

XII. BOOK NOTICES

M.A.H.A. Magazine. On p. 495 it was announced that this quarterly published by the Malayan Agri-Horticultural Association was revived and the volumes now received (vol. 12 for 1955 and 13 for 1956) appear to be as well executed as before, with numerous illustrations, several coloured plates, and a varied text of interest to gardeners, and horticulture, people interested in agriculture and life-stock, and in growing plants, cactus & succulents, orchids, etc. both native and introduced. The price for each part of vol. 12 was Str. \$ 1.50; this has now been raised to Str. \$ 2. Annual subscription for membership is Str. \$ 10. c/o Messrs walgrens Ltd. P.O. Box 277. Kuala Lumpur.

Muelleria. An Australian journal of Botany. This is a new journal issued by the Melbourne Botanical Garden, financed by the Maud Gibson Gardens Trust, Melbourne. The first number, dated Aug. 1955 (distributed 22.2.1956), with a foreword by Prof. Turner and a preface by the director, Mr A.W. Jessep, covers 64 pages 8^o and is well executed. It is named after the Baron, F. von Mueller, who was 26 Jan. 1853 appointed Victoria's first Government Botanist, and added such lustre and world renown to his office. Intended primarily for the publication of botanical monographs, descriptions of new species, horticultural papers, systematic and historic notes by officers of the Melbourne Herbarium, the largest repository in Australia, it will be wide enough in scope to embrace items of interest by members of other

herbaria, and by amateur botanists both within and outside Victoria. It will be issued from time to time, as occasion demands; Mr J.H. Willis has consented to act as editor. The first number contains several interesting papers, some of which have been incorporated in the bibliography.

Dictionary of Gardening. A valuable Supplement has been added to the 4 volumes of the original work edited by P.M. Synge, containing a number of essential additions and corrections. Oxford, Clarendon Press. 1956, 334 pp., illustr. Dfl. 24.35.

Species studies in the British Flora. This is the published report of the Conference, under the title 'The species concept in its relation to the British flora', held in 1954 by the Botanical Society of the British Isles. This nice volume, edited in 1955 by J.E. Lousley, with important contributions by various prominent botanists, is recommended to all concerned in this subject. 187 pp. to be had at the Brit. Museum (Nat. Hist.) London.

The Botanic Garden, Adelaide, South Australia, 1855-1955. Issued for the Board of Governors of the Garden, 1956, 8^o, 412 pp. 62 illustrations, mostly photogr.

An exceedingly carefully prepared, excellently executed account of the Adelaide gardens, written by Max Lamshed. An interesting, very detailed history of the Garden, accompanied by old plans, occupies the first 100 pp. This is followed by a Guide to the present garden (30 pp.), the third section of the book being devoted to a Catalogue of the plants cultivated, with indications to their synonymy and native country. A magnificent issue of both considerable historic value and present interest.

Thai Forest Bulletin. A mimeographed folio edition containing field notes on various plants. Valuable photographs have been glued with the notes, drawings in others. The text is in English, with partial equivalents in Thai. Two parts appeared.

Lingnan Science Journal. The available supply of vol. 20-23 and the Flora of Fukien were placed, Jan. 1956, with the firm of Stechert-Haffner Inc., 31 East 10th street, New York, N.Y. who will retain them in stock for a period of four years.

Curtis Botanical Magazine. An Index to vol. 1-164 has been compiled by Mr F.J. Chittenden, with a revision of the names of the plants depicted and to which is appended a brief history of the magazine, and an appendix giving the titles and numbers of the plates from vol. 165-170. B. Quaritch Ltd.

London 1956. £ 2.2.0.

Hygiene for the traveller in Africa. In collaboration with the Netherlands Africa Institute, the Royal Institute for the Tropics, Amsterdam, has published a concise account of Hints to travellers in Africa: "Hygiënische wenken voor de reiziger naar Afrika" (in Dutch). Dfl. 1.-

Bibliography of Netherlands New Guinea. Dr K.W. Galis (see also Fl. Mal. Bull. 10, 1955, p. 360). A new, completed mimeographed bibliography (1955) 163 pp.

Flora of East Tropical Africa. The following families were published in 1956: Connaraceae 27 pp. (J.H. Hemsley), Caryophyllaceae 38 pp. (W.B. Turrill), Canellaceae (B. Verd-court).

