

## THE HUEVOS EXCURSION 1965

On the weekend of 5 — 7 June 1965, the Club undertook an excursion to Huevos Island, the central of the three islands of the Bocas. The party consisted of R. P. French, G. E. L. Laforest, P. R. Bacon, T. Farrell, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Brown, H. Boos, Miss J. Chun, R.L. Manuel, J. Boos, J. Griffin, Miss Rambaran, R. de Gale, Miss C. Storrs-Fox, R. Farrell, A. Hanners and M. Manuel.

On a preliminary survey by members of the Committee on 24th May the island seemed to justify its reputation of being one of the driest places in Trinidad. Very few trees were in leaf, no fresh water was in evidence, and a climb to the arid ridge revealed little in the form of wild life. By 5 June, however, the rainy season had been with us for the entire intervening fortnight, and the change was remarkable, as is indicated in the following reports.

Showers at frequent intervals kept us from making a survey of more than part of the island, added to the tangled and impenetrable nature of some of the vegetation which covered most of the island. This vegetation, however, does not vary much, so that it is unlikely that we missed any animal species with a sizeable population.

Owing to the weather the party found it impossible to make a visit to the sea-caves on the north-east coast, where a large colony of Oil-birds, *Steatornis caripensis*, is known to exist. Mr. Herman Boos, the owner of Huevos, told us that visits to this cave can only be made in calm weather by boat.

The Club is especially grateful to Mr. Boos for permitting us to camp on his island and study the fauna and flora. We are grateful too for the facilities he supplied, and the patience with which he endured this invasion of his privacy.

The thanks of the Club are again due also to the Trinidad and Tobago Coastguard for facilitating our transport arrangements with such co-operation, efficiency and good humour.

