

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

February 6th, 1900. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of January 1900, and called attention to the breeding of a pair of Blackheaded Buntings (*Emberiza melanocephala*) in the Western Aviary, about the middle of the month. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas exhibited and made remarks on some mounted heads of Antelopes obtained on the Upper Nile by Capt. H. G. Majendie. Amongst these were specimens of *Cobus maria*, *C. leucotis*, *Damaliscus tiang*, and *Gazella rufifrons*. — Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton, F.Z.S., exhibited skins of the continental and British Dormice, which he characterized as distinct, and proposed the subspecific name of *anglica* for the British form. — Mr. Barrett-Hamilton also exhibited skins of the Variable Hare (*Lepus timidus* Linn.) from Scotland and Ireland, to show their subspecific characters; and gave a short synopsis of Palaearctic Variable Hares, describing as suspecifically new, under the name of *Lepus timidus ainu*, the representative form of the island of Yezo. — Mr. R. Trimen, F.R.S., communicated a paper by Lieut.-Col. J. Malcolm Fawcett, entitled "Notes on the Transformations of some South-African Lepidoptera." This memoir was accompanied by a series of careful and characteristic coloured drawings from life of larvae and pupae collected by the author during a residence in Natal, chiefly at Ladysmith and Maritzburg. The early stages of seventeen Rhopalocera and thirty-one Heterocera were described and figured. Nearly all of these appeared to have been previously unpublished, and in the few instances where previous publication had occurred, the illustrations had been inexact or insufficient. In several species, not only the variations of the full-grown larvae, but the changes exhibited at successive moults were well shown, especially in the Natalian species of *Papilio*. Among the Heterocera was specially noticeable the striking series of Saturniid larvae, and still more the huge and extraordinary caterpillar of *Lophostethus Dumolinii*, one of the largest of the Smerinthine hawk-moths, which, in addition to the usual caudal horn, bears many strong branched spines distributed over nearly the whole of the body. Colonel Fawcett's descriptions and drawings were accompanied by notes of value on the distribution, food-plants, &c. of the species concerned. — Mr. Trimen expressed his deep regret (which he felt the Fellows of the Society would share) that the talented writer of this memoir, who had rejoined his regiment in Natal, was among those officers who were known to have been severely wounded during the siege of Ladysmith. — Mr. L. A. Borradale, F.Z.S., read a paper on a small collection of Decapod Crustaceans from freshwaters in North Borneo. The specimens were referred to four species, of which one was a Prawn and three were Crabs. Of the latter one was considered to be new, and was described under the name of *Potamon kadamaianum*. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas read a paper on the Mammals obtained in South-western Arabia by Messrs. Percival and Dodson during the autumn of last year. Twenty-eight species were enumerated, and the collectors' field-notes upon them were given. — A communication was read from Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, C.M.Z.S., on the feigning of death in Fishes, based principally on observations made on specimens of *Pseudopriacanthus altus* and *Epinephelus nireatus* in the Aquarium of the Uni-

ted States Fish Commission at Washington. — A communication was read from Dr. A. G. Butler containing a revision of the Butterflies of the genus *Zizera* (Fam. *Lycaenidae*) in the collection of the British Museum. According to the author's views the genus *Zizera*, so far as was at present known, comprised 16 species. These were enumerated and their specific differences were pointed out. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Reisestipendien für den Besuch der Zoologischen Station in Neapel.

Herr Geheimrath Prof Dr. A. Dohrn hat dem Vorstand der Deutschen Zoologischen Gesellschaft die Mittheilung gemacht, daß einige Freunde der Zoologischen Station in Neapel einen Fonds gebildet haben zu dem Zwecke, unbemittelten deutschen Forschern durch Erstattung der Kosten für die Hin- und Rückreise nach Neapel den Besuch der Zoologischen Station zu erleichtern, und daran die Bitte geknüpft, der Vorstand möge diejenigen Bewerber auswählen, welche sich durch Befähigung und Bedürftigkeit am meisten empfehlen. Für das laufende Jahr können 4 Reisestipendien von je 250 Mark verliehen werden.

Der Vorstand hat beschlossen, das Anerbieten des Herrn Geheimraths Prof. Dohrn mit dem wärmsten Danke anzunehmen, und gibt hierdurch den Fachgenossen Kenntnis davon.

Um ein Stipendium können sich Biologen (Zoologen und Botaniker) bewerben, welche dem Deutschen Reiche angehören.

Der Bewerber hat sich schriftlich beim Vorstande der Deutschen Zoologischen Gesellschaft zu melden und dabei einen wenigstens dem einen oder andern Vorstandsmitgliede bekannten Herrn zu nennen, der im Stande ist, dem Vorstande nähere Auskunft über Befähigung und Bedürftigkeit des Bewerbers zu geben.

Von der Zuweisung eines Stipendiums setzt der Vorstand die Zoologische Station sofort in Kenntnis, welche alsdann die Auszahlung des Betrages an den Betreffenden veranlaßt.

Der Schriftführer: Prof. J. W. Spengel (Gießen).

3. 72. Versammlung deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte in Aachen, 17.—22. September 1900.

Da den allgemeinen, anfangs Juni zu versendenden Einladungen ein vorläufiges Programm beigelegt werden soll, bitten die Herren Dr. Heinrich Küppers (Einführender) und Oberlehrer Joseph Menge (Schriftführer) die für die Abtheilung für Zoologie und Vergleichende Anatomie bestimmten Vorträge bis Ende April bei einem der Herren anmelden zu wollen.

(Dr. H. Küppers, Oberlehrer, Krefelderstr. 3; Oberlehrer Jos. Menge, Morheimsallee 37.)

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