

C. H. Knott showed some interesting Cinecolor movies.

9th December, 1952: Mr. Vlasoff spoke of the appalling destruction of the dugong, and even of some of the protected birds such as the bustard, as openly advertised in the sporting journals of the south. It was resolved to bring the matter under the notice of the Zoology Section of the A.A.A.S. at the next congress to seek some remedy and protection for these. Mr. C. J. Cantrill spoke on the origin of Christmas Day, and the date of same.

13th January, 1953: One of the Cubomedusae of the family Carydeidae was exhibited. It was thought that this might be the cause of the newly described Irukandji sting, but confirmation of this will have to await next summer season. Mr. Lionel Law is taking an active part in the investigation.

10th February, 1953: Issue of new edition of the Check List of N.Q. Orchids at a cost of 2/6 was announced. Mr. S. Dean reported

visiting the Melbourne Aquarium who desire assistance in stocking their tanks with tropical material.

EXCURSION

16th November, 1952: A delightful day was spent on Mr. Rijker's Farm, at Glen Boughton. Beyond the acres of pineapples, the primitive rain forest resembled somewhat a botanic garden in the richness and variety of vegetation. A homestead without any external walls but closed in by wire screens, was a most unusual feature.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED

11th November, 1952: Wm. Hosmer, 45 Collinson St., Cairns; G. L. Williams, Archer Pt.; Mrs. N. Molesworth, Titirangi, Auckland, N.Z.

9th December, 1952: Sister Ruth Gibson, Herberton Hospital.

13th January, 1953: Lloyd Grigg, Box 265, Cairns.

10th February, 1953: Stanley F. G. St. Cloud, Moody St., Cairns.

PUBLICATIONS BY N.Q. NATURALISTS' CLUB

- 1. CHECK LIST OF NORTH QUEENSLAND ORCHIDS .. PRICE 1/-
- 2. MARKETABLE FISH OF THE CAIRNS AREA PRICE 1/-
- 3. CHECK LIST OF NORTH QUEENSLAND FERNS PRICE 1/-
- 4. EDIBLE PLANTS IN NORTH QUEENSLAND PRICE 2/-
- 5. LIST OF BIRDS OCCURRING IN NTH. QUEENSLAND .. PRICE 2/-
- 6. LIST OF AUSTRALIAN DRYOPIDAE PRICE 6d.
- 7. CHECK LIST OF NORTH QUEENSLAND ORCHIDS .. PRICE 2/6



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A Filefish New To Queensland

Balistoides viridescens (Bl. Schn.)

By GILBERT P. WHITLEY, F.R.Z.S.

(Contribution from the Australian Museum, Sydney)

Filefishes or triggerfishes (family *Balistidae*) are similar to leatherjackets, except that the bodies are covered with rough, hard scales, like the surface of a file; the trigger-like dorsal spines can be locked in an erect position by a bony mechanism worked by the muscles of the fish. They are said to be poisonous as food.

On 3rd December, 1945, Mr. A. McKeddie obtained a filefish *Balistoides viridescens* (Bl. Schn.), at Trinity Beach, 14 miles north of Cairns, and photographs of it (here reproduced) by Mr. H. Chargois, were submitted to me for identification by the North Queensland Naturalists' Club (ref. no. 3613). The late A. R. McCulloch had collected another example many years ago on Cairns Reef, Cooktown, but the species has not hitherto been recorded from Australia.

Bloch & Schneider (Syst. Ichth. 1801, p.477) originally described *viridescens* from Mauritius. More than 100 years later it was named

Pachynathus nigromarginatus Tanaka (Journ. Coll. Sci. Imp. Univ. Tokyo, xxiii, 1908, art.7, p.39, pl.i., fig.4) from Japan. The species has a wide range, the Australian Museum having specimens from Bali, Dutch New Guinea, Papua and the Andaman Islands. According to Herre (Philippine Journ. Sci. xxv, 1924) it reaches nearly one metre in length.

The generic name *Balistoides* was proposed for this species by Fraser-Brunner (Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (10) xv, 1935, pp.659 & 662).

Ten species of filefishes have so far been recorded from Queensland, but others are known to occur and should be sought and preserved. The ten known are: *Balistes garnoti* Cast., *Sufflamen fraenatus* (Latr.), *Hemibalistes chrysopterus* (Bl. Schn.), *Balistoides viridescens* and *conspicillum* (Bl. Schn.), *Pseudobalistes fuscus* (Bl. Schn.), *Abalistes stellatus* (Anon.), *Balistapus aculeatus* (Linn.), *B. echarpe* (Anon.) and *B. undulatus* (Park).

Another New Saccolabium (Orchidaceae) From North Queensland

By the REV. H. M. R. RUPP, Willoughby, N.S.W.
S. subluteum, sp. nov. •

Planta epiphytica, parva, caule c. 1 cm. longo, radicibus paucis, aliquanto crassis. Folia c. 3, usque ad 6 cm. longa, 15 mm. lata, acuta, crassa. Racemi pauci et brevissimi, crassissimi, vix 5 mm. longa, floribus usque ad 5. Pedit-

cellum cum ovario 3 mm. longum. Bractea obtusa, viridis. Sepala petalaeque sublutea, 3 mm. longa, petala paulum angustiora quam sepala. Labellum album, trilobatum sed lobis fere obsolete; calcar lageniforme epistomic

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