

Laidlaw (1876–1963), an expert on dragonflies and molluscs. The second was a huge cobra caught by the greensmen at the Island Golf Club in Thomson Road on 10 July 1950:

The snake was brought alive to the Museum and proved to be a King Cobra or Hamadryad...After it had been chloroformed and killed it was found to measure 15 feet 7 inches in length and to weigh 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. A plaster mould was immediately made of it from which a papier-mache cast has been prepared for the galleries, but painting of the cast was not completed by the end of the year. The skin has been preserved and the head presented to the Zoological Faculty of the University of Malaya to provide a skull for teaching purposes.³⁰

The collection continued to be added to through collecting expeditions, and donations. One of the most significant was a ‘very fine collection of butterflies from the Langkawi Islands’ by M. J. V. Miller, a collector. The collection consisted of some 360 species, some of which were very rare, and almost all of which were ‘in beautiful condition.’³¹



6.6 Visitor viewing
the butterfly
collection