



**TEN YEARS FOUNDATION FLORA MALESIANA
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF WORK**

by

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“There are many who give up,
and many who procrastinate, but
there are some who go on.”

C. S. FORESTER

I. INTRODUCTION (H. J. Lam)

As a phylogenist, I have often experienced that a relatively small number of scientifically working botanists realize the importance — or even the existence — of the factor time. It is true that many of them never come across that factor; for a man who through his microscope analyses the structure of a tissue, or a man who with the most delicate methods investigates the composition of organic compounds in a vacuole, the factor time is quite insignificant, as long as they keep analysing and do not ask where things come from (which they usually don't).

However, the changes which time may entail in the material investigated, are practically always interpretable in terms of reversibility or periodicity. They seldom or never evoke thoughts of a farther past than a few hours, days, or years. I have sometimes felt astonished, moreover, that even morphologists who study the ontogeny of organs to the minutest details consciously or unconsciously stop at what they cannot observe with their senses, directly or by the mediation of their instruments; the step from ontogenist to phylogenist seems to be a very wide one.

Comprehensible as this may be, owing to a hesitation to enter a field which lies beyond possible direct observation, it is obvious that that field is there and is claiming to be explored, albeit with its particular methods. It is the field of all historical disciplines whether they belong to the Humanities or to Science. Amongst the latter lies not only Phytotaxonomy but obviously also its history. If taxonomy can, to a certain extent, be studied without considering the past, digging deeper inevitably leads to both typology (as a method of logical comparison) and phylogeny. In these methods past facts, events, or forms play an ever more important

part, until, in the very history of the science in question, all material for investigation is provided by the past.

In this respect I have often thought of the following metaphors. A schoolboy might naively consider that a temperature of 30° centigrade is twice as high as one of 15°, but as soon as he is asked what the relation might be between a temperature of 30° and one of 0°, he realizes that he is thinking along wrong lines. And an experienced scientist will immediately recognize that he has to refer both sets of figures to one which falls far beyond daily experience, viz. zero Kelvin.

Similarly — and this question is much less evident and much more intricate — one might ask if a man of 70 is, in the average, twice as experienced and wise as a man of 35. Without stressing this point, or pursuing it in detail, it must be stated that this is obviously not so, which must mainly be due to the fact that most of the present experience and wisdom (or their genetically fixed bases) of the individual has been gradually built up during an enormous past, properly speaking dating back as far as the origin of life on earth; built up during phylogeny, not ontogeny.

The same reasoning is applicable to the development of such a great enterprise as FLORA MALESIANA, whose roots reach far into the past. One need not go back as far as *Pithecanthropus erectus* — although this creature has undoubtedly played its part in it — or even Marco Polo, to state that the beginning was both vague and slow. But it seems that the process — as is the usual course of things — having gradually gained purpose and outline was quickening at a geometrical pace. The first collections 'on purpose' date from the late 16th century, and they were the commencement of an enormous number of followers, but their treatment long remained haphazard. The first ideas on a comprehensive overall FLORA MALESIANA rose just over a hundred years ago in the minds of the Swiss botanists Zollinger and Moritz (1845)¹), who coined the name which has now been effectually immortalized in the tremendous work which started its publication in 1948. The ambitious Swiss plan was, however, never carried out, and the 'Flora's only true predecessor was Miquel's "Flora Indiae Batavae" (1855—1859). However valuable in its time, this now appears to be a rather uncritical compilation of random data from a vaguely delimited area. It may be called a predecessor, not a precursor, because the purpose was quite different. For it is one thing to collect facts, and another to put them aptly together into a lasting form, which will retain its value for a very long time. It requires not only the availability of facts and data, it above all requires the right man in the right place and at the right time; a man not only with experience and insight but with pluck and self-confidence to start a task which will possibly outlive him, a strong will, nay, possessedness to persevere and to succeed against unexpected odds, and a great enthusiasm; a man who inspires others by his example and overcomes set-backs by his tenacious assiduity. A man of these combined qualities is CORNELIS GIJSBERT GERRIT JAN VAN STEENIS, Editor-in-chief of Flora Malesiana, Director of the Foundation, and Professor

¹) Cf. H. J. Lam, On a forgotten floristic map of Malaysia (H. Zollinger, 1857) — Blumea Suppl. 1 (1937) 176—182, with map.

of Tropical Botany of the municipal University of Amsterdam and the State University at Leiden. It may safely be said that this man by now ranks amongst the greatest systematists and botanical organizers of our time. If the late Dr E. D. Merrill was given the honourable title of the American Linnaeus, Van Steenis might deserve that of the 'Malaysian Merrill' were it not that he, I think, has surpassed that eminent American botanist by the quality of his creation: FLORA MALESIANA.

