

IV. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

It is a pleasure to announce the appearance of "The Gardens' Bulletin, Singapore" in continuance of the widely appreciated "The Gardens' Bulletin, Straits Settlements". The latter periodical was discontinued after volume XI, part 3, published Aug. 30, 1941 had appeared.

Vol. XI, part 4, issued Sept. 30th, 1947 contains a concise history of the Singapore Botanic Gardens during the period 1941-1946. We are obliged for permission to reprint that important communication in this Bulletin. The Gardens regret the loss of Mr. J. C. N a u e n, an officer of outstanding ability in charge of the Waterfall Gardens, Penang. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese and died on the Siam-Burma railroad, Oct. 1943. Messrs H o l t t u m and H e n d e r s o n prepared some important contributions on Filicales, Orchidaceae, Cyperaceae, Gramineae, and on Eugenia respectively.

Botanical work at Manila. Dr E. Q u i s u m b i n g reports, Sept. 20th, 1947, that not only the libraries at Manila, Los Banos &c. were destroyed towards the end of World War II, but that he also lost his private library. He is anxious to obtain all literature he can get hold of, and the editor of this bulletin would be grateful to all those who would assist Dr Quisumbing in rebuilding the collections of the Natural History Museum, which has played in the past so very important a role in the progress of Malaysian botany. The assembling of the library must depend largely on gifts.

As regards collecting, Dr Quisumbing has sent, since the liberation of Manila (1945) botanical collectors to safe localities in the Philippines. Some mountains cannot be visited as they are infested by Japanese stragglers and other gangs. The progress of the new collections of the Philippine National Herbarium is as follows: 1945/46: 656 numbers; 1946/47: 10,040 numbers. Dr Quisumbing hopes to maintain this rate. Dr Merrill has kindly agreed to help in the identification of the new collections. We congratulate Dr Quisumbing with his results, and hope that the National Herbarium and Library at Manila will rise out of their ashes and resume a prominent place among the botanical institutes of the Southwest Pacific.

Resumption of the Philippine Journal of Science. It is with great pleasure that we announce the resumed issue of this journal. Of vol. 76, part 1 appeared in Sept. 1941, part 2 in Oct. 1941, part 3 in August 1944, and part 4 in April 1947. The botanical contents are mentioned in chapt. VI. It is hoped, Dr Quisumbing writes, that the journal can be published monthly before long.

National Museum, Manila. In the reorganization of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (effective in 1947), the Natural History Museum at Manila was enlarged and made into a National Museum, by adding the Gallery of Art and History, as is reported by its director, Dr E. Q u i s u m b i n g, whose leading interest is to rebuild the Philippine National Herbarium.

The "Bureau of Science" was changed to "Institute of Science", and is engaged wholly in industrial researches. All works on natural sciences are placed with the National Museum.

analysis

The elaborate and valuation of Rafinesque's works by Dr Merrill is finished, as he wrote Jan.20, 1948, and the work would go to the printer before Febr.1. Dr Merrill has found, that in about 60 cases Rafinesque's generic names have clearly priority, in spite of the fact that about 75 of his generic proposals have already been included in the rejected names. It is Dr Merrill's intention to propose these 60 for rejection, as otherwise a host of new binomials would be necessary in current botanic nomenclature.

Expedition in North Queensland. An expedition known as the "1948 Archbold Cape York Expedition" will be in the field soon. The primary purpose of the expedition is to make comprehensive studies and collections of plants and animals in this little known area of Australia. Members of the party:

Leonard Brass (leader)	botanist
G.H.H. Tate	mammalogist
Hobart M. van Deusen	mammalogist
Geoffrey Tate	(herpetological and entomological collecting)

This expedition is another in the series of biological explorations sponsored by Richard Archbold of Archbold Expeditions of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City. The work will be coördinated with the findings of previous trips to the New Guinea area. Extensive series of color pictures will be made.

News from the Botanical Institute of the University Wroclaw (Breslau), Pologne. Dr M. Kostyniuk, Director of the Institute, very kindly gave the following information: The herbaria belonging to the institute had been transported by the German botanists from Wroclaw and distributed over several towns of the province. They were, according to the letter by Dr Kostyniuk, Febr.13th, 1948, only just back at Breslau, and have not yet been sorted out. Therefore it is unknown whether they are complete.

The herbarium of Wroclaw is now of the utmost importance for the study of Malaysian, especially Papuan plants, as it contained the private herbarium of the late Prof. C. Lauterbach, consisting of appr. 24.000 sheets. It is quite possible that this herbarium contains a good deal of isotypes of the species described in the "Beiträge zur Flora Papuasien" on the basis of Ledermann's, Warburg's and Schlechter's collections.