Index nominum genericorum. This valuable card index is prepared by various specialists in listing all generic names. Editors are Prof. J. Lanjouw and Dr F.A. Stafleu, Utrecht. Three sets of 1000 cards have now been issued. A list of contributors is given in Taxon 5 (1956) 37. It is estimated that the total index will consist of 40.000 cards. The index includes generic names of both Cryptogams and flowering plants.

Bauhinia. Zeitschrift der Basler Botanischen Gesellschaft. A new journal of which the first part of vol. 1 was published in Dec. 1955. 1-85 pp., t. 1-34. It is issued by the Society, Mittlere Strasse 139, Basel, Switzerland.

Webb centenary volume. Webbia 11 (1955-1956) 1-907, numerous illustrations. A magnificent volume commemorating Philip Barker Webb (1793-1854), who donated his unique herbarium and library to the Firenze Botanical Institute. The volume contains numerous contributions on the flora of Africa and some of Italy, and besides a monograph on Indian Digitaria (by Bor), Malaysian Cassia (by de Wit), Pacific Erythrina (by StJohn), and an important posthumous paper by Beccari (elaborated by Pichi-Sermolli) on the Old World genera of Arecoideae.

Proceedings 8th Pac. Sci. Congress, Manila, 1953. The second volume containing Geology, Geophysics, and Meteorology was published 1956 by the National Research Council, ix + 574 pp. Profusely illustrated and provided with maps.

The Botanic Gardens of Indonesia (Kebun Raya Indonesia) and their Institutes for the study of Tropical Nature. Bogor. Oct. 1956, 80, 33 pp., 24 fotogr. A complete, attractive guide to the assemblage of gardens and laboratories together,

representing the magnificent institute at Bogor.

Vadamecum voor Nederlands-Nieuw-Guinea. 1956. 4^o, 216 pp., map, numerous illustr. & photographs. Published by the New Guinea Institute, Rotterdam.--An exceedingly detailed account of life in Netherlands New Guinea indispensable for those who are going to live there. Geography, markets, hotel-prices, housing, accommodation, hygiene, etc. etc.

Andrews Jr, H.N.: Index of generic names of fossil plants, 1820-1950. Geol. Surv. Bull. 1013, U.S. Govt Print. Office, Washington DC. 262 pp. sh. 10.--This index is based on the Compendium index of Palaeobotany of the U.S. Geological Survey. It comprises an index of generic names of fossil plants; the author expresses his doubt whether the list is complete, specially for the last two decades. An attempt has been made to typify each genus; in addition a brief notation is given concerning the age, geographic origin, and taxonomic status of most of the fossils. The author stresses that this index is intended rather as an informative source concerning the origin of the respective generic concepts. Though, as the author says, the index is in no sense a critical treatment, it will appear of great help to students of living plants and serve for checking homonymy. This has not been executed yet, see for example under *Daphnophyllum* (which can nomenclaturally not be considered different from *Daphniphyllum*), *Diemenia*, *Pittonia*, *Forbesia*, and *Taeniophyllum*; palaeobotanists have obviously, even in recent time, taken little notice of *Index Kewensis*.

The book contains a very clear introduction about its origin and various other points, a bibliography, and the generic list.

Bianchi, A.T.J.: Houtherkenning voor de praktijk. 1956. Publ. Roy. Institute for the Tropics, Amsterdam. In Dutch. Dfl. 2.50.--Introduction to the identification of non-coniferous timbers, specially those from the tropics, by means of the hand-lens. Also published as Communication CXIV of the said Institute.

Brass, L.J.: Summary of the fourth Archbold Expedition to New Guinea. 1955. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. 111, 1956, 83-151, 21 pl.--An excellently illustrated, extensive report of one of the botanically least well-known parts of SE. New Guinea: Mt Dayman area, Cape Vogel Peninsula, & Goodenough Island. Of each station a report on flora and vegetation is given and another on the fauna. The area appears to have been rather heavily deforested, a process still going on.

