

I. INTRODUCTION.

The first instalment of "Flora Malesiana" was published in the last days of December 1948. The issue was 2500 copies, of which 1500 have been distributed.

It contains a notice on 4 unnumbered pages (the first the provisional title page) which explains the scheme for the whole of the Flora while a brief outline is given of the contents of volumes 1-4 of the first series.

The next "first" page of the definite volume 4 (to be kept and bound later to the subsequent instalments), is a pen drawing of a Malaysian landscape, showing the vegetation as a whole and some characteristic plants individually. The second page has a Dedication, the third a Preface by Prof. Dr L.G.M. Baas Becking, the fourth a quotation from Linnaeus's "Philosophia botanica". Then follow an Introduction and General Considerations, which will be continued in the next instalment. The Taxonomic Revisions comprise Aceraceae, Phylodraceae, Ancistrocladaceae, Aponogetonaceae, Burmanniaceae, Sphenocleaceae, Nyssaceae, Sarcospermaceae, Stackhousiaceae, Actinidiaceae.

This ends the first instalment of volume 4 (40 pp.).

Added to this first instalment are Sample Treatments of Volume 1 (Series 1): "Malaysian Plant Collectors and Collections" (24 pp.) by Mrs M.J. van Steenis-Kruseman, of Volume 2 (Series 1): "Malaysian Plant Life" (10 pp.) by Dr C.G.G.J. van Steenis, and of Volume 3 (Series 1): "Malaysian Plant Geography" (6 pp.) by the same author.

The four opening unnumbered pages together with the three sample treatments have also appeared as a separate edition of 2000 copies, of which 1500 have been distributed. Free copies are still available on application to the General Editor's. The number of subscribers increases steadily; comments are favourable and arrive from all parts of the world.

The second instalment of volume 4 is now in the press. The printing of Volume 1 (Mrs Van Steenis's "Cyclopaedia") proceeds regularly.