

Sciences of Philadelphia, Vol. lxxxii, 1929, pp. 525-588.

This collection, made during the winter of 1928-29, comprises a total of 750 skins, representing 255 species. About 100 skins were collected in Central Siam, and the rest at Chiangmai, Chiengrai and Chiengsen. Special attention was paid to the avifauna of Doi Sutep.

The collection yielded two species, *Niltava williaminae* and *Myiophonus stonei*; and two new subspecies, *Leioptila melanoleuca laeta* and *Bhringa remifer latispatula*. Other species obtained, which are of especial interest, because either hitherto unrecorded, from Siam, or known from only one or two records, are *Machlolophus spilonotus*, *Psittiparus gularis*, *Sitta magna*, *Leioptila annectens*, *Microscelis leucocephalus*, *Cerasophila thompsoni*, *Certhia discolor*, *Herbivocula schwarzi*, *Melophus melanicterus*, *Delichon urbica*, *Zosterops erythropleura*, *Dryobates atratus*, *Aceros nepalensis*, *Esacus recurvirostris*, *Charadrius placidus*, and *Mareca penelope*.

We believe this to be one of the most comprehensive papers yet published on the birds of North Siam, although much work must still be done before we shall have so complete a knowledge of its avifauna as we possess of other parts of the country.

H. G. D.

**The Flora of Doi Sutep, Siam.** By T. D. A. Cockerell, Torreyia, Vol. 29 (1929), pp. 159-162.

This is an interesting, but all too short account by Professor Cockerell of a trip to Doi Sutep in February 1928. The author was mainly concerned with insects, but kept an observant eye on the flora as well, and made a small collection of dried plants. In the present paper he gives the results of his observations on the flora, mentioning the most striking flowers in bloom at the time of his visit and some of the more noteworthy trees. Professor Cockerell expresses some doubt about the indigenous character of *Pinus khasya* on Doi Sutep. It has, indeed, sometimes been planted near houses, but it is unquestionably indigenous on the mountain.

The paper ends with a comment on the various ways of spelling 'Sutep'. It is not surprising that the visitor is puzzled by the variations that he can get in the spelling of even the simplest word.

A. K.

**Descriptions and Records of Bees—CXIX.** By T. D. A. Cockerell. Annals and Magazine of Natural History, Ser. 10, Vol. iv. (1929), pp. 296-304.

In this paper, under the heading 'Xylocopidae from Siam', Professor Cockerell lists eight carpenter bees recently collected in Siam, including three new varieties and one new species. A series

of five specimens from Chiangmai, collected by Dr. and Mrs. McKean, presents an extraordinary case of Müllerian mimicry. These at first sight appear to belong to one rather variable species, but really represent two genera and four species. The Siamese species recorded are:— *Mesotrichia tenuiscapa* (Westwood); *Mesotrichia latipes* (Drury), var. *magnifica*, nov.; *Xylocopa iridipennis*, Lep., var. *semipurpurea*, nov.; *Xylocopa auripennis*, Lep., var. *phenachroa*, nov. (These four species are concerned in the mimicry noted above, *M. tenuiscapa* being the model); *Xylocopa collaris* Lep.; *Mesotrichia confusa mekeani*, Cockerell; *Mesotrichia flavonigrescens* (Smith) and *Mesotrichia kerri*, sp. n.

A. K.

Papers on Malayan Aquatic Biology. IX, A new *Corixa* (*Corixa evansi* sp. nov.) from Siam. By Cedric Dover. Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums, Vol. xiv (1929) pp. 399–400.

The above paper contains a description of, and remarks on a new species of this genus. The specimen on which the species is based was collected at light by Mr. I. H. N. Evans, at Chawng, in Trang Province. It is the only species of the genus *Corixa* in the extensive collections of aquatic Rhynchota belonging to the F. M. S. Museums. It is related to *C. substriata* Uhler.

A. K.

#### The Reptilia and Amphibia of the Malay Peninsula.\*—

This noteworthy paper has special interest for Siam for at least two reasons: the Malay Peninsula contains 30,000 square miles of Siamese territory, and the author is Dr. Malcolm A. Smith, who lived in Siam for many years, is the outstanding authority on the reptiles and amphibians of this part of the world, and is an esteemed member of the Siam Society.

An introduction by Mr. C. Boden Kloss, Director of Museums of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, indicates the purpose and scope of the paper, which was prepared by Dr. Smith at Mr. Kloss's request, as a supplement to the report by Dr. George A. Boulenger on the same subject published in 1912. In view of the many new species and new records secured since that date, together with various changes in nomenclature, it was desirable to have Boulenger's work brought up to date, and Dr. Smith was naturally entrusted with the task. The new material available to Dr. Smith has resulted chiefly from the expedition of Messrs. Robinson and Kloss to the northern part of the peninsula in 1919, from the extensive collections made by Mr. C. J. Aagaard at Bangnara, in Pattani,

\* Bulletin of the Raffles Museum, Singapore, Straits Settlements, No. 3, April, 1930, 149 pages.