu where he found work as news compositor for the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, the predecessor of the *Honolulu Advertiser*. When linotype machines replaced hand-set compositors in November, 1895, Thaanum, together with William H. Johnson, who had been foreman of the pressroom, and George Manson, a fellow compositor of Thaanum at the *Advertiser*, went to Hilo on the island of Hawaii to try their hand at raising coffee. The *Hawaii Herald* of Hilo happened to need a mechanic in its print shop and Thaanum applied for the position and obtained it. Since the *Herald* was published only once a week, on Thursdays, Thaanum had sufficient time to help his partners. They spent about a year clearing some land just below Mountain View, not far from Hilo, and established a coffee ranch known as the Manson Coffee Co. (probably because George Manson furnished the major part of the capital). With the formation of the Olaa Sugar Plantation in 1899, and with the growing realization that coffee could not be grown profitably in the Puna District, they sold the land to the Olaa Company and acquired the *Hilo Herald*, which was in financial difficulties. Within a relatively short time they put the paper back on its feet and made it a profitable venture.

In his leisure time he turned his attention to collecting shells, continuing the interest that had been awakened in him on Fanning and Washington Islands.

One Sunday morning in 1898, while he was collecting on a beach near Hilo, a youngster came up to him and asked Thaanum what he was doing. Thaanum showed the sixteen-year-old lad what he was finding, and explained to him something about marine shells. In the evening he took the boy home with him and showed him some land shells. The boy was Daniel Kuhns, and with this meeting began a life-long friendship which became more firmly cemented when Ditlev married Daniel's sister Myrtle on August 3, 1907. Kuhns, who about 1917 changed his name to Langford, his mother's maiden name, soon joined Thaanum in his collecting activities, and the combinations "Thaanum and Kuhns" and "Thaanum and Langford" are found on the labels of many of the shells that Thaanum gave away to museums.

In 1912 he and Langford constructed a dredge and began working in waters up to 250 feet deep from a rowboat, thus greatly enlarging the scope of their collecting.

A few excerpts from letters he wrote to Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry in 1917 may give an idea of his collecting habits and methods:

I was swindled this Sunday morning! With the whole family (it has increased since you were here with a grown-up daughter, my wife's sister, attending high school) I indulged in moving pictures last night, and instead of hearing the alarm at 4:45 this morning I slept until after 7—which I consider too late an hour to start beachward (May 20).

Kuhns and myself spent the latter half of May dredging in the Maui-Lanai channel, which is not very deep in any place. Results were not up to expectations; we made about 300 hauls and toiled till our backs ached—it's hard work, dredging is, at least as we have to do it (July 31).

However, their efforts were not restricted to gathering marine shells. Land snails also claimed their interest, and on most of the Hawaiian Islands, but principally on Hawaii, Oahu, Molokai, Maui, and Lanai, they searched the mountains for representatives of the interesting Hawaiian terrestrial fauna. The bulk of this collection, amounting to some 7,500 lots, about 100,000 specimens, was given in 1953 to the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University.

In August, 1919, Thaanum heard through Dr. C. Montague Cooke that William H. Dall, Honorary Curator of Mollusks at the United States National Museum, was preparing a publication on the marine mollusks of Hawaii. With the generosity so typical of him, he offered to donate to the United States National Museum the major part of his collection of marine shells that he had gathered together with Langford.

It may be of interest to quote from his letter dated November 3, 1919:

I will contribute, as a gift to the National Museum, the bigger part of my collection of Hawaiian marines, in order to furnish you with additional material. My object being to help along the getting out of an up-to-date, exhaustive, and authoritative report which could serve as a basis for future work on our Hawaiian shells.

I do not part lightly with this collection; it represents a great deal of effort and honest-to-goodness-hard-work, and it is very dear to me. But if it will help to induce you to do for our marines what Pilsbry and Cooke have done for our landshells—why, that's what it was made for and will compensate for the regret at parting.

