

CATALOGUE DES PRODUITS DE L'INDO-CHINE: Tome V, fascicule 2; Produits Médicinaux. By Ch. Crevost and A. Petelot. Hanoi, 1935.

The scope of the Catalogue, which is being issued in parts, resembles that of the 'Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula'. This catalogue, however is illustrated and the products are grouped into categories, not arranged alphabetically. The first part of volume one was published a good many years ago; but progress has been slow, partly because, as the authors of the present part tell us, it has to wait on the publication of the 'Flore Générale de l'Indo-Chine'.

It may be noted that the words 'Papaycées-Ilicacées' on the title page are by no means a fair indication of the contents of the present part, which deals with the medicinal plants belonging to families far beyond the limits indicated. In it come a number of important medicinal genera; such as *Strophanthus*, *Strychnos*, *Gelsemium*, *Datura*, and *Amomum*. The account, under the heading 'Avicennia officinalis', of the treatment of leprosy by mangrove bark is of particular interest.

The work is illustrated by numerous line drawings, which are clear and sufficiently detailed to facilitate the identification of the species depicted. There are also a number of photographic reproductions.

Indigenous names are given for most species, also often their Chinese equivalents. The names are for the most part in Roman characters, though Chinese names are given for names in that language. Apart from the Chinese names, there is rarely any indication of the races using the various names.

The part is well indexed; separate indices being supplied for scientific, popular and Indo-Chinese names. Though this is the second part dealing with medicinal products, these are not yet exhausted, as the preface informs us. Presumably we may expect a third part of this valuable volume.

A. K.

October, 1935.

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