

and from the collections obtained by Dr. Smith and his native collectors.

The work contains descriptions of all new genera and species discovered in the peninsula since the appearance of Boulenger's volume, takes cognizance of all fresh information, and supplies a bibliography of the recent literature of the subject. The additions to Boulenger's list include 1 turtle, 16 lizards, 12 snakes, and 18 amphibians, but the net increase in the number of known forms is somewhat less, as several species have been suppressed and others have been omitted owing to the conclusion that the evidence of their occurrence is incorrect or inadequate. Most of the additions have come from that part of the peninsula which is in Siam, and Dr. Smith believes that some northern forms whose range may extend a short distance into the peninsula still remain to be discovered.

The reptilian and amphibian fauna of the Malay Peninsula, as shown by Dr. Smith's list, comprises the following:

Crocodiles	...	...	...	...	3
Turtles	...	...	...	...	24
Lizards	...	...	...	...	95
Serpents (including 24 sea snakes)	...	...	...	...	141
Frogs	...	...	...	...	61
Toads	...	...	...	...	18
Caecilians	...	...	...	...	2
					344
				Total	344

The author refers to the "discontinuous distribution" exhibited by a number of species, which are especially listed and comprise the Siamese crocodile, a turtle, three lizards, five snakes, and five frogs and toads. These forms occur in the northern part of the Malay Peninsula and in the Malay Archipelago but are not met with in the southern part of the peninsula. This same peculiarity of distribution, which has not been satisfactorily explained, has been determined for various mammals, birds, and fresh-water fishes, and affects also invertebrate animals and plants. Dr. Smith mentions, as a striking case of "discontinuous distribution", Russell's viper, which on the Asiatic mainland is not found south of Bangkok but has recently been discovered on the islands of Komodo and Flores in the Malay Archipelago.

H. M. S.

Herpetological Collections Made in Siam from 1923 to 1929.*

—In this paper, Miss Doris M. Cochran, Assistant Curator of the Division of Reptiles and Batrachians in the United States National

* Proceedings of the United States National Museum, Vol. 77. pp. 1-39, 1930.

Museum, records the specimens of reptiles and amphibians received at that institution from Siam as a result of the efforts of Dr. Hugh M. Smith during the years 1923 to 1929. The collections were made incidentally during travels in all parts of Siam in connection with fishery investigations, and were supplemented by specimens received from friends and associates. Layang Gaddi, the indefatigable Dyak collector employed by the museum, was directly responsible for a large number of specimens.

The paper enumerates 130 species, of which 30 are frogs and toads, 1 a caecilian, 2 crocodiles, 37 lizards, 53 snakes, and 7 turtles. Two frogs, 4 lizards, and 1 snake had been previously described by Miss Cochran as new, and the paper includes the description of one additional new species of lizard, *Leiopisma pranensis*, of which the type came from Pran, while a paratype was collected on Doi Angka.

Two specimens of the frog *Rana latopal mata* taken on Doi Angka are the first Siamese records for the species; and a blind snake (*Typhlops floweri*) that had been swallowed by another snake (*Xenopeltis unicolor*) in Bangkok is the first specimen reported since Boulenger described the species in 1899 from an unknown Siamese locality.

H. M. S.

A. K. Contributions to the Flora of Siam. Additamenta XXVII and XXVIII Kew Bull. Misc. Inform., 1930 pp. 161-174, and pp. 313-327.

The 27th in the series of lists of new species of Siamese plants published in the Kew Bulletin, contains the descriptions of 24 species. Miss Geddes is the author of two of these and Mr. C. H. Wright of one, the others are by Professor Craib. The 24 species are divided among 11 genera, as follows: *Pygeum* (1), *Pyrus* (1), *Terminalia* (1), *Combretum* (3), *Quisqualis* (1), *Eugenia* (9), *Barringtonia* (2), *Osbeckia* (2), *Otanthera* (1), *Chirita* (2) and *Polypodium* (1). The two species of *Chirita* (*C. capitis* and *C. oculata*) were described from living plants raised from seed sent from Siam. One of them, *C. capitis*, comes from Bangkok, where it is not uncommon on ruined buildings, and is noteworthy for its dark purple, violet-like flowers. The fern, *Polypodium Garrettii*, was described by Mr. C. H. Wright from specimens collected on Doi Angka by Mr. H. B. Garrett.

In the same number of the Kew Bulletin, but not in the above list, Dr. Hill describes a new species of *Strychnos*, *Strychnos silvicola*, found on Kaw Tao, Kaw Pa-ngan, Kaw Samui and several places in the peninsula. Dr. Hill changes the name of another Siamese species of *Strychnos* to *Strychnos choropetala*. It was first described as *S. viridiflora*, but this name was found later to be preoccupied by