This collection amounted to more than 12,000 specimens, many of the lots being composed of large series, and with it he sent his catalogue, which included much valuable ecological data. Originally Dall had intended to work up only the deep-water mollusks which the United States Fish Commission steamer *Albatross* had dredged in the vicinity of the Hawaiian Islands in 1901–1902. With the receipt of this magnificent collection, however, Dall was induced to enlarge the scope of his paper to include the littoral fauna as well.

It is to be regretted that this report by Dall was never published. He completed the report early in 1922 and sent it to Honolulu, but because of difficulties encountered in providing and financing adequate illustrations for the many new species described therein, the manuscript was withdrawn by Dr. Dall. In 1938 a completely revised edition of the bivalve portion of this work was published by Bishop Museum.²

In May and June of 1922 Thaanum took part in an expedition to Palmyra Island, organized and financed by Lorrin A. Thurston. Mr. Thurston, president of the Advertiser Publishing Company and publisher of the *Honolulu Advertiser*, was an ardent shell collector, and, desirous of collecting on Palmyra, he applied to the owners of the island for permission to land there. The lessors of the island, the Island of Palmyra Copra Co. Ltd., gave him permission, and on May 4 the party left Honolulu in the company boat *Palmyra*. Originally the group consisted of three; Thurston, Thaanum, and Manuel Vasconcellos, a companion of Mr. Thurston on previous shelling expeditions. At the last moment—45 minutes before sailing time—a young man checking freight for the Matson Steamship Company at a nearby dock appeared and asked for permission to join the group. Permission granted, he hurried away and in three minutes returned, having resigned his job with the steamship company on the spot. This youngster, then 20 years old, was Ted Dranga, who in this somewhat precipitate manner commenced a lifetime of collecting shells in many lands.

On the way to Palmyra the party stopped at Kingman Reef, taking possession of it on May 10 in the name of the United States, and gathering specimens on this little-visited atoll. Extensive collections were made on Palmyra during the weeks that the party

² Dall, W. H., P. Bartsch, and H. A. Rehder. *A Manual of the Recent and Fossil Marine Pelecypod Mollusks of the Hawaiian Islands*. B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull. 153. Honolulu, 1938.

remained there. Their stay was ten days longer than expected, for the crew refused to go back to Palmyra in the vessel that took them down, and a new crew had to be rounded up to bring them back. On the return trip the vessel got off course and landed on the Kona coast of Hawaii instead of at Honolulu, with their fuel almost exhausted. A portion of the Palmyra collection, amounting to about 1,000 specimens, Thaanum gave to the United States National Museum; the remainder is in Bishop Museum.

Doubtless Thurston persuaded Thaanum to move to Honolulu, for in a letter to Dr. Dall, dated October 23, 1922, Thaanum wrote that "a chance came to go to Honolulu (permanently) which I accepted." Thaanum and his partner sold the *Hilo Herald*, and he must have moved to Honolulu late that year for in a letter of January 14, 1923, he mentions an early morning shell hunt at Waikiki.

Thaanum became assistant foreman in the job composing room of the *Honolulu Advertiser*, the next year being put in full charge of this department as foreman. In 1938 he retired for a year, but returned to the *Advertiser* to take charge of proofreading for the commercial printing department.

Mr. and Mrs. Thaanum lived in an apartment while their house was being finished, but soon were able to move to 43 Coelho Way. Here, in lovely Nuuanu Valley, the Thaanums lived together for more than forty happy years. With them lived their only child, William, who graduated from the University of Hawaii with a B.A. degree. William was born in Hilo on August 2, 1909, and, after receiving his degree, taught music for a while in Honolulu. He was also organist at St. Andrew's Protestant Episcopal Cathedral in Honolulu. Later he studied church music at Union Theological Seminary in New York, earning the degree of M.S.M. William Thaanum is now organist and choirmaster at the Central Presbyterian Church in Buffalo, New York.