Two other circumstances have considerably contributed to what now may be safely called the success of Flora Malesiana. However plentiful the available facts, however capable the man to work with them, he could not have yielded the achievements we are now able to judge about and admire, without being given the opportunity of nestling in the proper niche, to use a very adequate ecological term. His proper and almost ideal niche he found both at the Herbarium at Buitenzorg (Bogor) and later at that of Leiden, but above all in the fascinating nature of 'India Aquosa', which it was his privilege to explore intensively. Again, he would not have been able to achieve what he did without the immensely valuable help of so understanding, industrious, and expert a life-companion as it was Van Steenis's good fortune to have found in his wife, who co-operated and co-operates with her husband in perfect harmony.

And, I must not refrain from inserting at this place of the context, the happy and capable co-workers it was his privilege to attract and keep attached, bound to him as they are by bonds of sympathy and admiration, wishing to be taught and to play a rôle in the construction of a huge building. This is a good team, working under a spirited leader, and co-operating in mutual esteem with that other team, the staff-members of the Tropical Plants Department of the Rijksherbarium.

For honesty's sake I cannot forbear from stating that this man — like every-one of us — has to bear the burden of the 'fautes de ses qualités'. For I have always deemed it unworthy of a man of quality, when sketching his personality, to mention his better qualities only, because particularly such a man is entitled to be fully pictured as the human being he is.

Fortunately it can be stated that most of Van Steenis's shortcomings are harmless and even disarming in their naive unintendedness, and these are easily pardonable since they are greatly compensated by his outstanding merits. They are typical for the mind which aims at a great and distant goal, a condition which often entails a certain lack of consideration for other people's feelings.

Less harmless, though equally rooting in perfectly honest intentions and based upon the high standard he demands of himself, is sometimes the wording of his criticism of other people's work and personalities. There is no doubt not the slightest intention to offend and I think he does not even suspect that these words may be hurting, for they are always spoken or written in a sense of perfect objectivity. Yet, it has been observed that his critical remarks are sometimes clad in unnecessarily strong terms which may tend to hurt the person criticized, even up to the point of rebuffing him and cutting off his good-will to co-operate. However understandable in a man of strong intentions, and however unwittingly expressed, it is not justified, I think, to expect the same high

standard of work in others who are less gifted in those points in which the critic is a master himself. Due consideration of others people's intellectual limits requires a certain tolerance as long as the criticized has loyally worked to the best of his abilities.

These, I imagine, are the main factors which played and play a part in the origin, the start, and the pursuance of *Flora Malesiana*.

These lines are being written on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Foundation. But just as the earliest origin of the work lies hidden in a remote past, the actual beginning took place long before the enterprise was given an official status in the Foundation.

Van Steenis will celebrate his 59th birthday only ten days after his Foundation started its second decade. He is now at the acme of his life, his organisation is in full swing, it has met with world-wide recognition, approval and admiration. And as the writer of these lines approaches the age of retirement as a professor of botany and a director of the 'Rijks-herbarium', he is only too eager to avail himself of this opportunity to express his feelings of warm friendship and genuine esteem, to which may be added his confidence in the future and his very best wishes for the ultimate completion of what has aptly been termed "a tremendous undertaking", and "one of the most notable botanical enterprises of the present century".

The idea of composing a flora for the whole of 'Malaysia' — a term coined in this orthography by E. D. Merrill, if I well remember — seems to have risen in Van Steenis's mind early in his tropical years. Having obtained his doctor's degree in 1927, he came to Java in the same year and immediately tackled the local flora with all the enthusiasm of a 'possessed' mind. Although he himself states (F. M. I, 1, p. XI) that the actual work, or the work along the intended lines, started in 1935 — and would therefore now be in its 25th year — certain publications of an earlier date (e. g. *Origin of the Malaysian Mountain Flora* 1934, and even his dissertation of 1927 on the Malaysian Bignoniaceae) show that the idea of composing a comprehensive flora of a region with, phytogeographically speaking, natural boundaries, slumbered in his mind soon after his arrival in Java in 1927 and took more and more shape in the early thirties.

