

grammar school education, she could not obtain an undergraduate degree from Dutch universities. She did attend lectures at the University of Amsterdam, however, and received a teacher's certificate (1904), with which she was permitted, under different laws in Switzerland, to enroll at the University of Zürich. She completed her Ph.D. degree there in 1907, although the research was done in Amsterdam, with a thesis on the cardiovascular system of *Andrias*, the giant salamander (published 1906 [1908]-1907). From 1907 she held the position of Curator of Reptiles and Amphibians in the Zoological Museum, University of Amsterdam, but resigned in 1922, at the age of 39, because of a change in museum administration which was not to her liking, and she did no further scientific work. She married in 1929, thereafter being known as P. J. Breijer-de Rooij, and died at Arnhem, Netherlands, on 10 June 1964.

During her very short professional career, De Rooij published only a dozen papers, primarily on the herpetology of Dutch possessions in the East and West Indies, but she is long remembered for her book, "The Reptiles of the Indo-Australian Archipelago" (in two volumes, 1915 and 1917; reprinted 1970). This monograph, still the definitive and most comprehensive work on the region, covers 624 species of reptiles; the companion volume on amphibians was published by P. N. van Kampen in 1923. Both titles cover the region from Sumatra through New Guinea and



*Nelly de Rooij.*

*P. J. Breijer-de Rooij.*

include Borneo. These books were the herpetological culmination of the Dutch effort to explore their territory in the East Indies, begun early in the 19th Century, which consumed vast sums of money and even the lives of outstanding young naturalists such as Heinrich Boie, Heinrich Kuhl, and J. C. van Hasselt.

• *References*: "In Memoriam," anonymous, *Vakblad voor Biologen*, 44(7): 132, 1964; "Mrs. Dr. P. J. Breyer-de Rooij [*sic*]," by W. S. S. van der Feen-van Bethem Jutting, *Copeia*, 1964: 598, 1964; "Dr. P. J. de Rooij," by L. D. Brongersma, unpublished manuscript. • *Portrait* (about 1929): Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, courtesy Marinus S. Hoogmoed. • *Signatures* (maiden name, 1916): Naturhistorisches Museum Basel, courtesy Christine Stocker; (married name, 1931): Courtesy Leo D. Brongersma. • *Note*: "Nelly" is the diminutive of Petronella, a call name, but De Rooij regularly used it in her publications. In some of her papers her name was spelled "Rooy"; the 25th letter of the Dutch alphabet, *ij*, is sometimes incorrectly written as *y*.

### MÜLLER, Lorenz (1868-1953).

The German herpetologist Lorenz Müller was born in Mainz on 18 February 1868. Originally self trained as an artist, he attended the Academy of Art in Munich. He had been a terrarist as a boy, with a special interest in amphibians and reptiles, so after he returned to Munich from art studies in Paris, Belgium, and Holland, he developed important contacts with Oskar Boettger in Frankfurt and Willy Wolterstorff in Madgeburg, both of whom encouraged his herpetological interests. Müller worked at the Zoologische Staatssammlung in Munich as a scientific illustrator, but since the herpetological collections were without a curator, he took on those duties beginning in 1903. These historically-important but long-neglected collections, which had their beginnings in the 1820s with the work of J. B. von Spix and J. G. Wagler, began to grow rapidly. In 1909-1910 Müller was a member of the museum's expedition to the Lower Amazon of Brazil, which had been first explored by von Spix in 1817-1820, and this stimulated his lifetime interest in the herpetofauna of South America.

By 1912, the museum finally established a curatorship for Müller. During the First World War he served with the army in the Balkans, but spent much of the time collecting specimens. In 1928 he became Chief Curator of Zoology at the museum and held this post until retirement, at which time his research was recognized with an honorary doctorate from the University of Munich. He continued his research and was called back to active duty during World War II, to supervise packing of the collections and their temporary removal for safekeeping, unfortunately without complete success.

The museum's crocodylian collection, which had not yet been removed, was destroyed in a bombing raid in April 1944 and one third of the main collection, which had been stored in the cellar of a restaurant in Planegg, south of Munich, was lost in another raid on one of the last days of the war, in April 1945. Only quick action by Müller the