In 1923 Thaanum was invited to accompany an expedition to the Leeward Islands of the Hawaiian group. Scientific parties of from ten to thirteen representatives of Bishop Museum and the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, with Dr. Alexander Wetmore in charge, were transported through the cooperation of the United States Navy on the minesweeper *Tanager* to all the islands of the group, from Nihoa to Ocean (Kure). On the last of the four individual trips into which the expedition was divided,

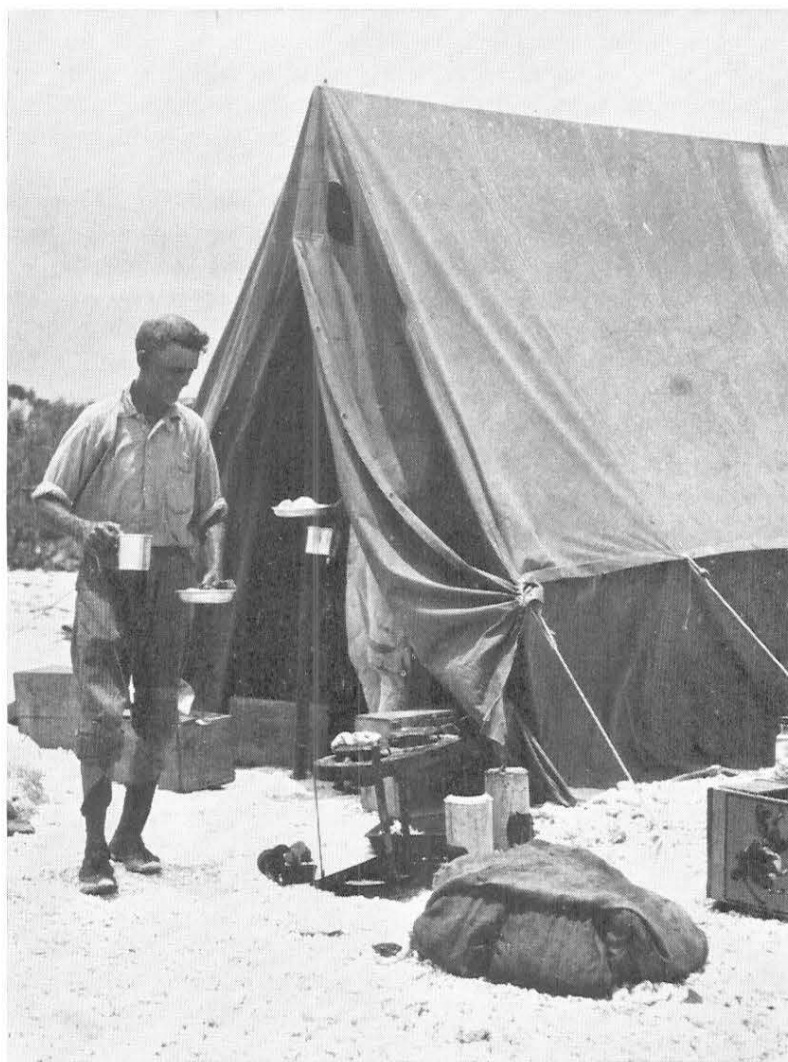


FIGURE 3.—Ditlev Thaanum in camp on Wake Island. "Tanager" Expedition, August 5, 1923. Photo by A. Wetmore.

Wake and Johnston Islands were also visited, with the additional assistance of the minesweeper *Whippoorwill*. During this expedition, which lasted from April 4 to August 13, 1923, twenty-eight individuals took part in one or more of the four trips; Thaanum was one of the four members who took part in all of them. Dr. Wetmore has on several occasions told me of the high regard in which he held Thaanum, and how greatly he appreciated his always willing assistance and cooperation during this expedition.

