

#### V. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

(cntd from p. 94).

Prospects for an Indonesian Agar-agar Industry. - An Indonesian agar-agar industry seems possible. Seaweeds containing a sufficient percentage of agar-agar to make them eligible for industrial purposes, are found in suitable quantities in Indonesian waters. Dr J. S. Z a n e v e l d, the recently arrived algologist of the Buitenzorg Herbarium (cf.p. 85), is at present at Batavia occupied in collecting scientific and practical data in view of a future industrial development of these natural resources.

Dr Ch.J. B e r n a r d, is Chairman of the new established Union Internationale pour la Protection de la Nature residing at Brussels, Rue Montoyer, 42. We are sure that the fast disappearing autochthonous fauna and vegetation of Indonesia will receive all possible attention.

The publication of the Italian periodical "Webbia" has been resumed. Apparently, it will cover a wide field, as it did till 1923 when the issue was discontinued. Volume 6 has now appeared and contains a Flora of certain regions of Toscana by R. P i c h i - S e r m o l l i. Further instalments of "Webbia" will appear at irregular intervals. On application to the Botanical Institute of Florence, Via Lamarmora N. 4, some of the back volumes of "Webbia" may be purchased and a leaflet explaining plans and quoting prices may be had. "Webbia" since its first issue in 1905 has become well known among Malaysian botanists, in particular by the contributions by O. B e c c a r i and U. M a r t e l l i. At its revival, we offer our best wishes.

The monument on Rumphius's grave at Ambon has been destroyed during a bombardment in the past war. It will be remembered that the first monument was destroyed by soldiers during the occupation of Ambon in the beginning of the 19th century, and that the exact spot where Rumphius was buried, is not known.

The Swedish New Guinea Expedition to Sorong under Dr S. B e r g m a n, arrived in the last days of July 1948 at its basis. Participants were, besides Dr B e r g m a n, Mr M. A. L i e f t i n c k (entomologist), Mr S j ö q u i s t (ornithologist), and Mr D.R. P l e y t e, supervisor of the Buitenzorg Botanic Gardens. Four mantries (O r o, M a n i s, A m s a r i, and S o e g a n d i) of the Zoological Museum at Buitenzorg, and two mantries (D j a m h a r i and M a i n) of the Buitenzorg Herbarium were assisting the scientists; another assistant was A c h m a d. They departed 3 July from Tg Priok and arrived 22 July at Sorong. Collections were made 24 July-17 Aug. at and near Sorong (15 km into the interior), 17 Aug.-25 Aug. at Klamono (50 km SE of Sorong), 25 Aug.-7 Sept. again at Sorong, 7 Sept.-22 Oct. on the North Coast and in Central Misool. The latter trip was made by Messrs L i e f t i n c k and P l e y t e, with 5 mantries and 4 Papuan wood cutters. Messrs B e r g m a n and S j ö q u i s t concentrated on bird studies. In total ca 15,000 to 20,000 insects and molluscs were collected. Botanical specimens amount to ca 5000 numbers and twice a consignment of living orchids was sent to Buitenzorg. M.A. L i e f t i n c k and D.R. P l e y t e returned Nov. 3 to Buitenzorg (arriving Nov. 15 at Priok). The Swedish ornithologists remained another few months at Sorong.

It is announced that UNESCO voted \$ 12,000 for the rehabilitation of the Mountain Gardens and Laboratory at Tjibodas.

The Buitenzorg Aid Committee (treasurer Dr E.D. M e r r i l l) has put at the disposal of the Buitenzorg Library ("Bibliotheca") a complete book binding equipment.

The Mangrove Nature Reserve at Antjol, near Batavia, now occupying an area of ca 10 acres, will very probably be enlarged to ca 75 acres.

The first post-war number of the Sarawak Museum Journal is expected to appear soon. The Sarawak Museum's botanical collections suffered severely from the Japanese but the Curator, Mr J. Harrison, is trying to repair the damage. He made a trip into the interior to collect plants on the Kelabit Plateau (3000-8000 ft).

The following note was received from Mr Brass, Jan. 7, 1949:

The 1948 Archbold Cape York Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History (cf. this Bull. p. 60) returned to New York early in December after 5½ months of field work on the Cape York Peninsula. The expedition was planned to continue, and carry into northeast Australia, the program of biological exploration which was initiated by Richard Archbold 16 years ago and involved three expeditions to New Guinea up to 1939, when work was interrupted by World War II. Using motor trucks for main transport, and sometimes traveling with pack horses or on foot in the more difficult mountain country, intensive collecting was done in selected localities ranging from the tip of Cape York Peninsula southwards some 450 miles to Mt. Finnegan, about midway between Cooktown and Cairns. A little collecting was also done on Mt Bellenden-Ker and in other localities round about Cairns. Special attention was paid to the larger areas of rainforest which, on the eastern fringe of the Peninsula, occur as enclaves in the prevailing tropical open forest. Zoological collections were made for the American Museum of Natural History (mammals for the Richard Archbold Collection), and botanical collections for the Arnold Arboretum. The plant collections, made by L.J. Brass (leader), totalled 2215 numbers, with an average of six sheets of duplicates in phanerogams and vascular cryptogams. The first set of the plant material will be deposited in the Queensland Herbarium for study and identification by Mr C.T. White, his assistant botanists, and other taxonomists specializing in particular groups.

