

ering her eggs she sat quiet, apparently resting before starting the long walk back to the pond.

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POISONOUS SNAKES IN THE JUNGLE.

It is quiet commonly maintained that poisonous snakes are very abundant in the tropics. After experiencing several months intensive collecting in Central American jungles, and after discussing the matter with other collectors who have likewise worked in the tropics, it is the writer's belief that poisonous snakes are not nearly so common as is generally supposed. The *species* are fairly well represented, but the actual number of specimens is comparatively less than in the case of the harmless forms. We employed natives to collect for us and few, if any, brought in any poisonous examples. They maintained that the venomous snakes were super-abundant and considered all annulated snakes (*Polydontophis annulatus*, *Coronella micropholis*, *Urotheca elapoides*, *Oxyrhopus* sps., and others), to be coral snakes, and all darkly colored, spotted snakes (*Xenodon*, *Leptodira*, *Petalognathus*, etc.), to be species of *Lachesis*. Many times were we given perfectly harmless forms which were considered by the natives to be either Elapine or Crotaline species. Hence, their usual statement of poisonous snakes being very abundant.

It is therefor advisable that the collector going into the usual tropical jungles should not entertain too high expectations in his quest for a large percentage of poisonous snakes, for he is very liable to have his hopes suddenly shattered.

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Halter, Clarence R. 1917. "Poisonous Snakes in the Jungle." *Copeia* 47, 76–76.

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