PREFACE

The art of metal casting was imported into Indonesia, but its peoples mastered the secrets of metallurgy, and applied these, in ways often original and unique, to create their own distinctive civilisation of the Bronze-Iron Age.

In this handbook, which is a sequel to my *The Stone Age of Indonesia*, I have endeavoured to assemble a comprehensive picture of the Indonesian Bronze-Iron Age from the results of excavations, innumerable stray finds in museums, and various studies scattered among numerous scientific journals and periodicals (often difficult to obtain).

The resulting picture can, of course, be a tentative one only, valid until many more scientific excavations have taken place. I have added a bibliography, as complete as it was possible to assemble.

The completion of this summary of the Prehistory of Indonesia has been assisted by a grant-in-aid from the Wenner Gren Foundation “The Viking Fund”, New York.

I am grateful to Mr. Basoeki and Mr. Soebokastowo for the drawings of Figures 1, 11, 12, 13, 22 and 16, 23, 24, 25 respectively.

Figures 2—10 and 15 were drawn by the well-known artist, the late Mas Pirngadie, and are here published for the first time, with the generous permission of the Board of Directors of the “Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen”, Djakarta.

I am deeply grateful to my brother-in-law, Mr. J. H. Reiseger of Kempston, Bedfordshire, for so willingly undertaking the translation of the Dutch text into English.

I have now left Indonesia for good, and I hope that this handbook and its predecessor will be of help to my successors in carrying on the study of Indonesian prehistory. I wish them all good luck with their enterprise.

Heemstede, July, 1957

H. R. VAN HEEKEREN.
CONTENTS

Preface

Introduction .............................................. 1

I. Stray Finds ............................................. 8
   1. Bronze socketed axes ................................. 8
   2. Ceremonial axes ..................................... 9
   3. Kettle drums ........................................ 12
      a. Java ............................................. 18
      b. Sumatra ......................................... 20
      c. Bali ............................................. 21
      d. Sumbawa ......................................... 24
      e. Roti ............................................. 28
      f. Luang ........................................... 29
      g. Leti ............................................. 30
      h. Kai Islands ...................................... 31
      i. Salajar .......................................... 33
   4. Bronze vessels ...................................... 34
      a. Sumatra ......................................... 34
      b. Madura .......................................... 35
   5. Plastic art .......................................... 36
      a. Sumatra ......................................... 36
      b. Java ........................................... 38
   6. The bronzes found at Pradjekan ...................... 39
   7. Beads ............................................... 40
   8. Other important stray finds ......................... 42

II. Megalithic Cultures .................................... 44
    a. Java ............................................. 46
    b. Bali ............................................. 54
    c. Sumbawa ......................................... 58
    d. Celebes ......................................... 59
    e. Borneo .......................................... 63
    f. Sumatra ......................................... 63

III. Urn Cemeteries ....................................... 80
    a. Java ............................................. 80
    b. Sumatra ......................................... 83
    c. Celebes ......................................... 83
    d. Salajar .......................................... 85
    e. Sumba ........................................... 85

IV. The Dongson Culture .................................. 92
    1. Dong So'n and the Dongson Culture ............... 92
    2. Heine Geldern's thesis on the Pontic migration and
       the origin of the Dongson Culture ............... 95

References and Selected Bibliography ................. 100