With sincere regret we announce the death of Prof. Dr R. Kanehira, on Nov. 27th, at Tokyo. Professor Kanehira took charge of the Herbarium and Library ("Bibliotheca") at Buitenzorg on March 3rd, 1943. From that moment, these institutions which had formed part of the Buitenzorg Gardens, became an independent division; the complex organization known as "'s Lands Plantentuin" was restored after the Allied Forces took charge in 1946.

Kanehira, though a forester by profession, had a genuine interest in systematic botany. He is the author of an Enumeration of the Flowering Plants of Micronesia (1935) and published with S. Hatusima, a series of papers on the specimens collected during

a trip to New Guinea (Geelvink Bay) in 1939. Besides, he wrote many publications on forestry and economic botany. He travelled considerably.

This is not the time nor the place for an eulogy, or even for a survey of his life and work. We wish to say, however, on this sad occasion, that Kanehira protected the Herbarium and Library during the years of the Japanese occupation, with all that was in his power. We have no doubt, that he was repeatedly on not too good terms with the Military Police on account of his efforts on behalf of European scientists and the preservation of the scientific treasures put to his charge. We appreciated him for his quiet dignified demeanour; his lively interest in many new fields of knowledge which he tried to master when it became necessary that he should master them; at the end of a long and honourable career he worked ceaselessly to acquire new faculties which would make him, and very largely did make him, in reality the Director who was needed by his country, not a puppet placed in a position through the force of circumstances. In this, he demonstrated possibly the main feature of his character: his honesty. Kanehira never lied.

We met him as enemies. The course of events excluded any intimate or even friendly relation. It would have been good to have known him as a friend. (de W.).

On application to the Editor, photo-copies may be ordered of Beccari's Catalogue of the plants of the Fly River (1877), a contribution to d'Albertis's rare work "Nova Guinea" 2 (1880) 396-400. The price is fl. 2.--.

Dr K.H. Re ch i n g e r, in charge of the Botanical Department of the Vienna "Naturhistorisches Museum" writes us (Oct. 23), that appr. one fifth of the Herbarium Phanerogamarum has been destroyed by fire. Lost are all specimens belonging to the beginning of the System (De Dalla Torre and Harms) to Lauraceae, excepting the Gramineae and the Orchidaceae.

We were informed that Backer's "Verklarend woordenboek van wetenschappelijke plantennamen" (Etymological Dictionary of scientific names and epithets used for plants occurring in the Netherlands and the Netherlands Indies), published 1936, pp. 664, is still available though but few copies are left. Apply to N.V. de Erven Noordhoff-Kolff, Groningen, the Netherlands. The price is fl. 30.--.

Dr C.G.G.J. van Steenis and Mrs M.J. van Steenis-Kruseman made April 4-25 a trip to Belgium, France and Switzerland, the first to promote the interests of "Flora Malesiana" and for various scientific purposes, the latter to assemble further data for the Cyclopaedia of Malaysian Collections and Collectors, now in print.

Mr W.T. Stearn, Lindley Library, London, is compiling a "Manual of Bibliography for Botanists"; a large part of this work will be devoted to a list of references to all papers on data of publication of botanical works, summarizing the conclusions, incorporating also many unpublished data assembled by Dr Stearn.

Dr A. Guillaumin, Professeur au Muséum, Paris, published in 1948 a concise Flora of New Caledonia. He is now engaged in reading the proofs of a prodrômus of the flora of the New Hebrides

"Australian Herbarium News" (cf. this Bull. p. 61) is continued at a subscription rate of five shillings per annum (incl. postage, sterling area). The first issue under the new arrangement would appear about March 1948 (No.4). A limited number of the earlier issues is available at 2/6 per number at Adelaide.

The forthcoming 7th International Botanical Congress at Stockholm in 1950, will consider proposals for the alteration of the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature.

Proposed changes, new suggestions, or proposed additions to the list of nomina generica conservanda should be submitted before July 1, 1949, to the Rapporteur Général, Prof. Dr J. LAN-JOUW, Botanical Museum, Lange Nieuwstraat 106, Utrecht, the Netherlands. At least 5 printed or typewritten copies of each proposal are required.

It is announced that towards the end of 1949 will appear a book edited by Dr F. Verdoorn in co-operation with Dr P. Honig, under the title of "Recent advances in tropical biology and agriculture".

Mededelingen van het Algemeen Proefstation voor de Landbouw (Communications of the General Agricultural Experiment Station) Buitenzorg, Java.

From 1919 till 1941 55 communications were published. The series was resumed in 1948 in which year 8 pamphlets were published parts were published containing the numbers 56-77. Some of these are reprints from the journal "Landbouw", others are originals, or translations of Dutch-written articles in "Landbouw".