In the second chapter of this paper, compiled by his staff-member Dr P. W. Leenhouts, the reader will find some general information about what has been accomplished in the last 15 years or so. It not only mentions the main contents of the *Flora* proper, but also the many precursory studies, part of the contents of the "*Flora Malesiana Bulletin*", the "*Identification Lists of Malaysian Specimens*", and the quite recent "*Miscellaneous Records*".

The number of precursory studies is far greater than the odd 25 published in the series "*Florae Malesianae Precursores*". These papers are primarily intended to give information which cannot be included in the *Flora Malesiana* proper: revisions which go far beyond the Malaysian boundaries, descriptions of new taxa, collections, and general remarks. Not rarely they give, when combined with the treatment in *Flora Malesiana*, a complete revision of the group concerned. Many of these precursory papers are freely distributed to about 70 herbaria and individual botanists all over the world.

The "Flora Malesiana Bulletin", now comprising 15 numbers with nearly 800 pages, bound into firm dark brown covers and adorned with the reproduction of some memorable photographs, has developed into a tremendously rich source of miscellaneous information. It is mainly issued on behalf of the co-operators and distributed among more than 250 institutes and private persons all over the world.

Of the "Identification Lists" 10 have been issued up to date. Decorated with a witty picture on the simple paper-cover in a light green shade they give full information about identifications of collections as soon as the treatment of a taxon is completed, in case these have not been quoted in a precursory paper. They are distributed to about 60 herbaria where Malaysian collections are preserved.

Finally, the most recent addition to the 'service' offered by Flora Malesiana for both internal and external purposes, is the edition of the "Miscellaneous Records". The first of these (1959) contains a preliminary revision of the genus *Kopsia* (Apoc.). The intention of this series is to give preliminary mimeographed revisions of groups, the knowledge of which is still far too insufficient to allow definite publication; by publishing these, however, it is hoped to evoke co-operation so as to get a better insight in the problems, to obtain more complete collections, and thus to ease a final revision in a near future.

The Flora proper begins to show nicely. Three sturdy volumes (1, 4 and 5 of Series I) of some 800—1000 pages each and the first instalment of Series II (Ferns) are the remarkable result of twenty-five years of work of Van Steenis, his team, and his growing school.

This Flora is unique in many ways. Never, so far as I am aware, has a tropical flora been so thoroughly prepared and so efficiently edited. The general chapters already published offer a wealth of information which serves both as an introduction and a summary to what is following in the special part. Mrs. Van Steenis's "Cyclopaedia of Collectors" (Vol. 1) has been given due praise from all parties interested. Like Backer's "Verklarend Woordenboek", it is an unrivalled source of information of many kinds, notably historical. Comprising over 600 pages and numerous portraits, some of which it took great pains to lay hands on, the Cyclopaedia has been supplemented in Vol. 5 (almost 100 pages). In that same Volume there is a chapter from Mrs. Van Steenis's hand, dealing with "Citation of serials and some books" (± 20 p.), and Vol. 4 of Series I contains interesting data on "Dates of publication" by Mrs. Van Steenis and W. T. Stearn (57 p.).

These important studies are supplemented by H. C. D. de Wit's concise and very nicely written "History of the Phytography of Malaysian Vascular Plants" in Vol. 4 (± 90 p.), illustrated by numerous small-size portraits, several of which are not found in the Cyclopaedia.

The rest of the General Chapters have been very ably and circumstantially written by Van Steenis himself. They deal in Vol. 1, 4, and 5 with numerous topics pertaining to exploration, collecting, publication, bibliography, taxial delimitation, taxonomical methods, life-forms, distribution, ecology, etc., comprising some 550 pages in all, most of these items being amply illustrated by pictures and maps. Extensive additions of this

type are in store and some of these will be published in a near future. They will deal with vegetation (Vol. 2) and with plant-geography (Vol. 3).

