

Recent Books

FLORA MALESIANA

1. **Steenis**, C.G.G.J. van (Editor): Series I—Spermatophyta (Flowering-Plants). Volume 7. Systematic Revisions. Part 1. pp. 1-263, illustrated. Wolters-Noordhoff Publishing, Groningen. December 1971

After a lapse of almost 4 years since the publication of the last part of Volume 6 in 1967, the present issue is really most welcome. In this installment following contributors are accounted for:—

H. **SLEUMER**: Icacinaceae (21 gen., 100 spp.), Lophopyxidaceae (monotypic), Cardiopteridaceae (1 gen., 2 spp.), Clethraceae (1 gen., 13

A. **KANIS**: Ochnaceae (8 gen., 14 spp.).

R. **GEESINK**: Portulacaceae (4 gen., 9 spp.).

C.G.G.J. van **STEENIS**: Byblidaceae (monotypic).

J.F. **VELDKAMP**: Oxalidaceae (5 gen., 29 spp.).

M. **JACOBS**: Violaceae (4 gen., 30 spp.).

H.W.E. van **BRUGGEN**: Aponogetonaceae (1 gen., 4 spp.).

F. van der **PLAS**: Lemnaceae (3 gen., 10 spp.).

R. van der **MEIJDEN** and N. **CASPERS**: Haloragaceae (1 gen., 25 spp.).

Many species are given the distribution in Thailand. The genus *Ionidium* Vent. (Violaceae) is reduced as a synonym of *Hybanthus* Jacq.

2. **Holtum**, R.E. (Editor): Series I—Pteridophyta (Ferns and Fern Allies). Volume 1, part 3. Pp. 177-254, 56 figs., 9 map. Wolters-Noordhoff Publishing, Groningen. April 1971.

After a long interval of almost 8 years since the publication of part 2 in 1963, the third part has come out dealing with the *Lindsaea*-Group by K.U. **KRAMER**. This group of ferns contains 4 genera: *Sphenomeris* (4 spp.), *Tapenidium* (15 spp.), *Xyopteris* (monotypic) and *Lindsaea* (62 spp.); except the monotypic *Xyopteris* confining to Sumatra and Borneo (Kalimantan) the rests are pan-tropical.

The genus *Schizoloma* Gaud. is treated as a section of *Lindsaea* Dryand., one of the most widespread genus, of which many species (18) have the distribution in Thailand.

NATIONAL PARKS OF MALAYSIA

A special double issue of the Malayan Nature Journal Volume 24 (3 & 4), devoted to the National Parks of Malaysia, has come out in circulation in August 1971 under the editorship of Messrs. Ho Thian Hua, E. Soepadmo and T.C. Whitmore.

In this special issue contains full descriptions of 4 National Parks of Malaysia; it is indeed a very wise policy of the Malaysian Government in not hesitating to promptly conserve such unique and important natural heritage of the nation, due to the fast economic development to meet the ever increasing population directly effects to the natural resources of the country.

The Taman Negara in Western Malaysia, the largest Park covering an extensive area of sandstone and quartzite, and limestone formations with Gunung Tahen (7186 ft.) the highest mountain in Western Malaysia, contains a broad spectrum of plant and animal life.

The smallest of all is the Taman Rimba Templer (Templer Park) north of Kuala Lumpur, a small limestone formation, where Bukit Takum is the popular landmark. The park is famous for recreation areas and attractive feature surrounding the Park.

In Eastern Malaysia the Bako National Park, a sandstone formation in Sarawak, is famous for its wonderful mixture of forest and open heathland, cliffs and mangroves, sandy beaches and rocky headlands.

The Kinabalu National Park in Sabah covers the unique granitic formation having Mt. Kinabalu (13,455 ft.), highest peak between the Himalayas and New Guinea; geologically the mountain is probably the youngest granite intrusion in the world.

The Malayan Nature Society plays an important role to the permanent conservation of nature, and is indeed setting a good example to inspire other institutions in developing countries.

A final touch is given to the effect of logging on hill dipterocarp forest, which is under practice in this region at the present and, causing catastrophic and irremediably loss to natural balance.

T. Smitinand