Thousands of marine mollusks and many interesting land snails were gathered by Thaanum on these islands, whose fauna and flora were for the first time systematically studied and explored. At the end of the expedition Thaanum was hired as a temporary assistant by Bishop Museum to sort and identify the marine mollusks. It is interesting to note that in the *Annual Report* of the Museum for that year Thaanum is consistently identified as "David Thaanum."

In October, 1924, the Hawaiian Conchological Club was formed, with Thaanum listed as one of the charter members. Charles F. Mant, superintendent of the Seaman's Institute and known to older malacologists for his interest in the Hawaiian land snail fauna, was chosen president. Thaanum, in a letter to Dall dated November 16, 1924, mentions that the ten to twelve members had met twice. "The two sessions we have held have been very enjoyable, if not very instructive. It is well worth while to get together once in a while, if only for the fun of it." This club, the predecessor of the present Hawaiian Malacological Society, apparently did not long survive.

During these years Thaanum was receiving specimens of Japanese shells, sent to him from Japan by his brother-in-law, Daniel B. Langford. Langford had gone to Japan shortly after the termination of World War I as a reporter, but then became a teacher of English at Keio University. During his holidays and free time he collected mollusks, sending series of his marine shells to Thaanum.

The variety and richness of the shells he received from his brother-in-law must have intrigued Thaanum, and he probably needed little urging from Dan Langford to join him in Japan, which he did for the first time in June, 1925.

In a letter to Dr. Dall, dated November 31, 1925, he describes his experiences there:

Langford and I did some land shelling and also dredging around Tokyo and Yokohama; then went down to Kagoshima, where took steamer to the island of Okinawa, in the Loochoos; here we collected, shore and dredging,

during three weeks with a little land-shelling thrown in during odd spare half days. Then back to Kagoshima, and collected another three weeks around Kagoshima Bay, at various points, as well as on the ocean side of the peninsula (at Waki), both shore and dredging. Picking a little fishing village here and there as temporary headquarters we soon enlisted the fishermen as helpers, and



FIGURE 4.—Ditlev Thaanum dredging in the Ryukyu Islands with his brother-in-law Daniel Langford. 1932.

they usually proved good ones, bringing us numbers of shells taken in deep water in their nets. But we found it difficult to make them comprehend, although we had one of Langford's star pupils from the university along as interpreter. The fishermen took numbers of *Cypraea miliaris* in their squid traps; we happened to see them and told them we wanted that kind, and they

brought them in; but it was only at the last of our stay that we discovered they also took an occasional *Cyp. onyx*—which they threw away! We had asked them for *miliaris*, and they brought them; we said nothing about *onyx*, and they didn't bring them! Then we told them to bring all kinds of shells (as of course we had before), and this time it percolated, for next morning a woman brought what I should guess well over a thousand *Phos senticosus*—and then there was trouble again!

In early September Thaanum returned to Honolulu with about 14,000 specimens, representing over 600 species.

The summers of 1928 and 1932 saw him in Japan again, and on both occasions he and Dan Langford spent most of the time collecting on Okinawa. According to information furnished me by Dr. Yoshio Kondo, the material brought back by Thaanum from these trips amounted to 31,908 specimens.

In the summer of 1940 he and Ted Dranga went to Fiji to collect shells, bringing back over 8,000 specimens belonging to 563 species. In reading the following quotation from a letter he wrote to Dr. Bartsch on December 19, 1940, we should bear in mind that Thaanum was then seventy-three years old:

Collecting at Fiji was the best either of us have ever experienced. We spent most of our time on the small island of Bega, about thirty miles from Suva, making headquarters in a grass house in the village of Dakuna which consists of fifteen to eighteen grass houses. By no stretching of the truth could it be called comfortable, but we are both used to rough it, and we certainly did get shells. There were shore reefs, miles of them, and also a barrier reef, miles of it, partly dry at extreme low tides, and with abundant native help we succeeded in making a very large haul. I returned home beginning of September and am still nightly cleaning and putting away the shells and shall not be able to finish for another three months. Of course, my time is very limited.