Regarding the special part of the Flora, the core of the work, it may be stated that it represents a very well balanced account of the taxa living in the area concerned. Outstanding merits are that it is largely original work; practically all quotations have been carefully checked in order to avoid longevity of errors and mistakes; of practically all basionyms the type specimens have been consulted; accordingly, nomenclature has been cleared up and brought up to date as far as possible; of many endemic or sub-endemic families and genera, the Flora contains what with confidence can be called monographs; for many of these material outside the Malaysian area has been consulted, so that large parts of the flora's of e. g. Thailand, North Queensland, and the Pacific Islands as far east as Fiji and Samoa, to a lesser extent also those of Farther India, Southern China with Hainan, and the Deccan Peninsula, have undergone a revision; by far the greater part of the illustrations — the line-drawings by the very able hand of the Foundation's artist, miss Ruth van Crevel — are original, and many species are figured here for the first time.

Finally, I deem it the proper place and opportunity here to announce the forthcoming start of a related series of publications under the title of "Pacific Plant Areas". The writer of these lines being the initiator of this project at the Sixth Pacific Science Congress at Berkeley, California, in 1939, the working-out lingered for many years, happily surviving through three more congresses, until the very people to get it well under way, Dr and Mrs Van Steenis, at my suggestion put their shoulders under it. The combination of their organisatory talents, hard work, and helpful relations, resulted in the production of a voluminous first part, containing an introduction to the scheme of the work, an extensive bibliography, and a first instalment of 26 maps. This will, with the kind mediation and co-operation of Dr Eduardo Quisumbing of Manila, P. I., be published as a Monograph of the Institute of Science and Technology, Manila, and will come from the press in the beginning of next year. The purpose is to publish area-maps of genera and other well-defined taxa. These maps are based upon carefully selected material of a monographic nature and each of them will be accompanied by a short elucidating text. It is hoped that, in the long run, these maps will form a useful companion to the Flora, even if Pacific rather than Malaysian taxa will be treated.

Whereas we may, for more detailed information, refer the reader to the next pages, we may state that we, of the Rijksherbarium, are proud of having Van Steenis and his staff in our midst. Offering him our hearty congratulations on the first twenty-five years of his fruitful activities, we express the hopes that he will live to see through the next twenty-five and see, perhaps, his "Magnum Opus" completed. If he is given as long a life as Dr H. N. Ridley — who died some years ago in his 101st year — there is a good chance that he will witness that epoch-making event.

II. THE RESULTS (P. W. Leenhouts)

The following pages contain a systematic bibliography of all scientific papers, either

1. published in *Flora Malesiana*, or
2. being precursory to *Flora Malesiana*, or
3. definitely stimulated by *Flora Malesiana*.

The total number of publications cited in this bibliography amounts to more than 450, printed on about 8000 pages, and illustrated by \pm 1600 figures and plates, besides a great number of portraits.

General parts

General subjects

- C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Introduction — *Flora Malesiana* I, 4 (1948) V—XII, f. 1.
 —, General considerations — *Flora Malesiana* I, 4 (1948—1949) XIII—LXIX, f. 2—49.
 —, The technique of plant collecting and preservation in the tropics — *Flora Malesiana* I, 1 (1950) XLV—LXIX, f. 1—19.
 —, Redaction of Floras — 8th Int. Bot. Congr. Paris sect. 2—6 (1954) 59—66.
 —, Diatoms as tracers to localize erroneously labelled specimens — *Taxon* 5 (1956) 157—158.
 —, Specific and infraspecific delimitation — *Flora Malesiana* I, 5 (1957) CLXVII—CCXXXIV, f. 1—7.
 —, Specific delimitation, with special reference to tropical plants — *Uppsala Un. Arsskr.* 6 (1958) 120—127.
 A. VAN DER WERFF, Diatoms as a means for identifying the origin of aquatic plants — *Blumea* 7 (1954) 599—601.