Browne, F.G.: Forest trees of Sarawak and Brunei and their products. Govt Printing Office. Kuching. Sarawak, 1955. 369 pp., 48 photogr. Mal. \$ 12.--A valuable asset to both foresters, timbermen and botanists on select native trees of Sarawak and Brunei. Descriptions and observations are the author's own, made from the living tree. Many ecological and biological aspects of species are given and the part they play in Dyak legends and folk-lore. There are two keys, a larger one based on bark, crown, bole and leaf characters (not incl. flowers and fruit characters), and a smaller one for wood sections. The general set-up of the book, with the nice, large easily readable type and the excellent binding in grey imitation lizard skin is praised.

Bünning, E.: Der Tropische Regenwald. Verständl. Wiss. 56, 1956, viii + 118, fig. 1-116. DM. 7.80.--Beautifully illustrated general account mainly on Ceylon & Sumatra.

Copeland, H.F.: The classification of the lower organisms. Palo Alto, Cal. 304 pp. illustr.--A new system in which the lower organisms are newly organized in several kingdoms.

Curtis, Miss W.M.: Flora of Tasmania. vol. 1, 1956, xlvii + 234 pp., 60 fig.--This contains the glossary, family keys, Gymnosperms and Ranunculaceae to Myrtaceae; it provides descriptions and keys, data on distribution, habitat, and use. Excellently executed and obviously a good critical modern Flora.

Hara, H.: Enumeratio spermatophytarum japonicarum. Vol. 3, Tokyo 1954, 337 pp. + index.--This critical well-printed volume covers most of the Choripetalae.

Henderson, M.R. & G.H. Addison: Malayan Orchid Hybrids 1956, 191 pp. with one coloured plate and 328 half-tone illustrations (Government Printer, Singapore, 1956).--A profusely illustrated and informative book of the chief orchid hybrids grown in Singapore, in which descriptions and origin of the hybrids are given, as well as notes on their cultivation.

Holttum, R.E.: A revised Flora of Malaya vol. I. Orchids of Malaya, 1953 (Government Printer, Singapore).--The first edition of 1000 copies is now exhausted and a revised second edition is being printed.

Hu, Shiu-Ying: Flora of China. fam. 153. Malvaceae. 1955 (1956) 1-80, pl. 1-24, index 3 pp.--The first part of the new flora, sponsored by China International Foundation, worked out in the Arnold Arboretum. Bibliographic references, descriptions and keys to genera and species. Collecting numbers are arranged by provinces. It is not clear which material

has been revised. The drawings are a bit coarse but useful, the photographs of herbarium specimens are in my opinion a failure from the standpoint of illustration.

Hutchinson, J. & J.M. Dalziel: Flora of West Tropical Africa. ed. 2 by R.W.J. Keay. vol. 1, part 1, 1954, 1-295.

Müller, P.: Verbreitungsbiologie der Blütenpflanzen etc. Veröff. Geobot. Inst. Rübel Zürich 30, Heft, pp. 152, text-figs, 8°, 1955.

Ormeling, F.J.: The Timor problem. 1956, viii + 284 pp. 37 fig., 6 tab., 64 photogr.--A most complete and well-balanced geographical analysis of conditions in the Indonesian part of the island of Timor, which served as a doctor's thesis in geography. The book contains the following major chapters: The physical environment as a factor (climate, topography, soils, and natural vegetation), The human factor (Human types and Social aspects), The opening up of Timor (historical), Economy in balance (agriculture and life-stock), Recent dislocating factors (the Dutch, Chinese, people of Roti, Cattle, the Weed), Economy in transition (sandalwood, population growth, misplaced animal husbandry, the deteriorating environment), Disequilibrium between Rotinese and Timorese, Dispersed settlement and rural development, Summary statement, and Considerations for the future. An admirable monograph of a tropical island under seasonal conditions.

Vogel, S.: Blütenbiologische Typen. Elementen der Sippen-gliederung dargestellt, anhand der Flora Südafrikas. Jena 1954, 338 pp., 177 fig. Bot. Stud. herausgegeben von Prof. Dr W.W. Troll & Dr H. von Guttenberg.

Williams R.O. & R.O. Williams Jr: The useful and ornamental plants in Trinidad and Tobago. Rev. ed. 4, i-x, 1-335. Guardian Commercial Printery. Port of Spain, Trinidad, B.W.I. 1951.