

### No. V. Second Occurrence of a Copepod Parasite (*Argulus*) on Fighting Fish.

In the Natural History Supplement of the Journal of the Siam Society, Vol. VII, No. 1, 1927, Dr. Charles B. Wilson notes the finding in Siam of a parasitic copepod, *Argulus indicus*, first described from Java by Dr. Max Weber in 1892. Dr. Weber indicated no host, but the Siamese specimen was from the dorsal surface of a fighting-fish. It is now possible to record a second specimen, taken at Bangkok May 20, 1928, from the head of a fighting-fish (*Betta splendens*); it is a female, 4.5 mm. long and 3.5 mm. wide.

It may be pointed out that on the plate in Dr. Wilson's article referred to the legend incorrectly reads "*Argulus indicus*, new species."

H. M. SMITH.

#### REVIEWS.

##### Contributions to the Flora of Siam. Additamentum XXIV.

Kew Bulletin, 1928, No. 2, pp. 62-72.

Some Siamese Begonias. Gardeners' Chronicle, LXXXIII (1928), pp. 66-67.

Some New Siamese Plants. Gardeners' Chronicle, LXXXIII (1928), p. 140.

Professor Craib has recently published the twenty-fourth of the lists of new Siamese plants, which have been appearing in the Kew Bulletin since 1913, when the first of the series was published. The bulk of these new species has been described by Professor Craib himself, a few are due to other authors. The present contribution contains the descriptions of eighteen new species, eleven of which are by Professor Craib, the other seven by one of his pupils, Miss Geddes. Among these species may be mentioned *Sindora fusca*, a lofty tree from Pattani, of some value for its timber; *Acacia Meeboldii*, a woody climber from Langsuan, remarkable for the size of its leaflets; *Altingia siamensis*, a tree from Doi Duan, Chiengrai Province, the first recorded Siamese representative of the genus, whose best known species is *A. excelsa*, a tree yielding a fragrant balsam; and *Sonerila gracilis*, a delicate little flower from Dr. Eryl Smith's collection on Kao Luang, Nakawn Sritamarat.

The two papers in the Gardeners' Chronicle contain descriptions of new species, based on living Siamese plants cultivated by Professor Craib in the Cruickshank Botanic Garden, Aberdeen. The first deals with five species of *Begonia*, all of which are regarded as desirable acquisitions to cultivation. One of them, *Begonia murina*, from Kanburi Province, has received an Award of Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society. It is thought, however, that *Begonia Putii*, discovered by Nai Put on Doi Chiengdao, will prove the hardiest of the five.

The second paper in the Gardeners' Chronicle describes two species of *Chirita* and two of *Sonerila*. The two species of *Chirita*

are both annuals, and are of value rather to the systematic botanist than the horticulturist. One of them, *Chirita involuerata*, is from Kaw Tao, and probably the first new plant described from that island. Both the species of *Sonerila* are small plants with pretty pink, but rather fugacious flowers; the foliage in both cases is the chief attraction.

A. K.

**New Reptiles and Batrachians collected by Dr. Hugh M. Smith in Siam.** By Doris M. Cochran. (Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, Vol. 40, pp. 179-192, December 2, 1927.)

In this paper Miss Cochran, assistant curator of reptiles in the United States National Museum, describes eight new Siamese reptiles and batrachians obtained by Dr. Smith in connection with his collections and investigations of the local fishes.

Three of the new forms are frogs, and two belong in the genus *Philautus*. In 1893 Dr. Boulenger based a new genus, *Chirixalus*, on a Burmese frog with opposed fingers; this genus, however, according to Miss Cochran, must be united with *Philautus* since the discovery by Dr. Malcolm Smith of *Philautus palpebralis* with the first two fingers partly opposed to the others, while by the recent finding of two additional species with fully opposed fingers the supposed gap between the two genera is more completely bridged. The new species are *P. nongkhorensis* and *P. hansenae*, both represented by numerous specimens from Nong Khor in south-eastern Siam, the former having been previously collected at the same place by Dr. Malcolm Smith and identified by him as *Chirixalus doriae*. The third frog, *Microhyla malcolmi*, from Pak Jong, is named for Dr. Malcolm Smith, "whose interest in Siamese reptiles and batrachians during the many years of his residence in Bangkok has added so greatly to our knowledge of the fauna of Malaysia."

The four new lizards are *Sphenomorphus helenae*, collected at Nontaburi, whose nearest relative is *S. annamiticum* (Boettger) from Annam; *Sphenosoma hughi*, from Koh Tao in the Gulf of Siam, closely allied to Dr. Malcolm Smith's species *herberti* from Nakon Sritamarat; *Leiolopisma kohtaoensis*; and *Leiolopisma eunice*, from Ban Suk near Pak Jong.

The new snake, *Callophis hughi*, is as yet known from a single specimen found on Koh Tao.

H. M. S.

**The Birds of the Malay Peninsula.** A general account of the birds inhabiting the region from the Isthmus of Kra to Singapore with the adjacent islands. By Herbert C. Robinson. Volume I: The Commoner Birds. Royal octavo, pages 1-329, 25 plates. London, 1927.

This noteworthy work, issued by authority of the Federated Malay States Government, is to comprise five volumes, of which the