History

- S. J. VAN OOSTSTROOM & C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Contributions to the history of botany and exploration in Malaysia 2. Keuleman's collection from "Prinsen-eiland" (Java) is an unknown collection of plants from I. do Principe (West Africa) — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg* III, 18 (1950) 466—468.
 C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Account of Javan plants collected by C. F. Hornstedt in 1783—1784 — *Acta Horti Berg.* 15 (1949) 39—43, f. 1.
 —, Contributions to the history of botany and exploration in Malaysia 3. Collection of Philippine plants of M. Blanco at Geneva — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg* III, 18 (1950) 468.
 —, *Thesaurus Beccarianus* — *Webbia* 8 (1952) 427—436.
 C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS & M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN, *Cyclopaedia of collectors* — *Flora Malesiana* I, 1 (1950) I—CLII, 1—639, f. 1—26, map 1—3, 70 facsimiles of handwritings, a great number of portraits.
 —, Contributions to the history of botany and exploration in Malaysia 4. Collection "Stathouder, Java" at Paris comes from Ceylon — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg* III, 18 (1950) 468—470.
 —, *ditto* 5. Biographical note on Alexander Zippelius — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg* III, 18 (1950) 470—471.
 —, Brief sketch of the Tjibodas Mountain Garden — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 10 (1953) 312—351, pl., ground-plan.
 C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN & C. A. BACKER, Louis Auguste Deschamps — *Bull. Br. Mus. Nat. Hist. Historical series* 1 (1954) 49—68, pl. 13.
 M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN, Contributions to the history of botany and exploration in Malaysia 1. Kollmann's collection of Javan plants — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg* III, 18 (1950) 463—466.
 —, Malaysian plant collectors and collections, Supplement I — *Flora Malesiana* I, 5 (1958) CCXXXV—CCXXLII, with many portraits.
 M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN & C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Contributions to the history

- of botany and exploration in Malaysia 6. Did Zollinger ever visit the Krakatoa Islands? — *Bull. Jard. Bot. Btzg III*, 18 (1950) 471—472.
- H. C. D. DE WIT, Johan Baptist Spanoghe — *Chron. Naturæ* 104 (1948) 206—209.
- , Short history of the phytography of Malaysian vascular plants — *Flora Malesiana I*, 4 (1949) LXX—CLXI, map, many portraits.
- , Contributions to the history of botany and exploration in Malaysia 7. Report on the botany of Leti and the southern Moluccas (1712—1720) by E. C. Barchewitz — *Reinwardtia* 1 (1951) 67—73, f. 1.

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- , Dates of publication of Malaysian phyto-taxonomical literature — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 7 (1950) 193—196.
- , Dates of publication — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 10 (1953) 363.
- , Annotated selected bibliography — *Flora Malesiana I*, 5 (1955) I—CXLIV.
- C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS & H. C. D. DE WIT, Dates of publication of Malaysian phytotaxonomical literature — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 5 (1949) 137—141.
- M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN, Dates of publication and bibliographical notes — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 11 (1955) 432—433.
- , Dates of publication and bibliographical notes — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 12 (1956) 488—491.
- , Citation of serials and some books — *Flora Malesiana I*, 5 (1956) CXLV—CLXV.
- , Dates of publication and bibliographical notes — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 13 (1957) 568—570.
- , Dates of publication and bibliographical notes — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 14 (1959) 641—645.
- , Dates of publication and bibliographical notes — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 15 (1960) 730—743.
- M. J. VAN STEENIS—KRUSEMAN & W. T. STEARN, Dates of publication — *Flora Malesiana I*, 4 (1954) CLXIII—CCXIX.
- H. C. D. DE WIT, Dates of publication of Malaysian phytotaxonomical literature — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 6 (1950) 164—168.
- H. C. D. DE WIT *et al.*, Dates of publication of Malaysian phyto-taxonomical literature — *Fl. Mal. Bull.* no. 4 (1948) 96—99.

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- M. VAN BALGOOY, Preliminary plantgeographical analysis of the Pacific Phanerogams — *Blumea* 10 (1960) 385—430, map.
- C. KALKMAN, A plant-geographical analysis of the Lesser Sunda Islands — *Acta Bot. Neerl.* 4 (1955) 200—225, f. 1—2.
- C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Hoofdlijnen van de plantengeografie van de Indische Archipel op grond van de verspreiding der Phanerogamengeslachten — *Tijdschr. Kon. Ned. Aardr. Gen.* 65 (1948) 193—208, f. 1—7.
- , De samenstelling van het plantendek van de Indische archipel — *Tectona* 38 (1948) 215—218.
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- , Basic principles of rain forest sociology — Kandy Symp. (1956) 159—165.
- , Rejuvenation as a factor for judging the status of vegetation types: the biological nomad theory — Kandy Symp. (1958) 212—218.
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- , Condition and cause in ecological interpretation — Blumea Suppl. 4 (1958) 93—95.

