

we do not care for vegetarianism, but our readers might object to being fed exclusively animals, which are repulsive to most people. All the same they are sure to enjoy the essay which Lie Goan Liong wrote of *Cerberus rhynchops*. We should like to congratulate him on account of these close observations. (Incidentally: If we felt at liberty to disclose the age of our young herpetologist, it would probably create a sensation).

Meanwhile there is this depressing shortage of copy and especially of copy on botanical topics. As editors we have reason to regret the fact even more than our readers may suspect: Most botanists — whatever short-comings they may have — prepare their scripts with gratifying accuracy. This saves much time and labour (it often saves money too!).

Now here is a thing, which is hard to understand: If you are doing something as painstakingly as that, we presume that you like doing it. What keeps people from doing things they like to do? It could hardly be morals this time.

Discouragement of other contributions is not intended in the preceding lines. On the contrary: We need them more badly than ever before. Preferably personal experiences and observations and many of them, but if you should feel like writing an extensive essay to expound a problem or a theory of your own there is no objection. We can always compromise as to cutting!

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#### KORTE MEDEDELINGEN

##### *MEGAPODIUS* feeding on *CYCLOTUS*

Mr A. Hoogerwerf, Director of the Department of Natureprotection at the Bogor Botanic Gardens, visited the islands of Komodo, Padar and Rintja, near Flores. Brush Turkeys (*Megapodius freycinet reinwardt*) are common birds in these islands and in the islands East of the Kangean group. This bird throws up large hills in which it lays its eggs. The hills often are 4-6 m across and 1-1½ m in height. After hatching the young move to the surface and can fly immediately. They have to look after themselves from that moment. In the three above mentioned islands these birds mainly live in the ravines of the rainforests in the coastal area, alone or in pairs (communicated by Hoogerwerf).

Three gastropods from the stomach contents of one *Megapodius freycinet reinwardt* from Rintja Island collected by Hoogerwerf 28 VI 1953 were brought to me for inspection. I could identify them as *Cyclotus politus politus* (S o w. 1843), a snail which can often be found under dead leaves in the monsoon woods of Flores.

Two adults were very fresh, the operculum still present and the animal intact. One young shell had lost its operculum already and the soft tissues had been digested.

*Cyclotus politus politus* was not yet recorded from Rintja Island. It is known from SE Borneo, Celebes, the Moluccan Islands, Lombok, Sumbawa, Flores, Adenare, Solor, Pura, Wetar, Sumba and Timor. (B. R e n s c h, Zool. Jahrb. Syst. 61, 1931: 372 fig. 2, high shells with narrow umbilicus).

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