

Mount Kinabalu: a Note

In June 1928, in company with the late Mr. J. L. Humphreys, C.M.G., then Governor of British North Borneo, I made a reconnaissance of Mt. Kinabalu, the highest peak in Malaysia, to plan a collecting visit to the mountain which had been by no means exhaustively explored, though several times visited by zoologists (*vide* Moulton, Journ. Sarawak Museum, 11, 1915, pp. 136-170 and maps). The expedition was carried out in the following year during my absence in Europe, by Messrs. F. N. Chasen, Curator, Raffles Museum, Straits Settlements, and H. M. Pendlebury, Systematic Entomologist, Federated Malay States Museums. The reports on the vertebrates and on the invertebrates other than insects, will be given in this "Bulletin": the entomological papers in the "Journal of the Federated Malay States Museums".

The accounts of the mountain fauna may profitably be compared with those of the collections made in the North Borneo lowlands by Messrs. Chasen, Pendlebury and myself in 1927 in process of publication in the journals named.

The route taken by Mr. Humphreys and myself (accompanied by Messrs. R. F. Evans and G. H. Vinen, District Officers, the former of whom made all arrangements for the journey) was a little different from that followed by the later party. Our stages, each of one day, were:—Kota Belud—Kabayau, Kabayau—Dallas, Dallas—Tenompok Pass—Bundu Tuhan, Bundu Tuhan—Tenompok Pass—Lumu Lumu—Kamborangah, Kamborangah—Pakka, Pakka—Summit—Pakka, Pakka, etc.—Bundu Tuhan, Bundu Tuhan, etc.,—Koung, Koung—Kabayau, Kabayau—Kota Belud; *i.e.*, ten days travelling.

At Jesselton and at the various stopping places I took as many readings (always at 4 P.M.) as possible of a boiling point thermometer with the following result. In the first column each height is calculated from that of the station directly below it, in the second column the height of each station is obtained by reference to sea-level at Jesselton. The third column gives the average of the two results. Compensation for temperature has been made.

		Feet	Feet	Feet
Kota Belud	...	188	188	188
Kabayau	...	590	601	596
Koung	...	1,285	1,304	1,295
Dallas	...	3,126	3,153	3,140
Bundu Tuhan (Resthouse)	...	4,016	4,067	4,042
Kamborangah	...	7,190	7,210	7,200
Pakka	...	10,195	10,226	10,211

The latest determined height of Kinabalu (that by Capt. Learmouth, of H. M. Survey-ship "Merlin," who spent five days observing at the summit in 1910) is 13,455 ft. (Low's Peak). Six peaks have heights of more than 13,000 ft.

The minimum temperature during a night spent at Kamborangah was 48F., during two nights spent at Pakka 42F.; at mid-day on the summit in beautiful weather the shade temperature was 43F. Ice is known to form at the foot of Low's Peak: Mr. R. F. Evans observed this when he spent a night on the peak some two or three years before my visit. *C. Boden Kloss, Director of Museums, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.*