Book Review

Frank Kingdon Ward is a name as well known to horticulturists and gardeners as to botanists. In fifty years of exploring, collecting and writing, Kingdon Ward has given so much to science that it is difficult to realise the extent of his contribution. Between 1909 and 1956 his expeditions took him to western China, Burma, the eastern Himalaya and Tibet. He was also a copious writer with more than twenty books and several hundred articles to his credit.

Professor U. Schweinfurth and his wife have combined their skills as geographer and bibliographer and published, as vol. 3 of *Geoecological Research*, a work* bringing together all the information about Kingdon Ward's travels and writings.

In the ten pages of introduction, following the preface by Sir George Taylor, Professor Schweinfurth explains his own interest in the Himalayas and relates the events leading up to the production of this volume. Although he never knew Kingdon Ward he nevertheless felt compelled to pay this tribute to his achievements.

A list of Kingdon Ward's expeditions is followed by an extensive bibliography of his publications. Part I lists all his 25 books published between 1910 and 1960, with details of the contents of each book—subjects and areas covered, as well as the collecting numbers appropriate to some of the books. Part II is a list of 709 articles written by Kingdon Ward and representing those most important and readily available. There is a brief but very useful summary of each article. An unusual innovation is the 'Regional index of articles' in which they are referred to under geographical areas represented by 1° longitude and 1° latitude, together with a map reference. The subject index follows.

From a botanical and geographical point of view, perhaps the most important features of this book are the two large end maps of Kingdon Ward's explorations and journeys. The maps are on a 1:1,000,000 scale and cover the E Himalayan and S Tibetan area from 23°–31° N and 88°–101° E; there are also 3 inset maps. An introductory note explains how the maps and place names were compiled, and there is a complete index of all the place names together with a grid reference to the maps.

This compilation by the Schweinfurths can certainly be regarded as a fitting recognition of Kingdon Ward's career.

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* Geoecological Research, vol. 3. Exploration in the eastern Himalayas and the river gorge country of southeastern Tibet. Francis (Frank) Kingdon Ward (1885–1958). By Ulbrich Schweinfurth and Heidrun Schweinfurth-Marby. 1975. 114 pp, 2 maps. 9″. Franz Steiner Verlag, GMBH, Wiesbaden, Germany. Price DM 32.