Landbouw. Landbouwkundig maandblad voor Nederlandsch-Indië. (Agricultural monthly for Indonesia).

This important tropical agricultural journal was resumed in Sept. 1946 with the first number of volume 19, and since appeared regularly. Applications to be directed to: The administration of Landbouw, c/o Middelbare Landbouwschool, Buitenzorg, Java.

Flora Neerlandica. In commemoration of the centenary of the Royal Dutch Botanical Society a new Flora of the Netherlands is edited. The first part containing the Pteridophytes and Gymnosperms appeared 1948. Contributors to this part are the late Dr B.H. Danser, Dr A.W. Kloos and Dr S.J. van Ooststroom. Full descriptions, distribution, keys and figures are given; infra-specific taxa are treated. 92 pp. In Dutch. fl. 3.75.

Philippine Journal of Forestry. In the end of 1947 the 1st number of vol. 5 appeared, as the first postwar issue, under the editorship of Mr Florencio Tamesis, Director of Forestry. It is learned with regret that many MSS. etc. were lost during the Japanese occupation incl. the office and buildings at Los Banos, and the Bureau of Forestry in Manila. The article by Mr Sulit in this number is illustrative of the difficult times in the Philippines when they were in the grip of war.

Flora of South Australia, by J.M. BLACK. Part 2, May 1948. pp. 255-521.

On May 3rd, 1948, a few days after the 93rd birthday of its author the second edition of part 2 appeared. It is on sale at the Govt. Printing Office Adelaide.

Australasian Herbarium News no 3. Sept. 1948.

From this interesting serial we learn, that Mr C.T. White has been preparing for distribution his 1945 collection of Solomon Islands plants, that a 2nd and much enlarged edition of "The Trees of New South Wales" was published by R.H. Anderson with new keys for Eucalyptus and Acacia, that W.D. Francis continues to make additions and emendations to the MS. of a 2nd edition of "Australian Rain forest trees", that Mr J.H. Willis is engaged in the preparation of a new key to the species of Victorian plants, that the publication of Mr Gardner's book of the "Grasses of Western Australia" has obtained official approval.

Mededelingen van het Departement van Economische Zaken in Nederlandsch-Indië. (Commun. of the Department of Economic Affairs, Batavia-C, Java).

In 1946 a series of publications was started containing monographs on major projects. Some of these publications are reprints from journals, but most of them are original. The following numbers have appeared (some of which are unfortunately out of print already):

1. Droogte resistente gewassen. (Drought resistant plants) by F. H. E n d e r t (Repr. from Tectona). 50 pp. f. 1.10 (1946).
2. De Javasuikerindustrie gedurende de Japansche bezetting (Java Sugar industry during the Japanese occupation), by T. F. H. P o s t m a, J.W. d'H a n e & J.A. von M e y e n f e l d t. 163 pp. f. 6.--.

3. Het Indische Zeevisscherij-probleem (The Indonesian Sea Fisheries problem), by C.J. B o t t e m a n n e. f. 1.50.
4. Organisatie en taak van de Afdeeling Nijverheid (Organisation and task of the Division Industry of the Department of Economic Affairs). f. 1.50.
5. De ontwikkelingsmogelijkheid voor de Nederlandsch-Indische katoenindustrie. (Possibilities for development of the Indonesian cotton industry), by W. T. K r o e s e. 36 pp. f. 1.75. (1947).
6. Object en methode der sociale Agronomie. (Object and methods of Social Agronomy), by W.J. T i m m e r. 249 pp. (1947). f. 8.--.
7. Bevloeiing van rijst op Java en Madoera. (Irrigation of rice in Java and Madura), by C. van der G i e s s e n. 1947. f. 1.50.
8. Erosie. Oorzaak, gevolgen en bestrijding. (Erosion. Causes, results and fight against it), by F. A. van B a r e n, 135 pp. f. 6.--.
9. Het ladangvraagstuk. Een bedrijf- en sociaal economisch probleem. (The clearing question. A social-economic problem), by J.A. van B e u k e r i n g. f. 1.50.
10. Studiën over de rijstbouw op Java en Madoera. (Studies on the cultivation of rice in Java and Madura), by C. van der G i e s s e n. f. 1.65.
11. De bevolkingscultuur van klapper in het bijzonder in Oost Indonesië. (Cultivation of Coconut by the population specially in East Indonesia). f. 3.50.
12. Onderzoek naar de Thee- en Kinacultuur op Formosa. (Report on the Tea and Cinchona Cultivation in Formosa), by E. A. B a n n i n g. f. 4.--.
13. Onderzoek naar de Formosa-Suikerindustrie. (Report on the Sugar industry in Formosa), by Ch. G. H. P e r k, C. L. R ü m k e & K. D o u w e s D e k k e r. f. 6.--.
14. Harde touwvezel, jute, jute-substituten en ramie. (Hard rope fibre, jute, jute substitutes and ramie), by J. M. K i s t. 76 pp. f. 4.--.