

second were considered for Meloponidæ and Trigonidæ; concluding with a discussion of the results from various points of view.

His remarks were followed with interest and were discussed by Dr. Sturtevant and others.

Mr. Leng read a humorous composition by Mr. Percy L. Sperr entitled "The Man of Science, Meet Him Again Please," in which some of the events recounted at a recent meeting and others were recalled.

Dr. Lutz exhibited for Mr. Bell a queen hornet found January 7, 1924, at Flushing, L. I.

NOTES ON ASILUS SERICEUS SAY (DIPTERA, ASILIDAE).

This robber fly, generally common enough, seemed to occur in more than usual numbers during the summer of 1924 and the writer was interested in observing its attacks upon insects of several orders. It is apparently one of the most voracious of its kind and is powerful enough to grasp and kill butterflies larger than itself. During the many instances this species was observed pursuing and capturing its prey, it was noted that so long as the pursued did not fly, it was apparently safe and although it might walk around on a flower or some other object in plain view of the robber fly, no attempt was made to capture it until it took wing and then it was quickly seized and killed. Sometimes the intended victim would be aware of the pursuit and would drop into the vegetation, thus escaping, but this evasion did not always work for if the robber fly was close it also would dart into the vegetation and sometimes succeed in making a capture.

The writer was chiefly interested in those instances where *Hesperiidæ* were captured, and among the several species of this family of butterflies found in the grasp of *sericeus*, was one specimen of *Epargyreus tityrus* Fabricius, which made a heavy load for the fly to carry. In this case it was unable to go very far with it at a time. Even this robust and swift butterfly does not always escape.

E. L. BELL.



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