

the flight, either in time or space.

I have no suggestions to offer as to the reason, origin or goal of this flight.

A. KERR.

Bangkok, August 18, 1931.

No. XI. Note on the Mosquito *Anopheles vagus* in Siam.

The following letter was received from the late Dr. Louis Schapiro, Adviser in Public Health, about three months before his death; it was dated October 21, 1931:—

"The Journal of the Siam Society, Natural History Supplement, Vol. VIII, no. 3, carries a review on 'Les moustiques de Cochinchine et de Sud-Annam' stating that 'the four species not found in Siam being.....and *Anopheles vagus*.'

"In the mosquito surveys recently made by the Department of Public Health in Bangkok we found that *A. vagus* formed 80% of the catch during the dry season and 50% during the rainy season.

"Lt. Col. A. J. Sinton collected larvae and mosquitoes in Siam during December 1930 which were indentified by Barraud and Christophers,¹ reporting *A. vagus* caught at Bangkok; Patalung railway station; Rajburi railway station; Lampang railway station; and Chiangmai."

The reviewer is indebted to Dr. Schapiro for drawing attention to the valuable paper referred to above which had not been published when the review was written. The quotation concerning *A. vagus* occurs in the course of comparison of the records of Barnes with those of the French worker Borel, since the former did not record *A. vagus* at all while the latter found it to be the most common anopheline species in Indochina. Barraud and Christophers refer to Barnes's paper which was published in Vol. VI of this Journal and clear up several obscure points. With regard to *A. vagus*, they say, "*A. rossii*, as shown by material now examined, must certainly apply to *A. vagus* and in part to *A. rossii* var. *malayensis*".

The external characteristics of *A. vagus* and *A. rossii* are very similar and it is probable that they were not differentiated by many workers at the time when Dr. Barnes carried out his work on the Anophelines of Siam.

C. J. House.

No. XII. A New Bird for Siam.

There was taken in Bangkok in January, 1932, a female specimen of the pintail green pigeon *Sphenurus seimundi* (Robinson). The skin was sent for identification to the Raffles Museum Singapore, and the curator, Mr. F. N. Chasen, reported thereon as follows:

¹ "On a collection of Anopheline and Culicine mosquitoes from Siam." By P. J. Barraud and S. R. Christophers. 1931. Record of the Malaria Survey of India, Vol. II, no. 2, pp. 269-285.

"This bird was hitherto known only from the mountains of the Malay States and, curiously enough, from a small island in the Straits of Malacca (Pulau Rumpia, off the Perak river estuary). Delacour has described *S. s. modestus* from Annam: the male of this form is stated in the original description to differ from typical *seimundi* (type locality Semangko Pass, Selangor-Pahang boundary) in the absence of orange patches on the sides of the neck; Robinson has also noted that it is rather lighter above, but I have males of both these types from the Malay Archipelago! Unfortunately, however, I have no female of toptotypical *seimundi* for comparison with the Bangkok bird. The known range of the species is therefore from Annam to Bangkok and the Malay States, and on the evidence it looks as though it is a migratory bird, unless like some other tropical pigeons it is a mountain species that comes down to the coast at certain times of the year."

C. J. AAGAARD.

REVIEWS.

Occasional Notes of the Hong Kong Horticultural Society.
 Edited by G. A. C. Herklots. No. 1, February, 1931.

This valuable and interesting publication contains articles on sweet-pea cultivation, soils, the genus *Thunbergia*, roses, etc. Dr. Herklots in his editorial asks for active support from enthusiasts, and hopes to publish data which will form the groundwork for a local book on gardening. If the standard of this, the first, number be maintained, his aim will certainly materialise, and in addition much useful information will be made available to surrounding countries, including Siam.

It is not proposed to review the articles in detail, but the occasion should not be allowed to pass without asking ourselves why there has been no attempt to carry on work of this nature here. Gardening and horticulture are favourite occupations in Siam, both for pleasure and profit, yet there is no organisation to collect and pool information and to inspire the less experienced. It is more than high time that we had a Bangkok Horticultural Society; three or four active enthusiasts would ensure its success. It might become a section of the Siam Society; on the other hand there are sufficient persons interested in and practising these arts to form an independent organisation. It is perhaps true that at the present time the flora of Siam is better known in England than it is here, and wild Siamese plants will be found in flower at Kew which have never been seen in Bangkok. Besides the cultivation of indigenous species there is an immense field awaiting such a society, and the present time seems opportune for its inauguration. The best compliment we could pay the editor of "Occasional Notes" would be the following of his example.

A. M.