

XII. BOOK REVIEWS (cntd from p.372)

D a v i s, Reg.S. & M o n a L i s a S t e i n e r. Philippine Orchids. New York (1952) 1-270, many photogr. (US \$ 5.-).

A detailed treatment of some one hundred native species grouped according to the genera. Descriptions themselves are casual and popular.

D e l s m a n, H.C. Dierenlaven in Indonesië. W. van Hoeve, The Hague (1951) 1-348, fig. 1-199 (Dfl. 12.50). In Dutch.

A beautifully illustrated account of the Vertebrata of Indonesia to replace the nearly 40 years old work by Van Balen. It is a concise well-balanced up to date survey. Of course not all species have been treated in detail, but the book gives a readily digestible complete picture of the vertebrate fauna.

D e s c h, H.E. Manual of Malayan Timbers. vol. II. Malayan Forest Records no 15. Malaya Publishing House Ltd. Singapore (1954) i-ix, 329-762, pl. 70-127.

The present volume concludes this work which is mainly aimed at the description of anatomical and technical properties of timbers. The plates show photographs of wood structure. Of each species field characters are given of bark and wood.

H e n d e r s o n, M.R. Malayan Wild Flowers. Monocotyledons. Kuala Lumpur (1954) 1-357, fig. 1-201 (Str.\$ 20.-).

A Flora with descriptions and keys to herbaceous plants mostly native of the Malay Peninsula. Descriptions are of course concise; pictures are simple but instructive. The book is edited by the Malayan Nature Society; the 3 prior parts on Dicotyledons have appeared as instalments of the Malayan Nature Journal.

H o l t t u m, R.E. Plant life in Malaya. Longmans, Green & Co. London-New York-Toronto (1954) i-viii, 1-254, fig. 1-51 (sh. 18.-).

An excellent introductory for any botanist from abroad confronted with the Malaysian tropics. In a clear, lively, and concise style a great number of phenomena of morphology of remarkable plant forms, ecological problems, periodicity

etc. have been treated which arouse general interest amidst the wealth of Malayan plant growth. Among the subjects of the chapters are: roots and stems, palms, pandans, and tree ferns; bamboo, ginger and orchid; flowers and hybrids; fruits and seeds; bananas; grasses; story of the pigeon orchid; nest ferns and their neighbours; terrestrial ferns; climbing plants; parasites and saprophytes; water plants; plants and ants. A most recommendable book for all newcomers and amateurs.

H o l t t u m, R.E. Orchids of Malaya. A revised Flora of Malaya vol. 1. Singapore, Government Printer (1953) i-v, 1-753, fig. 1-234, several col. plates (Str. \$ 20.-).

An excellent scientific account of the native and many cultivated introduced orchids of Malaya with keys and descriptions. The main part of this work was apparently done during the Japanese occupation of Singapore.

H o l t t u m, R.E. Gardening in the lowlands of Malaya. The Straits Times Press, Singapore (1953) 1-323, many figures and photographs, col. photogr. of orchids (Str. \$ 12.50).

A wealth of knowledge has been incorporated in this profusely illustrated book which is intended as a guide for all aspects of gardening under everwet tropical conditions. It is the outcome of 30 years experience and continuous observation of the author at Singapore. It contains also hints for garden planning, manuring soils, propagation, etc. Indispensable for those people who in the tropics care for their gardens.

K l e i n, W.C. (editor). Nieuw Guinea. Government Printer, The Hague (1953-1954) 3 vol. -- vol. I, pp. i-xiv, 1-491, fig. 1-77, maps 1-41; vol. II, pp. i-vii, 1-477, photogr. 1-82, maps 1-28; vol. III, pp. i-viii, 1-600, photogr. 1-65, maps 1-11 (Dfl. 75.-)

A new up to date edition of the standard handbook on New Guinea, richly illustrated and excellently printed. Its purpose is to treat the whole island from all aspects of nature and Man. Chapters are provided with an English summary and a bibliography. An indispensable work for all those who have to deal with New Guinea. For botanists specially the chapters on Flora and Vegetation (Van Steenis), Forests and Forestry (Beverluis) and Geology (Van Bemmelen) are of interest.

L a t i f, S.M. Bunga Anggerik permata belantara Indonesia.
W. van Hoeve, Bandung (1953) 1-258, many
fig., partly coloured (Dfl. 12.50). In
Indonesian language.

A very well printed book treating a number of cultivated orchids in detail with 81 excellent colour pictures drawn by Amir Hamzah. Hints are given about the cultivation of orchids and measures against attacks by fungi and animals. Under each genus a number of species are described with notes about the method of cultivation and other detail information.

N o a k e s, D.S.P. A working plan for the Mattang mangrove Forest Reserve, Perak. Forest Department, Kuala Lumpur (1952) pp. viii + 173, 17 pl. (sh. 20.-).

Although primarily a technical work on forest exploitation this contains interesting information on the composition of the mangrove in Malaya.

S t e i n e r, Mona Lisa. Philippine ornamental plants and their care. Manila (1952) 1-215, c. 150 photogr. (P. 8.-)

Popular book on garden plants, how to grow and propagate them.

T a y l o r, W.R. Plants of Bikini and other Northern Marshall Islands. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor (1950) i-xv, 1-227, fig. 1-2, t. 1-79 (US \$ 5.50).

Before carrying out the atomic bomb tests comprehensive scientific studies were made of the flora of the islands of which this attractive, well-illustrated book is the result. It furnishes an excellent description of plant life of some Pacific atolls in which all groups have been given attention, cryptogams as well as phanerogams. The Algae occupy of course a relative large proportion; several new species are described of this group.

T u r r i l l, W.B. Pioneer Plant Geography. Lotsya 4 (1953) 267 pp., 21 pl. N.V.Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague (US \$ 4.50).

Excerpts from Sir Joseph Dalton Hooker's manifold writings on plant geography to which critical appreciations, based on more recent investigations, have been added.