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Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 30, 1920

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wever that he understands or reads English because I saw a large number of American and English books on his bookshelves. also copies of several American medical ~~and~~ and ~~biological~~ biological and biochemical publications He tells me that he is much interested in American biological and medical publications because they contain so much new information.

Keeps his snakes in square cement boxes about 2'x2'x2' with a wooden hinged lid over them. But when I saw them all the lids were open and the snakes were coiled at the bottom. Poisonous snakes are not very alert and do not jump high, nor have they the same vivacity as ~~the~~ our black snake or other non venomous but game

Rio (Vital Brazil) Snakes

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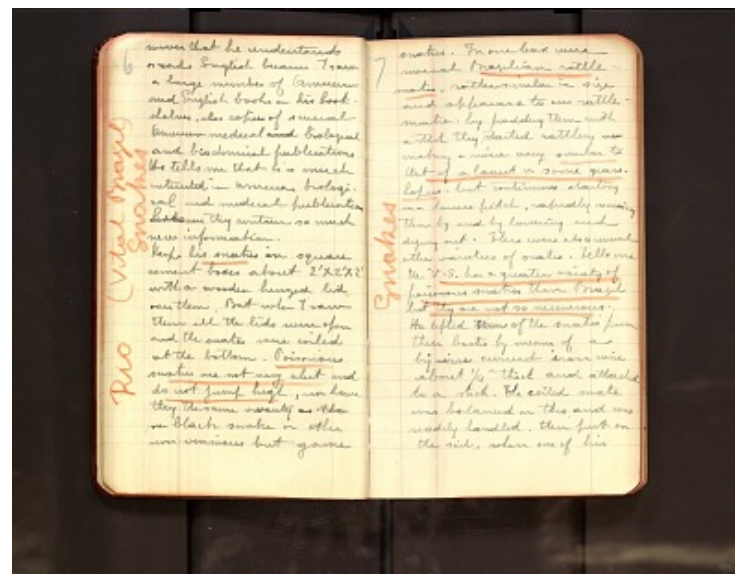
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snakes. In one box were several Brazilian rattlesnakes.

rather similar in size and appearance to our rattlesnake. by prodding them with a stick they started rattling ~~ne~~ making a noise very similar to that of a locust or some grasshoppers. but continuous starting on a lower pitch, rapidly increasing then by and by lowering and dying out. There were also several other varieties of snakes. Tells me the U.S. has a greater variety of poisonous snakes than Brazil but they are not so numerous.

He lifted some of the snakes from their booths by means of a big ~~wire~~ curved iron wire about 1/4" thick and attached to a stick. The coiled snake was balanced on this and was readily handled, then put on the soil. when one of his

Snakes



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