

**Bees of Koh Tao, Gulf of Siam.**—In the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington (vol. 29, No. 7, October, 1927), Prof. T. D. A. Cockerell gave a list of bees collected on Koh Tao by Dr. H. M. Smith on a visit to the island, December, 1926—January, 1927. The species named are as follows:

1. *Megachile penangensis* Cockerell. Three females, one male. Previously known from a female collected on Penang Island and described by Cockerell in 1918.

2. *Megachile atratiformis sininsulae*, n. subsp. Two females. Perhaps a distinct species. The author had no specimens of *M. atratiformis* for comparison.

3. *Megachile kohtaoensis*, n. sp. One male. Close to *M. morrilli* Cockerell, from Philippine Islands.

4. *Anthophora korotonensis* Cockerell. One female. Known also from Philippine Islands and Formosa.

5. *Trigona testaceitarsis* Cameron. Two workers. Originally described from Patani, Siam.

6. *Crocisa insulicola*, n. sp. One male. Related to *C. surda* Cockerell from China.

7. *Crocisa pernitida basifracta*, n. subsp. One female. *C. pernitida* Cockerell is recorded from India and Burma.

#### OBITUARY.

We have to record the loss in 1929 of two well known zoologists, Mr. Oldfield Thomas and Mr. H. C. Robinson, both contributors to this Journal, and the latter an Honorary Member of the Society.

M. R. OLDFIELD THOMAS, F.R.S. died at Kensington on June 16th. He entered the British Museum in 1875, at the age of seventeen, and retired in 1923. He devoted himself particularly to the study of the smaller mammals. He described many mammals from Siam, chiefly from collections made by the late Sir Harold Lyle and Mr. K. G. Gairdner. Some of his descriptions of new species from Siam have been reprinted in this Journal. He also contributed directly to the Journal the two following articles:—

On the allocation of the name *Sciurus finlaysoni* Horsfield. Vol. II, No. 4.

Obituary Notice of Sir Harold Lyle. Vol. VII, No. 3.

HERBERT C. ROBINSON, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U. died at Oxford on May 30th aged 54. He was for some years Director of Museums and Inspector of Fisheries of the Federated Malay States. He made many collecting expeditions in the Malay Peninsula between 1906 and 1926, getting well up into Peninsular Siam. He was one of the first to reach the top of Gunong Tahan, the highest mountain in the Peninsula, which he did in 1906. Though he was principally interested in mammals and birds, he made some valuable collections

of plants, not only in the Federated Malay States, but also in Siam. He described many mammals and birds, and his name is associated with a number of plants. His contributions to this Journal were all made jointly with Mr. C. Boden Kloss. They are as follows:—

On a collection of Birds from the Province of Puket, *Peninsular Siam*. Vol. III, No. 2.

On a new Form of White-eye from Siam. Vol. III, No. 4.

Some Birds from Pulo Condore. Vol. IV, No. 2.

The Birds of South-west and Peninsular Siam. Vol. V, Nos. 1-3.

[*Note.* It was intended to devote Vol. V to the Fauna of South-west and Peninsular Siam. The mammals and birds were to have been done by Messrs. Robinson and Kloss. The three numbers published dealt with the birds. It is unlikely that any further numbers will be published.]

Some Crows from S. E. Indo-China Vol. VI, No. 1.

All ornithologists interested in the avifauna of these regions must regret that Mr. Robinson died before he could complete his work, "The Birds of the Malay Peninsula," two volumes of which had been published.

A. K.

### Proceedings of the Section.

#### 11TH. ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

This was held in the Society's rooms on August 31st, 1928 and was attended by about 20 members and guests.

Dr. H. M. Smith gave an account of the Borapet Swamp and the measures taken to convert it into a fish preserve, and also exhibited some noteworthy fish, including several showing adaptations to life in swift mountain streams, a crocodile's egg on the point of hatching and skins of a flying squirrel and flying lemur. Mr. Aagaard showed a snipe-billed godwit in breeding plumage, and some cases of moths and other insects. Dr. Kerr showed several living plants.

After the interval Mr. A. Marcan read some notes on the mangrove formation, illustrating these with lantern slides and botanical specimens.

#### 12TH. ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

This was held in the Chulalongkorn University on March 19th, 1929, and was attended by about 65 members and guests. Dr. A. F. G. Kerr was in the chair.

Dr. Wilhelm Credner, Privatdozent for Geography in Kiel University, gave a lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on "The Scenery of Siam in relation to its Geology".