Fig. 9. Mr. Hummel and bromeliad expert Victoria Padilla discussing their cherished plants, ca. 1966. Bromeliads were one of Mr. Hummel’s specialties and he was well known for his hybrids. (Photograph courtesy of the Bromeliad Society Bulletin.)

other interests. He read constantly on travel, exploration, the history of the glass industry and its products, American Indians, and ancient Chinese art and history. He also had a large library of cookbooks from many countries and enjoyed cooking.

In 1978 the Hummels retired to Oceanside, California, and sold their nursery stock, but they continued to grow a “few” plants on their enclosed patio. Mr. Hummel died November 29, 1979; Mrs. Hummel died January 15, 1993, at the age of 88.

CYRUS GUERNSEY PRINGLE

Cyrus Pringle (1838–1911), a Vermont botanist, made 39 botanizing trips to Mexico where he collected half a million plants, embracing some 20,000 species, about 12% of which were new to science. A substantial number of plants in many genera were named in his honor, among them Pachycereus pringlei, Mammillaria pringlei, and Ferocactus pringlei. Marcus Eugene Jones, in his Contributions to Western Botany, No. 16, 1930, recalled a trip he had made with Pringle 48 years previously. “In the spring of 1882 I was at San Diego and Charles C. Parry (1823–1890) told me that Pringle had just arrived, and he suggested that we form a party and go to Ensenada together, which we did. On that trip I saw much of him. He was then about 40 years old, some 10 years older than I. We had many pleasant visits around the camp fire on the trip. He told me he was of Quaker stock, was married and divorced because of inability to get along with his wife, and that this was the reason for his trips west. He was a very mild spoken man, with positive opinions which he never tried to impress on others. He was a very quiet man also. He had a young man along with him as helper, and had his own outfit for traveling, that is a team and wagon and horses. In later years Pringle specialized on west Mexican botany and discovered many new species of plants. Pringle impressed me as a very conscientious man, absolutely on the square about everything. I have known men who knew him in Mexico, and at whose places he stayed while botanizing in those regions. He usually sought out the missionaries of the regions, and stayed with them.”

Larry W. Mitich