

XII. NEW JOURNALS

IAWA Bulletin, New Series. Quarterly periodical of the International Association of Wood Anatomists. Annual subscriptions Dfl. 40.00 (Dfl. 30.00 for personal members of IAWA). Volume 1, 1980.

From its foundation in 1931 the International Association of Wood Anatomists has promoted international contacts through the publication of News Letters, which were later transformed into a News Bulletin, also containing review articles. From 1970 onwards a more pretentious IAWA Bulletin made its appearance, which not only aimed at publishing notes, requests and review articles, but also original scientific publications. The latter category increased in relative importance, and forced the editors to change from the large, yet rather unprofessional magazin size to that of a normal scientific journal, adopting a volume numbering under a New Series, to avoid confusion with the previous volumes. The New Series will contain a minimum of 160 pages of double column, rather small print, thus offering 'good value' for the present low price. The paper is of a high glossy quality to secure optimal reproduction of photomicrographs, which are essential ingredients for wood anatomical papers.

At present a double issue has appeared, containing 10 papers on a variety of topics. The major part is taken by an annotated bibliography on wood identification by M. Gregory (reviewed on *page 3444*). J. Swart reports on non-destructive wood sampling (a welcome theme in our era of conservation); Ter Welle reports on highly diagnostic cystoliths in Hernandiaceae and some other families; Sieber & Kučera describe in great detail the stem of Clematis; Gottwald provides a clue to discriminate between an important Neotropical timber species of the genus Cordia and its relatives; Cassens evaluates the limited value of vested pit morphology in the Pithecellobium complex; Leclercq reports on the structure-property relations in beech; Baas discusses reliability and citation of wood specimens and finds much to criticize in the common practice of curators of wood collections providing all their samples with individual xylarium accession numbers instead of simply sticking to the number of the herbarium voucher; Giraud describes the mutual correlations of wood anatomical features in a single stem of Entandrophragma, and Phelps et al. record the changes in Salix fragilis xylem after treatment with unpleasant chemicals.

Scanning through this issue as well as through the previous volumes of the old series, one is struck by the high percentage of papers on comparative, systematic wood anatomy. With some optimism, one may consider the IAWA Bulletin in its new format as a worthy successor of Tropical Woods, the publication of which was sadly ceased in the early sixties.

The IAWA Bulletin is edited at the Rijksherbarium, Leiden, and can be ordered from the Executive Secretary, Dr. P. Baas. — M.J.