Taxonomic papers

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- R. VAN DER WIJK, Distichous and pseudodistichous mosses — Acta Bot. Neerl. 6 (1957) 386—391, f. 1—5.
- , Precursory studies in Malaysian Mosses I. Revision of the genus Dawsonia R. Brown — Rev. Bryol. Lich. 26 (1957) 8—19, f. 1—6.
- , *ditto* II. A preliminary key to the Moss genera — Blumea 9 (1958) 143—186.
- B. O. VAN ZANTEN, Trachypodiaceae. A critical revision — Blumea 9 (1959) 477—575, pl. 1—12.

PTERIDOPHYTA

- A. H. G. ALSTON, Some undescribed ferns from New Guinea and Ambon — Nova Guinea n.s. 7 (1956) 1—3.
- , Isoëtaceae — Flora Malesiana II, 1 (1959) 62—64, f. 1.
- A. H. G. ALSTON & R. E. HOLTUM, Notes on taxonomy and nomenclature in the genus Lygodium (Schizaceae) — Reinwardtia 5 (1959) 11—22.
- P. R. BELL, Elaphoglossum decurrens (Desv.) Moore in Southeast Asia — Kew Bull. (1960) 79—84.
- R. E. HOLTUM, Further notes on the fern-genus Heterogonium Presl — Reinwardtia 1 (1950) 27—31.
- , The fern-genus Pleocnemia — Reinwardtia 1 (1951) 171—189, f. 1—20.
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- , On the nature and possible relationships of the fern genus Platygoma R. Br. — Kew Bull. 1956 (1957) 551—553.
- , The scales of Cyatheaceae (with special reference to the genus Schizocaena J. Sm.) — Kew Bull. (1957) 41—45, f. 1—8.
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2. List of Malaysian Pteridophytes
3. The morphology of ferns
4. and 5. General keys to Pteropsida
6. Keys to the genera of Pteropsida
7. Bibliography
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- , Schizaceae — Flora Malesiana II, 1 (1959) 37—61, f. 1—15.
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PHANEROGAMAE

Phanerogamae diversae¹⁾

- C. A. BACKER, R. C. BAKHUIZEN VAN DEN BRINK Jr. & C. G. G. J. VAN STEENIS, Identification of the new species and combinations proposed by C. P. Thunberg in the *Florula Javanica* by L. Winberg and F. O. Widmark (1825) — *Blumea* 6 (1950) 358—362.
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The above bibliography gives the published results of *Flora Malesiana* up to the present date, including some papers which were still in the press when this list was composed. Some medium to large families the publication in *Flora Malesiana* of which can be expected in a near future (say within some 5 years) include *Bombacaceae*, *Celastraceae*, *Cyperaceae*, *Epacridaceae*, *Ericaceae*, *Loganiaceae*, *Malvaceae*, *Moraceae*, *Myristicaceae*, *Sapotaceae*, and *Verbenaceae* in series I, and in series II *Cyatheaceae*, the *Lindsaya*-group, and *Lycopodiaceae*.

III. PRESENT STAFF (H. J. Lam & P. W. Leenhouts)

Up to Dec. 1957 the funds necessary to cover the considerable expenses of the Foundation were provided by the Government of the Indonesian Republic. When these were, for the time being, no longer available — temporarily it is hoped — the Netherlands (Government) Organization for Pure Scientific Research (Z. W. O.) generously consented to support

the project, so as to ensure its continuation, with the intention that the necessary means should gradually be drawn from the annual budget of the State University of Leiden. This means that soon the entire staff of Flora Malesiana will be incorporated in that of the Rijksherbarium, although the Foundation will continue to work as a separate body, in close co-operation with those permanent staff-members of that institute, who are forming its Tropical Plants Department. Additional generous support was granted by the British Commonwealth under the C. D. & W. Scheme.

The team of full-time workers for Flora Malesiana consists now of: Prof. Dr C. G. G. J. van Steenis, Dr Ding Hou, Dr P. W. Leenhouts, and Mr M. Jacobs, all still in service of the Foundation, Dr H. Sleumer and Mr J. H. Kern, already in service of the Rijksherbarium; moreover, Prof. Dr R. E. Holttum, England, and Mr J. Sinclair, Singapore, are almost full-time co-operators.

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