





Egg and Newly-hatched Young of Python.

Egg 3.5 by 2.25 inches; young 22 inches long.



#### No. IV. The White Oriole of Kao Sabap.

For this striking species (*Oriolus mellianus*), whose occurrence in Siam was first recorded in the Natural History Supplement, Vol. IX, No. 2, December, 1933, additional information is now available for Kao Sabap, Southeast Siam, where the first specimen was obtained on January 6, 1930. During the last week in October and all of November, 1933, the bird was found to be fairly common on the upper slopes of the mountain, and four to six were seen daily, usually in pairs. The birds frequented the tops of the highest trees in the dense evergreen forest which covers the mountain, and were difficult to obtain. The bird has a short, harsh note which is characteristic and easily distinguished from that of the black-naped oriole with which it was sometimes associated. Five specimens were secured. It is interesting to note, as bearing on the winter range of the species in Siam, that Nai Siah, Bangkok collector and taxidermist, in December, 1933, obtained a specimen on Kao Seming, the isolated mountain near Krat in Southeast Siam, and another in February, 1934, at Ban Thung Luang, on the Pran River, West Siam.

HUGH M. SMITH.

Bangkok, June, 1934.

#### No. V. Python Egg and Young.<sup>1</sup>

This egg was from a batch of twenty found beside our garage in Bangkok in July, 1932. They were on the ground under a pile of tree limbs, in a compact mass, due to their being held together by adhesions at the sites of the nearly circular white areas seen on the specimen. The mass was covered by dirty leaves also struck to the eggs.

The egg measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The covering is a thick, leathery, parchment-like membrane, without lime salts. The young snake, taken from another egg, is 22 inches long. It was attached to the remaining portion of the egg content (a yellowish substance occupying about one-fourth of the egg cavity) by a rather stout cord, the stump of which can be seen on the specimen. This cord was formed by the union of many small, filamentous strands that came from the egg substance; when severed during removal, a surprisingly large quantity of blood escaped from the snake.

A fair-sized python was seen in our garage in 1929. Since that time a number of cats have disappeared from our and neigh-

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<sup>1</sup> The specimens represented in the accompanying photograph were exhibited at a meeting of the Natural History Section of the Siam Society held December 19, 1933.



bouring houses, the snake being seen by servants on several occasions. In October of this year it was caught while crushing a cat at one of the houses and killed. It was 12 feet long and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest diameter.

A. G. ELLIS, M. D.

#### No. VI. Occurrence of the Fin-Foot near Lampang.

On November 11, 1930, I obtained a specimen of the fin-foot (*Heliopais personata*) in a small, shallow marsh about fifteen miles along the Lampang-Chiengrai road. The bird was swimming slowly and was probably searching for food. It was a female in full plumage and had the following dimensions: Total length 520 mm.; wing 257 mm.; tail 112 mm.; tarsus 88 mm.; gape 54 mm. Previous Siamese records which I have been able to find for this bird are Pattani, 1899 (Proceedings Zoological Society of London, 1901); Koh Pa-ngan, 1913 (Journal Federated Malay States, 1915); and Chantaboon, 1917 (Journal of Natural History Society of Siam, III, 1918). The specimen now recorded may prove to be the first from northern Siam.<sup>1</sup>

LUANG S. VIJAKICH.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, NEW YORK,  
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#### No. VII. Forked Brow-Tines in Antlers of a Schomburgk Deer.

In his article, "Some Notes on *Cervus schomburgki*", which appeared in the Journal of Natural History Society of Siam, Vol. III, No. 1, 1918, Mr. P. R. Kemp remarks: "In all the numerous heads examined by me I have never come across a single case of the forked brow tine of which Blyth and Lydekker make mention, nor can I learn of other observers in this country having ever met with this peculiarity." The accompanying photograph of a head of a Schomburgk deer carrying antlers with forked brow-tines may therefore be of interest to Mr. Kemp and others who have not seen such a case before.

According to the present owner, a Bangkok resident, the skull shown in the photograph has been in the possession of his family for at least seventy years, but it is not known from which part of this country it was originally obtained.

<sup>1</sup> Another specimen of this rare bird was taken on the Pran River, Peninsular Siam, June 5, 1928. This specimen is in the United States National Museum.—EDITOR.