His time was indeed very limited, for he still had his full-time position at the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

His last field trip, in 1947, was made at the age of eighty to the Mariana and Caroline Islands to collect once again with his brother-in-law, who, after his exciting war experiences, had been appointed entomologist for the Trust Territories government. On that occasion, from March to May he and Dan Langford collected shells on Guam, Rota, Ponape, and Truk.

In the following year, on September 14, 1948, he retired from the *Honolulu Advertiser*. He continued his interest in shells, although he did no more collecting himself after 1950. To malacologists visiting in Hawaii, who came to see him in his charming Nuuanu Valley

home, he was happy to show his collection and talk about shells and collecting in the islands. The writer of this memorial is fortunate to have had this experience in 1957.

His generosity and his willingness to help advance the knowledge of the molluscan fauna of the Pacific is evidenced by the many gifts of specimens he made to museums in this country. I have already spoken of the large collections he gave to the Smithsonian Institution in 1920 and 1923–1924.

His earliest scientific relations were with Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, to whom he sent his first specimens in 1899. Dr. R. Tucker Abbott of that institution estimates that between 1899 and 1956 Thaanum sent to the Academy about 5,000 lots of shells. His material formed the basis for a series of papers on the marine mollusks of Hawaii that Dr. Pilsbry published in 1917 and 1918. In addition, the monumental volumes that Pilsbry published in cooperation with Dr. C. Montague Cooke on the land-snail families Achatinellidae and Amastridae owe much to the collecting labors of Ditlev Thaanum. Unfortunately the bulk of the correspondence that Thaanum must have carried on with Pilsbry is no longer in existence, and with it the opportunity is gone to learn more of the early days of Thaanum's collecting activities.

In 1947 he gave to the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University his collection of non-Hawaiian land and fresh-water shells. The bulk of this material, which amounted to 3,000 lots, was from Japan, collected by Thaanum and Langford. I have already mentioned his gift to Harvard in 1953 of his fine series of land and fresh-water snails of the Hawaiian Islands. Dr. William J. Clench estimates that these two collections numbered over 100,000 specimens.

Bishop Museum was quite naturally close to his heart, and to this institution went the greater part of his collections. Between 1948 and 1950, after he had given to Harvard his non-Hawaiian land snails, he donated a large collection of Hawaiian land shells to the Bishop Museum totaling 70,000 specimens. In 1958 he gave to the Museum a gift of about 57,000 marine shells, mostly non-Hawaiian. Sets of duplicate material from this collection were sent to the United States National Museum and to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. At his death his collection of Hawaiian marine shells, which he had accumulated and worked with so many years, came to

the Bishop Museum. Dr. Yoshio Kondo estimates this collection to contain approximately 100,000 specimens.

The death of Dan Langford on May 28, 1954 was not only a great shock to Thaanum, but had a profound effect on his life. Up until that time he had continued his interest in shells, and although he did no more collecting himself, he continued exchanging shells and working on the specimens in his collection. The passing of his brother-in-law, however, with whom he had shared so many collecting experiences over a period of fifty years, caused him to lose all



FIGURE 5.—Ditlev and Myrtle Thaanum at the rear of 43 Coelho Way, Honolulu, in 1963.

interest in mollusks. In a letter to Dr. Clench, written half a year after Langford's death, he wrote:

Langford's death hit me very hard and I have hardly looked at a shell since, since so many of them remind me of him that I have not wanted to even look at them. . . . Shells have been a dead interest. But I shall snap out of it, at least I hope so.

A year later, on December 18, 1955, in his annual Christmas letter to Clench, he wrote:

Small or no interest taken in shells. Don't seem to be able to get started again since the shock of Langford's death.

