

This movement does not seem to be caused by lack of food, as the birds are extraordinary plump and in good condition. It is not easy to understand why it is taking place, as the conditions on both sides of the Me Kong seem the same.

Since writing the above, my attention has been drawn to a similar movement in July and August of jungle-fowl taking place at Phrachoab Kirikhan, a province of the Monthon of Rajburi. Phrachoab Kirikhan is situated at k.m. 318 on the Southern Railway line, several hundred miles south of Chiengsen.

This movement of jungle-fowl which causes the birds to leave their forest home and come out into the open, and into villages, is so unusual that the people in the south hold equally with those in the north that it is a portent of evil omen.

F. H. GILES.

Bangkok, July 26, 1931.

No. IV. Pla Buk (*Pangasius* sp.).

The fishing season for pla buk in the Me Kong in the vicinity of Chiengsen is from about the middle of May to the end of July. Two were caught at Chiengsen, one on the 11th and one on the 12th of July, opposite the Gendarmerie Station, but on the French side. The fish caught on the 12th was a female, in spawn. Her length was 87 inches, girth 50 inches. The roe alone weighed 88 pounds. The whole fish was not weighed. It was sold immediately it was caught, for 55 rupees (the equivalent of 44 ticals). The person who bought the fish then sold the roe for 60 rupees (48 ticals), and the remainder for 30 rupees (24 ticals), within half an hour of the fish being caught. The roe is considered a great delicacy.

F. H. GILES.

Bangkok, July 26, 1931.

No. V. Additional Notes on Introduced Plants.

Solidago polyglossa DC. Golden-rod.

The *Solidago* mentioned in the previous number (*Nat. Hist. Suppl.*, viii, No. 3, p. 211), has since been kindly identified for me by Dr. E. D. Merrill as *Solidago polyglossa* DC. Dr. Merrill states that it is a species of wide distribution in South America.

Tithonia diversifolia DC. Mexican sunflower.

In 1902 Mrs. Collins imported seeds of this Mexican species from Java. Unlike the ordinary sunflower, this is a bushy perennial plant. It has now become established in several places in the Sriracha area, notably at Nawng Yai Bu. It is also in cultivation in many other parts of Siam, but does not seem to be spreading. It has been introduced in many other countries, and is recorded as

running wild in Ceylon, Hongkong, and the Phillipines, mostly at fairly high altitudes.

I am indebted to Dr. G. A. C. Herklots of Hong Kong for sending me material of this species for comparison with our species.

Voandezia subterranea Thouars. Bambarra ground-nut (ถั่วหัวรี).

This plant, a native of Africa, has been cultivated in Patalung Province for some years. Its nuts may often be seen on the trays of refreshment vendors at Patalung Station. The cultivation of the plant is not extensive, and does not seem to have extended northwards of Patalung Province.

Unlike the ordinary ground-nut, which they somewhat resemble, these nuts contain very little oil, but are said to make better eating.

A short account of the cultivation of the Bambarra ground-nut is given by W. N. Sands in the *Malayan Agricultural Journal* (Vol. XIX, July, 1931). It is there stated that this plant was imported to Kuala Lumpur from Mauritius in 1911; and that it is now cultivated to a considerable extent in Kedah, chiefly by Chinese market-gardeners. No doubt from there the cultivation spread to Siam.

Bangkok, February 11, 1932.

A. KERR.

No. VI. Introduced Plants.

Azadirachta indica was introduced by the late Sir Harold Lyle from India, and first grown in Nan about 1900. It is now fairly common in the North, and is called by the people "ton quinine".¹

Grape fruit was introduced from America by Dr. E. C. Cort, about 1920. It is doing well and getting more common.

The lemon was also introduced by Dr. Cort from America, in 1928. Only one tree was brought out, but it is flourishing and covered with fruit.

Chiengmai, October 6, 1931.

A. L. QUERPEL.

No. VII. The Cape Gooseberry.

I think the first introduction of the Cape gooseberry (*Physalis peruviana*) should date further back, by several years at least, than the time given in "Notes on Introduced Plants in Siam" in the last

¹ The facts about the introduction of this tree were brought to my notice by Mrs. Collins. I excluded it from my list, however, as being an indigenous species. It seems, nevertheless, that the true *indica* was introduced as stated, while the indigenous trees are varieties of that species; see *Flora Siamensis Enumeratio*, Vol. I, Pt. 2, pp. 250, 251.

A. K.