

11-4-44 W side Dehing River, 2 mi. n nw Margharitta, Assam, India
collected 15 butterflies from jungle and savannas. (see March 24, 1947)

Ledo, Assam

11-5-44. A group of Hindu workers (2-11-5-44) preparing binding material.
(see page 231.1)

This stripping is made from a natural reed like plant which grows abundantly in the area. It has a remarkable quality of strength and at the same time a perfect pliability. It is as strong as rope and can be tied into knots with as much ease as could be handled with rope. It is used for many purposes but mainly as a medium for tying two bamboo together in the construction of their homes. The actual part used is as indicated. Several pie shape sections are cut from solid stock halves and from each one of these triangles the final product is fashioned to conform with the pattern indicated in diagram. After the edges are all trimmed and uniform it is ready for use. This is all done with their large knives which they hold wither in their toes or hand. These men will sit from morning until nite in this same position and whittle out this typing material. I have tried this apparently insignificant and simple act of stripping but found it more of an exacting job, and one that requires ability of manipulation that I had formerally supposed.