

VI. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION
(continued from p. 1693)

a) Research and Publications:

Biotropica is the name of a journal issued by the Association for Tropical Biology Inc. It is distributed free to members of the Association and will replace the hitherto issued Bulletin of the Association. It will be issued semi-annually. Pending sufficient author and subscriber interest it may become a quarterly publication. Editor: Dr. W.L. Stern, University of Maryland, Department of Botany, College Park, Maryland 20740, U.S.A.

Bradea is a new journal issued by the Herbarium Bradeanum at Rio de Janeiro. Both numbers 1 and 2 contain 2 articles by A.C. Brade, dealing with ferns of the neotropics. The publication will not have regular periodicity; volumes will be bound after having reached c. 500 pages.

Flora of Thailand. The second instalment of the first volume is in page proof and may have appeared before this Bulletin is out. It will contain a systematical sample of style and treatment. The first instalment containing the introductory chapters is not yet finished.

Flora Zambesiaca. We hear with pleasure from a report of the Botany Department, University College of Rhodesia, Salisbury, directed by Prof. H. Wild, that there is a distinct progress with this Flora under his editorship. The Fern volume by Prof. E.A.C.L.E. Schelpe is in the press, part 1 of the Grass volume was ready for the printers by May 1969, and volume 3, part 1, Mimosoideae by Dr. J.P.M. Brenan reached page proof stage early 1969 and would soon be published.

In 1968 a Supplement to the Flora was published, viz. the

Vegetation Map by H. Wild & L.A.G. Barbosa, to be obtained from the Department of Printing & Stationary, P.O. Box 8062, Causeway, Salisbury, at 15/6d post free.

Flore du Cambodge, Laos et Vietnam. No. 8 (1968) 1-52, Nyssaceae, Cornaceae, Alangiaceae, by Mme Tardieu-Blot; No. 9 (1969) 1-54, Campanulaceae, by Nguyen Van Thuan. The price for these very small parts is prohibitive viz. Dfl. 31.50 for hardly 100 printed pages.

Forest Manual of non-Dipterocarps of Sabah. The Sandakan Herbarium and botanical staff are still actively involved in producing a companion volume to 'Dipterocarps of Sabah', covering the important trees of other families.

A new Check-list of Sabah Trees, a second edition to North Borneo Forest Record no. 6 for silvicultural work and general reference will be published in early 1970. This includes approximately 600 names of important commercial or 'ecologically prominent' trees.

Index Muscorum completed. In 1969 the 5th volume appeared of this valuable name list, covering the letters T-Z, pp. 1-238, with a formidable Appendix, pp. 239-922. The compilers, Prof. R. van der Wijk, late of Groningen University, Dr. W. D. Margadant, ditto, and Dr. P.A. Florschütz, Utrecht, are congratulated with the finishing of this work, which they accepted to accomplish at the Botanical Congress, Paris, 1954. The preceding volumes were published: 1 in 1959, 2 in 1962, 3 in 1964, and 4 in 1967. By the Appendix the closing date, originally set at 1958, is now fixed Jan. 1963. The volume is published as *Regnum Vegetabile* 65, under the editorship of Prof. F.A. Stafleu.

Smithsonian Contributions to Botany. Of this new serial, Number 1 (1969) is occupied by the fine monograph of the genus *Aglaonema* by Dr. Dan Nicolson. The format is large octavo, extremely well-printed on excellent paper, in two columns per page. With 69 pp. incl. 23 fig. the price is very low (US\$ 1.25), to be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, U.S.A.

The series is intended to incorporate both monographs and other articles and replaces the 'Contributions of the U.S. National Herbarium'. The series will consist of separate numbers, each with its own pagination, not in volumes. A novelty, obviously borrowed from the *Flora of North America*, is that the reference citations under the species refer only to author, year, and page. At the end of the paper is a bibliography in which all titles of papers, books, and journals are fully cited; author names are no-

where abbreviated. This may all well serve for clarity, but for professional botanists - and for whom else are these monographs written? - it looks clumsy, complicated, and unpractical. It does not save space and consultation takes more time.

Tree Flora of Malaya or Manual for Foresters. This work, commenced 1965, for which Dr. C.T. Whitmore was for a second term appointed as Forest Botanist under the Colombo Plan at the Forest Research Institute, Kepong, seems now well on its way (see also p. 1784 of this Bulletin). It is to provide a non-technical forest-biassed flora of 91 families containing trees over 1 feet girth (10 cm \emptyset) in Malaya.

Volume 1 is expected to go to the press end 1969. It will cover c. 25 % of the families, 20 % of the genera, and c. 20 % of the species. The contents of this volume will be: by T.C. Whitmore: Introductory chapters; Leguminosae; Myristicaceae; Cunoniaceae; Staphyleaceae; Sonneratiaceae; Gnetaaceae; Celastraceae (with K.M. Kochummen); Daphniphyllaceae; - by K.M. Kochummen: Dilleniaceae; Alangiaceae; Burseraceae; Combretaceae; Nyssaceae; Bombacaceae; Malvaceae; Annonaceae; - by F.S.P. Ng: Sapotaceae; Polygalaceae; Sarcospermataceae; Juglandaceae; Trigonaceae; - by P.F. Cockburn: Linaceae; Erythroxylaceae; Oxalidaceae; Fagaceae; - by B.C. Stone: Rutaceae; - by H. Keng: Araucariaceae; Podocarpaceae.