Early in 1960 his eyesight began to fail, which was a severe blow, since he had spent much of his time in these later years reading and working with his stamps in which he had maintained an interest since his boyhood days. After Langford's death stamps became his principal hobby, and those that friends sent him were a source of great pleasure. He was proud to have in his possession a complete set, minus only six, of all the stamps ever issued by Denmark, and at one time he owned five Cape of Good Hope "triangulars." In a letter to Mrs. McConnell, speaking of his partial blindness, he wrote:

Fortunately I am blessed with a helpful and very patient wife, and we have adjusted to the new life. I depend on her for so many things, and she responds nobly and patiently and willingly. Then there are the Reading Books, bless the originator of them. They are ordinary phonograph records, reading aloud whole books instead of music. A special machine is required to do the reading, but that as well as the records are supplied by the local library, and the records are handled by the post office, all free of charge. Uncle Sam pays the bill. These books are a tremendous help and there is a wide choice of subjects, fiction, travel, history, philosophy, etc.

In his last years his eyesight must have improved somewhat, for he was able to enjoy again in a small way the stamps friends sent him from time to time. A letter written March 3, 1963, in the last year of his life, to Dr. R. Tucker Abbott, reveals the pleasure he received in this way:

Dear Tucker:

It has become a want and a necessity to inflict on you a second letter for that truly magnificent lot of stamps you sent me recently.

It arrived within a few days of my 96th birthday, which added much to the celebration. Myrtle and I had many enjoyable hours sorting out the different countries and comparing the stamps with those already in the collection, and

we found no less than 71 which were new to us, an amazing number to get from a single contribution, not equalled by any during recent years. It was wonderfully interesting and enjoyable, and we both thank you for giving us this pleasure.

Thaanum, as a true naturalist, was observant throughout his life of all wildlife and nature about him. He was particularly interested in the birds, as the following extract from a letter to Mrs. F. W. McConnell, written in March, 1962, shows:

The local bird life, the native part of it, is strictly confined to the forests or the mountains and seldom observed, and many of the species are near extinction. But while living on the big island (Hawaii) at the beginning of the century they could still be seen. I spent a year clearing away the native forest, preparatory to planting coffee, and I saw both a hawk and an owl, and the Oo and the Iiwi, the latter a bright red bird which may still be seen, but the others are probably gone. And on a hiking trip to the top of Mauna Kea (a dormant volcano) we saw a flock of six or eight of the native goose, the Nene, which lived on the high plateau between the two big mountains. Came within a short stone throw of them before they took flight. That is now extinct in the wild state, but attempts are being made to propagate it at the game bird breeding farms. Here in the lowlands we have only imported birds. Every morning, when I throw out the near empty shell and the seed of the breakfast papaya the half dozen Mynahs and a similar number of the wild doves come swooping down for the handout, that is, the Mynahs do. The doves come tripping in more sedately, but they do all the fighting among themselves. We have two cardinals. What we call the Brazilian cardinal and also the Kentucky species, both beautiful birds, but they cannot compete with the larger species. A small heron lives along the streams in the deep mountain gulches, but is rare. . . . And we have California quail and several pheasants. But, strangely, not so many seabirds. Sooty tern, shearwaters, a sandpiper, rarely an albatross and frigate bird. No gulls or white terns. The golden plover comes in every year in numbers from their breeding places in Alaska. . . ."

As a summation of what Ditlev Thaanum has meant to those who knew him, I can do no better than to quote from a letter written by Dr. C. M. Burgess of Honolulu, after the appearance of the 100th edition of the *Hawaiian Shell News*, published in February, 1962, and dedicated to Ditlev Thaanum.

It was with a great deal of pleasure that I opened the last edition of the HSN and read the fine and timely article about the man who is probably the greatest field collector of mollusks that ever lived.

Certainly Ditlev Thaanum is a scientist in the strictest sense of the word. He sought truth, above all things, whether it lay in the identification of a species or in compiling accurate data. He accepted nothing for granted. The printed description was checked and rechecked against the actual object under study. Consequently, when he reached a final decision he was seldom wrong.

