

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

MEETING OF DECEMBER 21.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8:00 P.M., on December 21, 1920, in the American Museum of Natural History, Vice-President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair, with 16 members present.

Mr. Albert Effingham Lawrence, 105 West 69th St., was elected an active member.

Mr. Davis proposed for active membership:

Mr. Herbert F. Schwarz, 383 Park Ave.

Dr. Harry H. Knight, St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. Watson proposed:

Mr. Alexander B. Klots, 125 West 78th St.

On motion, the by-laws were suspended and the three candidates were elected.

On motion by Mr. Schaeffer, the society's subscription to *Catalogus Coleopterorum Junk* was withdrawn.

Mr. Weiss exhibited the insecticide catalogue of Sherwin-Williams Co., commenting on its serious scientific errors.

Mr. Weiss also read a paper on "The Insects of the Spreading Dogbane," illustrated by specimens in adult and immature stages, which will be published elsewhere in full. Reference was made to a paper in *Ohio Journal* by Raymond C. Osburn and some of the details were discussed at length by Dr. Bequaert, Mr. Davis, and Mr. Burns, with the conclusion that the species of *Apocynum* involved would affect the conditions.

Mr. Notman having assumed the chair, Mr. Sherman exhibited and discussed "The Biographies of Thomas Say," including the *Memoir* by George Ord, read before Am. Philos. Soc., Dec. 19, 1834; *Biog. Sketch* by Benj. N. Coates, read before Ac. Natural Science, Phila., Dec. 16, 1834; *Thomas Say* by F. M. Webster, in Vol. VI of *Ent. News*, 1895.

With the copy of Ord's *Memoir*, from Dr. Le Conte's library, was a letter of Mrs. Say protesting against Ord's literary criticism. Mr. Sherman showed illustrations of Say's portrait, first and last home in Indiana, and of his monument, and described his expedition to Florida and the Northwest as well as his devotion to science.

Mr. Davis called attention to the long time Mrs. Say survived her husband, her death occurring at Lexington, Mass., Nov. 15, 1886, and to her having lived on Staten Island, where she was elected the first honorary member of its Natural Science Association.

Mr. Richardson spoke of his collecting experiences in Virginia and of his happy association at Washington with Dr. Schwarz.

MEETING OF JANUARY 4.

The annual meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held in the American Museum of Natural History on Tuesday, January 4, 1921, Vice-President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair, with 18 members present.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following list of candidates for officers in 1921:

President—John D. Sherman, Jr.

Vice-President—Harry B. Weiss.

Secretary—Charles W. Leng.

Treasurer—William T. Davis.

Librarian—Frank E. Watson.

Curator—A. J. Mutchler.

Executive Committee.

H. G. Barber,

Joseph Bequaert,

Geo. I. Engelhardt,

C. E. Olsen,

L. B. Woodruff.

Publication Committee.

Howard Notman, Chairman,

Frank E. Lutz,

Charles Schaeffer,

E. L. Dickerson.

There being no other nominations, the Secretary was instructed to cast one affirmative ballot electing the candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee.

On motion by Dr. Bequaert, the Secretary was instructed to ascertain from Messrs. Leonard & Johannsen the present status and future plans of New York State List.

The Secretary presented for M. C. Houlbert a complimentary volume of *Encyclopedie Scientifique*.

Dr. Lutz reported as the Society's delegate to Chicago meeting that entomology was well represented, about 100 papers having been presented.

Mr. Leng's catalogue of Coleoptera was exhibited by advance copies, Mr. Sherman stating that the binding of the whole edition would be finished about January 20. He spoke of the interest Mr. Henshaw had shown and the thanks due him. Mr. Leng spoke of the thanks due Mr. Mutchler and of the advantage of printing such corrections as might prove necessary in one publication, the JOURNAL OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Mr. Nicolay exhibited his collection of the "Pselaphid Tribe Brachyglutini," reviewing the classification, methods of collecting, especially sifting

vegetable debris at base of trees in fall and under stones in spring, and called attention to the discovery of *Batrissodes caseyi* Dury on the Palisades. He also spoke of Mr. Davis finding the Scydmaenid *Connophron elongatum* in Cape May Co., N. J.

Mr. Weiss read a paper on "Coleoptera of the Milkweed," which will be published entire, illustrated by specimens of adult larva and work of the different species, especially *Tetraopes*, of which he gave the first complete life history.

Mr. Dickerson followed with a paper on "Other Insects of the Milkweed," treated in the same way, which also will be published in full.

The work of these two members was freely discussed and greatly admired.

Mr. Shoemaker gave an account of "Beetle Collecting at Washington, D. C.," during 1920, with an exhibition of the many fine species he had caught, including records for *Leptura americana* and *Cacoplia publata*.

Mr. E. A. Chapin and Prof. H. C. Fall, present as visitors, spoke briefly on the work that they had recently done.

Mr. A. S. Van Winkle, also present as a visitor, made an interesting address on his recollections of the entomologists of 40-50 years ago, especially referring to Louis Agassiz, C. V. Riley, Otto Lugger, and Dr. John C. Kucklin.

MEETING OF JANUARY 18.

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held at 8:00 P.M., on January 18, 1921, in the American Museum of Natural History, President John D. Sherman, Jr., in the chair, with 13 members present.

Edward Davis Quirsfeld, 523 4th St., Union Hill, N. J., was proposed as an active member by Mr. Mutchler.

Mr. Notman, under the title "Notes on Staphylinidæ," presented, with blackboard illustrations, a graphic account of the wealth of structural characters possessed by that family of beetles. The head was first considered with respect to its form, and its modifications in its various parts; the mouth parts, the antennæ, and the sutures were discussed in detail. The thorax, the elytra, the mesocoxal parts followed. The exhibit accompanying Mr. Notman's remarks, taken from his own collection, showed 150 genera, all but 3 or 4 of the North American tribes, with many rare and minute species, including the remarkable *Beyeria* found by Mr. Gustav Beyer in Arizona. Mr. Notman spoke without notes and displayed a remarkable familiarity with his subject.

Dr. Bequaert spoke of the genus *Pæderus* as the cause of an epidemic of blisters in the Congo. The beetle alighting on the skin at night would be crushed by the sleeper's hand. A red spot followed in a few days by a vesicle containing a little cerosity results and leaves a scar. He had notes showing that this occurred in southern Russia, Khartoon, and Brazil, as well as in the Congo.

Dr. Bequaert presented a "Review of C. Houlbert's 'Anatomie et Physi-

ologie Générales' in the *Encyclopedie Scientifique-Insectes*," saying that it contained rather more than would be found in Comstock's "Introduction to Entomology," and in general very ably presented. The history of entomology and entomologists was very interesting, though it treated rather unduly of the French, and the treatment of wing venation seemed to lay undue stress upon the theories of Woodworth. In this connection he called attention to the excellent paper in *Ann. de la Soc. Ent. de France*, LXXXIX, 1920, pp. 1-50, "La Nervation alaire des Coléoptères," by A. d'Orchymont. Dr. Bequaert praised highly the moderation shown in dividing insects into orders as opposed to the excessive subdivisions of Handlirsch and other German authors.

In reference to the history of entomology, Mr. Sherman recalled the paper by John G. Morris in *Silliman's Journal*.

Mr. Watson, under the title "Notes on Lepidoptera," exhibited the milkweed butterfly, with many interesting aberrations and some of its foreign relatives. His remarks thereon will be printed in full.

Mr. Davis exhibited a bound volume of W. D. Funkhouser's papers.



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