The staff consist of Dr. Whitmore, Mr. Ng (now for some years at Oxford working on Ebenaceae with Dr. White), Mr. Kochummen, 5 junior staff members, a typist, 3 plant mounters, and 7 tree climbers.

For volume 2 the work on Euphorbiaceae and Flacourtiaceae by Dr. Whitmore is well in hand, Mr. Kochummen is proceeding with the Sterculiaceae, and Dr. Stone works on Rutaceae.

b) Herbaria, Gardens, and Organisations:

Centenary of the National Botanic Garden of Belgium. In 1970 the centenary of the Botanic Garden at Brussels will be commemorated by an international symposium, of which the general theme will be "Conservation de la Nature", one of the most important contemporaneous subjects in the world. The dates are fixed from 14-18 September 1970. The topic means participation in the "Année européenne de la Conservation de la Nature". "Conservation de la Flore", "Conservation de la Végétation", and "Conservation de la patrimoine génétique" will each occupy one day's lectures and discussions. Two other days are intended for visits to nature reserves in Belgium.

Melbourne Herbarium. An installation of new cabinets has been achieved in the course of 1969. The cabinets are lined with veneer of *Eucalyptus regnans*.

Herbarium Bogoriense. By Oct. 6, 1969, the new Herbarium was raised to 3 floors and officially occupied.

Tercentenary Celebrations of the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, June 1-7, 1970. June 1-2 will be devoted to official welcomes, and functions, presentation of addresses of congratulation, and the opening of a new Celebration Hall. From 3-7 June there will be an international symposium on Plant Life in Southwest Asia. As an alternative this period can be spent in a study tour of some famous Scottish Gardens, Arboreta, and types of vegetation, including the two important annexes, the Younger Botanic Garden and the Logan Botanic Garden.

150th Anniversary of the Botanical Garden at Geneva. At this occasion an international symposium was held 29-31 July 1968 devoted to the "Multiples fonctions d'un jardin botanique". The proceedings of the symposium are now published in a special well-illustrated volume no. 14 of Boissiera (1969). Besides contributions by Stafleu (history), Fletcher (experimental station), Arjanohoun (African botanic gardens), Favarger (cytotaxonomy), Miège (Genève), Howard (unexploited source of information), Duperrez (horticulture), and Faegri (danger of perfection), information is given by others on particular gardens outside Geneva, e.g. Demaret (Brussels), Arjanohoun (Africa), Emberger (Aigoual), Tsitsin (U.S.S.R.), Bally (succulents at Zürich), and finally also about alpine gardens in Switzerland. A nice booklet.

150th Anniversary of the founding of Singapore. This event has passed almost unnoticed but for the edition of volume 24 of the Gardens' Bulletin, Singapore, "An Issue to mark the Occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the Founding of Singapore". Its contents show the vital role the Botanic Gardens of Singapore play in the Botany of Southeast Asia and reflects the activity in this part of the world where basic, creative work in the fields of taxonomy and morphology is still so much needed. Dr. Whitmore c.s. contributed to the better knowledge of Malaysian trees, Dr. Keng composed an important precursory memoir on Malesian Labiatae, Dr. Furtado & Montien Srisuko revised Lagerstroemia, Dr. Prowse dealt with Desmids, Dr. Turner with Plant Diseases of Sarawak, Dr. Chew Wee Lek revised the Urticaceous genera Discocnide and Notocnide, and Dr. Nayar summarized Catanthera, a segregate of the large genus Medinilla, to which Hederella and Phyllapophysis fell synonym.

Fifty years of Forest Research in Malaya. The Malayan Forester, Jan. 1969, commemorated this by various articles. The year 1918 is reckoned as the year in which Malayan Forest Research was founded on an organised and sound basis. Cubitt and Foxworthy are the names connected with this date, the first leaving after having prepared the ground, the latter taking up. For a brief history see the Bibliography, under K.D. Menon.

Sabah. From the 1968 report of the Research Branch, Forestry Department, it is learned that the research building (though adequate in 1962) is bursting out of its seams and it was hoped to move in 1969 some of the staff to the District Officer's office. The move to air-condition the Herbarium was certain in order to save the valuable botanical collections from deterioration. Acquisition number was 4061; the total since 1961 being almost 43.000 collections. Dr. W. Meijer, who is responsible for this enormous achievement, got due praise, as this extremely valuable herbarium is testimony of his hard work and enthusiasm during his 9 years tenure of office, terminated August 1968.

c) Symposia, Congresses, Societies, and Meetings:

The 7th AETFAT Plenary Meeting will be held at Munich, 7-12 Sept. 1970. Registration preferably not later than Dec. 1, 1969. According to AETFAT Bull. 20: 86-87 the main theme will be 'Current Taxonomic Problems in the Flora of Africa'. The papers presented will be published in the Mitt. Bot. Staatssamml. München. The subject is split into 6 sections: (i) Progress in the preparation of African Floras, (ii) ditto in the mapping of the African Flora, (iii) Symposium on Cyperaceae, (iv) Taxonomic problems in other families, especially Compositae and Leguminosae, (v) Floristic and phytogeographic problems in the drier parts of Africa, (vi) four subjects viz. history of taxonomy in Africa aiming at bibliography(ies), index of collectors in Africa, index of phytogeographical papers on Africa, listing genera in urgent need of a revision on African scale.