He has contributed more to our practical knowledge of the marine and terrestrial shell life of these islands than any other individual, dead or alive. Thaanum's great knowledge of the where and the how of shell life will probably never again be equaled.

There is only one regret. His modesty has never let him assume to publish or compile for future reference this great storehouse of information. However, his carefully kept catalogues will fill many gaps.

He is still keenly interested in life in general and by the grace of God, even though far past the allotted three score and ten, is physically able to enjoy every phase of it. He and Myrtle Thaanum reflect by their warm hospitality the inherent good nature that they possess in such abundance.

His last years were peaceful, and the end came gently in his 97th year at 43 Coelho Way on October 24, 1963. I end this memorial with the following tribute from the *Hawaiian Shell News*.

We lost an eminent man, but, with his passing, an era has ended as well. He lived during what we might call the golden age of Hawaiian conchology, carrying on with Langford where Pease and Garrett left off. The contributions he made to Pacific conchology were immense.

You were a generous and lovable man, Mr. Thaanum. We will miss your guiding hand.

PUBLICATIONS

THAANUM left to others the publishing of the results of his labors, and the only malacological articles that appeared under his name are the following:

- 1921 "*Tapes philippinarum* in the Hawaiian Islands." *Nautilus* **34**(3):107.
1927 "Foreign Shells Imported into the Hawaiian Islands." *Nautilus* **40**(4):
133-134.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES HONORING DITLEV THAANUM
ARRANGED CHRONOLOGICALLY

THESE THIRTY SPECIFIC NAMES and one subgeneric name are arranged chronologically. I have added the present generic allocation where it differs from that in the original description. The type-locality is given for each species.

- Leptachatina*, Subgenus *Thaanumia* Ancey, 1899. Proc. Malac. Soc. London **3**(5):269. Originally proposed as a distinct genus.
- Succinea thaanumi* Ancey, 1899. Proc. Malac. Soc. London **3**(5):272, pl. 12, fig. 3 (Olaa, Hawaii).
- Petterdiana thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1900. Nautilus **13**(12):144 (near Cairns, Queensland, Australia).
- Kaliella thaanumi* Ancey, 1904. Proc. Malac. Soc. London **6**(2):119-120. *Euconulus* (*Nesoconulus*) *t.* (Olaa, Hawaii).
- Endodonta* (*Nesophila*) *thaanumi* Pilsbry and Vanatta, 1905. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **57**:574, pl. 39, figs. 1-3. *Ptychodon* (*Nesophila*) *t.* (Kaiwiki, near Hilo, Hawaii).
- Cerithium thaanumi* Pilsbry and Vanatta, 1905. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **57**:576. *Liocerithium t.* (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Turbonilla* (*Chemnitzia*) *thaanumi* Pilsbry and Vanatta. Nautilus **22**(6):58, fig. 8 (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Leptachatina* (*Thaanumia*) *thaanumi* Cooke, 1911. Man. of Conch. (2) **21**:88, pl. 6, figs. 16, 17 (Mapulehu ridge, Molokai).
- Pterodiscus thaanumi* Hyatt and Pilsbry, 1911. Man. of Conch. (2) **21**:125-126, pl. 24, figs. 1, 2 (Kukaeiole, near Kaaawa, Oahu).
- Amastra thaanumi* Hyatt and Pilsbry, 1911. Man. of Conch. (2) **21**:177, pl. 38, figs. 1, 2 (Kaaawa, Oahu).
- Partulina thaanumiana* Pilsbry and Cooke, 1913. Man. of Conch. (2) **22**:112-113, pl. 18, figs. 6, 7 (Waiehu Gulch, Maui).
- Achatinella thaanumi* Pilsbry and Cooke, 1914. Man. of Conch. (2) **22**:273-274, pl. 42, figs. 5, 6. (Haleauau Gulch, Mt. Kaala, Waianae Range, Oahu). (Misspelled: *thaamuni*.)
- Tornatellides thaanumi* Cooke and Pilsbry, 1915. Man. of Conch. (2) **23**:215-216, pl. 47, figs. 1, 2, 4. *Tornatellaria t.* (Mapulehu, Molokai).
- Phasianella thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1917. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **69**:209, pl. 15, figs. 12, 14. *Tricolia* (*Hilola*) *t.* (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Pupa thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1917. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **69**:214, fig. 1 (off Honolulu, Oahu).

