

I would like to draw the attention of members to the latest number of "Tuatara", which contains two articles in particular which I am sure will be of interest

"A Key to the Divaricating Shrubs of New Zealand", by G. Marie Bulmer, deals straitly with these vexacious little items in our vegetation. The key is illustrated by no less than five plates of excellent line drawings, in which each species is illustrated not only by one drawing of a leaf but in many cases by a number of varied forms. The juvenile form of Elaeocarpus hookerianus has no less than thirteen figures to its credit while Pittosporum anomolum has seventeen. Of course, not all species are so diverse - which is just as well!

An entirely different but extremely valuable article is:

"Understanding Plant Names and Their Changes" by Margot B. Ashwin. Miss Ashwin, after discussing the general rules of botanical nomenclature, goes on to consider the latest edition of the International Rules published in 1956 and usually referred to as the "Paris Code". As these rules apply in almost all cases to plants already named, as well as those to be named in the future, it is necessary that botanists should be au fait with them. Miss Ashwin deals with the rules clearly and concisely, and illustrates from our own flora. The International Rules themselves are by no means easy for anyone who has not had some training in taxonomy to understand, moreover, the illustrations in the "Paris Code" are naturally drawn from the northern hemisphere. Miss Ashwin has then performed a most useful task providing guidance through the intricacies of nomenclatural rules and making their provisions understandable in clear simple language, illustrated by reference to plants known locally.

"Tuatara" (price 2/-) is obtainable from Miss M. Segar, Botany Department, Auckland University.

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While on the subject of publications, the opportunity is taken to review our own Society's activities in this respect.

Salt Marshes by Betty Molesworth is unfortunately out of print and as Mrs. Allen is now in Malaya seems likely to remain so.

Our Waitakeres by A.D. Mead is also out of print but we hope to be able to issue another edition in due course.

Maori Medicinal Plants by Olga Adams is out of print and the Society had been considering a re-issue. We learn, however, that the Museum is in the process of printing something on similar lines, so we thought it better to wait in the meantime, since printing is expensive and there is nothing to be gained by doubling in these matters.

Round the Year with the Orchids of Auckland by Edwin Hatch we are hoping to reprint with additions.

Still available are:

Local Species of Astelia, Collospermum, Coprosma and Hymenophyllaceae, by Miss Joan Dingley, Miss Ruth DeBerg and Miss Marguerite Crookes. This little bulletin is illustrated by a few line drawings. Copies are available from the Secretary at 1/6 plus postage.

Finding Plant Names, by Marguerite Crookes, illustrated by Katie Wood, our first printed bulletin (the rest were cyclostyled) is also still available from the Secretary at 1/- to members, 1/6 to non-members and 1/4 to schools, plus postage.

We are hoping in due course to publish still further bulletins, unfortunately our available funds are somewhat small and further we try to keep prices as near cost as possible.

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