Ecological Conditions in Tropical Freshwaters was the name of a symposium at the University College, London, April 24, 1969, organized by the Tropical Group of the British Ecological Society, with particular reference to swamps and a comparison of conditions in the freshwaters of the Old and New World tropics. Secretary Tropical Group: Dr. R.H. McConnell, Streatwick, Streat, Hassocks, Sussex, England.

Adaptive Aspects of Insular Evolution is the name of a symposium held at the suggestion of Dr. A.C. Smith and organized by Dr. E. Mayr, at Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, June 15-19, 1969. There were 7 sections: Determinants of island biota, Genetic aspects, Dispersal & Colonisation, Endemicity & Extinction, Ecological characteristics, Shifts in Niche occupation, and Adaptive radiation. Speakers on botany were: S. Carlquist (Island Floras), G.L. Stebbins (Polyploidy and Insularity), O. Hedberg (Plants on African mountains), B. Macguire (Plants on Venezuelan Highlands), R. Howard (Alpine plants of the Antilles), R.M. Tryon (Ferns on Oceanic islands), and R. Patrick (Diatom Floras).

Colloquium on Preservation of Endangered Species of Plants and Animals in Hawaii will be held at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., in May 1970.

XIth International Botanical Congress, Seattle, 24 Aug.- 2 Sept. 1969. At this huge Congress (5000 members, 1500 lectures) some symposia were interesting to tropical-interested botanists.

'Aspects of the History of Botany in the Tropics': Botanic Gardens in Southeast Asia (Holtum), History of botany in Central Africa (Lebrun), ditto in tropical America (Stearn), History of mycology in Brazil (Teixeira).

'Major Evolutionary events and the Geological Record of Plants': Precambrian micro-organisms and events prior to the origin of vascular plants (Schopf), Rise of first land plants (Chaloner), Appearance of gymnospermous structure (Beck), Heterospory and rise of the seed habit (Pettitt), Palynological evidence of early differentiation of Angiosperms (Muller).

'Tropical Ecology and Evolution': Changing physiognomy of successional seral stages in tropical lowland forests (Budowski), Isolation in the lowland tropical rain forest (Fosberg), Causes of geographic homogeneity in tropical pioneer vegetations (Sauer), Productivity of tropical forests (Boughey), Seasonal changes in vegetation of West African savanna (Hopkins), Catena concept applied to West Africa (Lawson), Stand structure, physiognomy and environmental factors in some lowland forests of Sarawak (Brunig), Potential of phytosociological data from species-rich tropical forests (Knight & Lang), Observations on the roles of epiphytes in tropical Costa Rican lowland wet-forest ecosystem (Forman & Lomax), Distribution and ecology of main savannah types in Venezuelan llanos (Sarmiento & Monasterio), Zonation and succession in seasonally flooded tropical grass-herb swamp (Cole), Phytosociology on Afro-alpine vegetation of Mt Kenya (Furnari & Borusso), Andean paramo and related

biological communities (Barclay), Possible role of secondary vegetation in evolution of the tropical flora (Gómez-Pompa), Comparison of vegetation on 16 young lava flows on Kilauea and Mauna Loa volcanoes, Hawaii (Eggler), Flora and vegetation of serpentine formation in Sabah (Meijer), Introgression in African orchids (*Eulophia*) and its evolutionary significance (Morkton).

Symposium on Domestication and Exploitation of Plants and Animals. In the summer of 1968 experts from many parts of the world were invited to submit papers on all aspects of domestication for a meeting of the Research Seminar in Archaeology and Related Subjects, which met at the Institute of Archaeology in London. Attendants counted over 100, number of speakers 52; a.o. 19 lectures of botanical interest (largely agricultural, some palynological). Tropical crops discussed are: yams, *Capsicum*, *Phaseolus*, and *Arachis*.

The full text of these contributions has now apparently been published in book-form under the title: 'The Domestication and Exploitation of Plants and Animals', ed. by P.J. Ucko & G.W. Dimbleby, published by Gerald Duckworth & Co. Ltd., 3 Henrietta Street, London W.C.2, at the price of £7.7.0 plus 5s. postage.

The SEAMES project BIOTROP is occupying much thought and many people's time at Bogor. Dr. Soegeng, its assistant-director (under Prof. Soemarwoto as director of NBI) will have to spend much time in organising a development plan. Some 144 people have made suggestions as to what the project should do and Prof. John Henrickson (ex zoology professor of Kuala Lumpur, now at Tucson, Arizona) is there for two months to try to define some workable terms of reference. BIOTROP had a meeting early October at Bogor, following one in Chiangmai earlier in the year.