- Melanella thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1917. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **69**:220, pl. 14, figs. 5-6a (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Peristernia thaanumi* Pilsbry and Bryan, 1918. Nautilus **31**(3):101-102, pl. 9, figs. 6-7. *Clivipollia t.* (off Waikiki and Honolulu Harbor, Oahu).
- Codakia thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1918. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **69**:332, pl. 22, fig. 9 (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Lyropupa thaanumi* Cooke and Pilsbry, 1920. Man. of Conch. (2) **25**:242-243, pl. 20, figs. 12, 13 (Auwaki, Maui).
- Stylifer thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:298-299, fig. 2c (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Terebra thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:305, pl. 12, figs. 1, 2 (off Honolulu, Oahu).
- Mitra thaanumiana* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:313, pl. 12, fig. 21 (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Vexillum thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:316-317, pl. 12, fig. 31 (off Waikiki, Oahu).
- Cardium thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:323-324, pl. 12, fig. 24. *Microcardium t.* (off Waikiki, Oahu).
- Solecardia (Scintilla) thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:326, fig. 8. *Leiochasmea (Achasmea) t.* (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Vexilla thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1921. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **72**:372 (Hilo, Hawaii).
- Ganesella thaanumi* Pilsbry, 1924. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia **76**:11, fig. 1 (Minolu-San, Japan).
- Ostrea thaanumi* Dall, Bartsch, and Rehder, 1938. B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull. **153**:114-115, pl. 32, figs. 1-4 (Mokuoloe Island, Kaneohe Bay, Oahu).
- Arcinella thaanumi* Dall, Bartsch, and Rehder, 1938. B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull. **153**:117, pl. 33, figs. 1-4 (near Koko Head, Oahu).
- Mactra thaanumi* Dall, Bartsch, and Rehder, 1938. B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull. **153**:172-173, pl. 44, figs. 1-4 (off Kaanapali, Maui).
- Mirapecten thaanumi* Dall, Bartsch, and Rehder, 1938. B. P. Bishop Mus. Bull. **153**:84, pl. 21, figs. 7-8 (off south coast of Molokai).
- Petroderma thaanumi* Kuroda, 1945. Japanese Journal of Malacology **14**:29-31, pl. 1, figs. 1-4 (Japan).
- Phos laanumi* Schwengel, 1950. Nautilus **63**:80-81, pl. 5, fig. 3 (Guam, Marianas). This name honors Dan Langford and Ditlev *Thaanum*, being formed by a synthesis or "telescoping" of both names.

AUTHOR'S ADDENDUM
TO SCIENTIFIC NAMES HONORING
DITLEV THAANUM

Synceridae, subfamily *Thaanumellinae* Clench, 1946. Occ. Papers B. P. Bishop Mus., **18**(13):199. Type genus: *Thaanumella* Clench, 1946.

Thaanumella Clench, 1946. Occ. Papers B. P. Bishop Mus., **18**(13):201. Type species: *Diadema carolinarum* v. Mlldff., 1897 (= *Omphalotropis angulosa* Ancey, 1890), from Ponape, Caroline Ids.

Truncatella (*Truncatella*) *thaanumi* Clench and Turner, 1948. Occ. Papers Moll. Dept. Moll., Mus. Comp. Zool. Harvard Univ., **1**(13):165. (Ulali Id., Truk, Caroline Ids.).

