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## **George Sprague Myers- Journal, 1929**

Extracted on Apr-19-2024 06:41:17

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secured one. (#9) On turning over the log we found a large Pituophis (abt. 5 ft.) coiled up, and several Sceloporus that had scamped under when we arrived. The snake was a fine one, newly shed, and was very cold and stiff. Although the sun has been shining all day, it has been rather chilly all along the way. We picked up the snake and he moved very slowly. We took him alive.

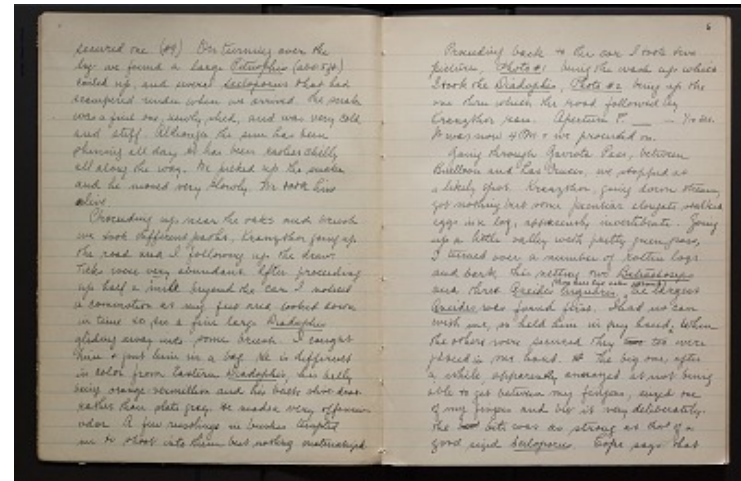
Proceeding up near the oaks and brush we took different paths, Kranzthor going up the road and I following up the draw. Ticks were very abundant. After proceeding up half a mile beyond the car I noticed a commotion at my feet and looked down in time to see a fine large Diadophis gliding away into some brush. I caught him & put him in a bag. He is different in color from Eastern Diadophis, his belly being orange - vermillion and his back olive - drab rather than slate gray. He made a very offensive odor. A few rustlings in bushes tempted me to shoot into them but nothing materialized.

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Proceeding back to the car I took two pictures, Photo # 1 being the wash up which I took the Diadophis, Photo # 2 being of the one thru which the road followed by Kranzthor ran. Aperture F. - 1/10 Sec. It was now 4 PM. & we proceeded on.

Going through Gaviota Pass, between Buellton and Las Cruces, we stopped at a likely spot. Kranzthor, going down stream, got nothing but some peculiar elongate stalked eggs in a log, apparently invertebrate. Going up a little valley with pretty green grass, I turned over a number of rotten logs and bark, this netting two Batrachoseps and three Aneides lugubris. <sup>(There were live oaks present.)</sup> The largest Aneides was found first. I had no can with me, so held him in my hand. When the others were secured they ~~two~~ ~~too~~ were placed in my hand. ~~H~~ The big one, after a while, apparently annoyed at not being able to get between my fingers, seized one of my fingers and bit it very deliberately. The ~~best~~ bite was as strong as that of a good sized Sceloporus. Cope says that



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