Dr Kostyniuk is fully aware of the exceptional value embodied in these collections both for international and Malaysian botany, and it is assumed that he will give every assistance necessary for revisions. Another very important question will be solved when Dr Kostyniuk and his cooperators will have performed the laborious task in sorting the returned collections, viz the safety of the very numerous collections of Malaysian Urticaceae sent on loan to the late prof. Hub. Winkler, amounting to thousands of sheets from Leyden and Buitenzorg alone.

Australasian Herbarium News is the title of an extremely interesting mimeographed Bulletin. The first number was issued June 1947, 37 pp. by the Hon. Sec., Systematic Botany Committee, Botany Department, Univ. of Adelaide, South Australia.

It contains a survey of the staffs, buildings, facilities and a rough outline of the contents of the principal herbaria in the various institutes in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand. A forum and medium for promoting communication among botanists, it will also publish short articles and notes of taxonomic interest, reviews of books and articles, discussions of work in progress, news of overseas herbaria, personal notes and correspondence. Further plans in mind are: to publish lists of rare and useful works indicating the libraries possessing them, to publish lists of type specimens in Australasian herbaria, and opinions in matters of nomenclature.

The stimulus for the erecting of this bond between Australasian workers has been the 25th meeting of the Australian & New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science in Adelaide in late August, 1946. The need of it was felt for a long time by Australasian and, I may add, by overseas botanists. We congratulate the Committee with this serial which promises to be very useful.

Forestry Herbarium, Papua-New Guinea. Up till the war no herbarium facilities of a permanent nature had been established in Papua & New Guinea. The pressing demand for timber during the gradual expulsion of the Japanese forces from New Guinea saw the establishment of the Australian Army Forestry Co. with its H.Q. in Lae. Working in close cooperation with Dr H.E. D. a s w e l l of the C.S.I.R. Division of Forest Products, and Mr C.T.W h i t e of the Queensland Botanic Gardens at Brisbane, a Botanical and Wood Technology Section was established under the control of Mr L i n d s a y S m i t h of Brisbane. With the resources available for field work, collecting proceeded rapidly and at present the collections include some 2.400 timber samples and a corresponding number of botanical specimens.

The latter herbarium material has now mostly deteriorated. Fortunately duplicate sheets are kept at Brisbane. The appointment in 1946 of Mr J.S. Womersley as a forest botanist of the Forestry Department Lae, New Guinea, justifies hopes that permanent buildings can be erected and the New Guinea-Papua herbarium will be established.

Forest Department of the Colony of British North Borneo. Mr H.G. Keith, Conservator of Forests, Sandakan, reports Jan. 2nd 1948, that he is back at Sandakan since June, 1946. The Herbarium of the For. Dep. is gone and the majority of the archives have been destroyed. The year 1947 was a fairly heavy flowering year for all species, particularly dipterocarps, and Mr Keith is securing as extensive collections as he and his small staff are able to.

Bulletin of the Botanic Gardens, Buitenzorg, (Java). It is with great pleasure that we announce the resumption of the Bulletin. The status of this journal is as follows: of vol. 15 (the monograph of the Ebenaceae by the late R.C. Bakhuizen van den Brink Sr) 4 parts have appeared; the volume cannot yet be bound as the 5th part which was intended to contain about 100 plates and the indices has not yet appeared; I do not know at present whether the blocks, plates and MS of this final part are intact. Vol. 16 is completed. Of vol. 17 part 1 appeared August 1941, and part 2 was issued April 1942, and was only gradually distributed. Part 3 appeared Dec. 1947, and part 4 is in the press.

Of the Supplement volumes, last appeared vol. III, part 2, published August 1941, containing tab. 126-150 of J.J. Smith's Icones Orchidacearum malayensium, 2nd instalment.

The Malayan Nature Journal has resumed publication. Vol. II, no 2, appeared in July 1947. It is printed by Caxton Press, Ltd., Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Malayan Union. Mr Holtum inaugurated the number with a treatment of Paphiopedilum.

Preliminary meeting of specialists on Botanic Nomenclature. In June a selected number of specialists on nomenclature from different countries will have meetings for about one week at the Botanical Museum & Herbarium of the University of Utrecht, Utrecht, Holland, preparing the future sessions on Nomenclature of the International Botanical Congress in Stockholm. They will be guests of prof. Dr A.P. Ullé and Dr J.L. Lanjouw. In Holland the systematists have formed a committee under the presidency of Dr J. Lanjouw to formulate a set of proposals on behalf of the Dutch botanists.