

final degree, he had to break off his studies as his father had died, and it was essential that he should help his mother in his late father's business.

When he reached the age of 32, he commenced a course of study at the Blaagaards Seminarium (Teachers' Training College) in Copenhagen, and on completion he taught at various Copenhagen schools until he secured a post at the Katrinedal School in Vanløse Alle, Copenhagen, where he taught during the remainder of his life, having completed 25 years in April 1968, when he was the guest of honour at an official celebration.

He served with distinction in the Danish Resistance during the war, and was a member of the Danish equivalent of the Home Guard for several years after the war. He was a strong-minded but exceedingly kindly man, and he had the reputation for answering all the questions put to him by his pupils, in just the correct manner to be sure that they would learn from his replies, but without any degree of patronage. He was popular with both pupils and staff at his school. I had occasion to appreciate his style on the only visit I was able to pay to his home, when his explanation of the exhibits at the Castle of Roskilde and at other such places of interest which we visited, amounted to a shorter history of Denmark, and was most interesting.

I first made contact with C-K (as he was known by his friends) through the good offices of Dr. Joseph Klimesch of Linz, who spent much of his time interesting microlepidopterists in the Neptculina, a study of which he was the focal point. This was in 1947, and C-K and I had corresponded regularly ever since. I have kept his letters in the hope that some time I might be able to go through them, extracting the many interesting references to the Neptculina. He did not write much for publication. In his early days he was a close friend and disciple of H. P. S. Søndrup, the Danish expert on leaf-miners.

C-K had been entrusted with the preparation of the Neptculina volume of Microlepidoptera Palaearctica, and his close study of the family brought to light so many queries that his progress with the volume was slowed down. He worked in close touch with the late Dr. Hering and also with Mr. Bakkendorf of the Copenhagen Natural History Museum.

He suffered a coronary thrombosis in 1967, which naturally interrupted his studies, and although he resumed teaching as soon as was possible, his health remained delicate, and eventually circumstances made it essential that he should hand over the Neptculina project.

His last letter to me was full of cheer, and stated that his health was greatly improved, but a further thrombus developed and he died quite suddenly, shortly after retiring for the night.

The sympathy of all his friends goes out to his widow and his daughter.

S.N.A.J.

EDGAR JAMES HARE

(1884-1969)

The death of Edgar Hare on February 23rd 1969 in his 85th year has robbed the brotherhood of British Lepidopterists of one of its most ardent, cultured and colourful figures. He was above all one of those happy people who never seem to grow old and indeed was in full harness till he passed away reading a book in bed.

The son of the Rector of Little Dunham in Norfolk where he spent

his youth he went to Marlborough College where Edward Meyrick was then an assistant master about whom he used to tell many anecdotes. It was probably the influence of this famous entomologist that gave him the first flair for collecting which he applied with enthusiasm right to the end of his very active life. I first met Edgar Hare at Wicken Fen in 1922 when I was an undergraduate at Cambridge. This meeting developed into a lasting friendship which took me in his delightful company to many parts of the British Isles from the South Coast to Shetland, for he cast his net widely and there were few noted localities or species which did not engage his assiduous attention. He was a frequent visitor to the west of Ireland and to the Highlands where as recently as 1967 he travelled right across Scotland to secure a special Pyrale which journey proved most successful. He always planned his season most meticulously and seldom returned without his desiderata. In this way he built up a superb collection of the Macrolepidoptera and Pyrales all beautifully set and arranged. His series of the Coronet moths (*Hadena*) could hardly be excelled. The well-known woods at Hamstreet in Kent were one of his favourite resorts and it is indeed fitting that his ashes have been strewn there. Every September for many years he used to visit Prawle in South Devon. The occasion in 1938 will not be readily forgotten by either of us when with a host of insects appearing nightly to light and sugar we packed up at very short notice to return home when the situation became increasingly menacing at the time of Munich. This Devon locality proved quite a gold mine providing him with such choice species as *Hippotion celerio*, *Apames dumerili*, *Plusia chalcites*, *Uresiphita polygonalis* and in 1967 *Hellula undalis*, a small Pyrale new to the British list.

Visitors to his charming residence in the country near Longfield in Kent where he lived for over thirty years, will not readily forget the kind hospitality of Edgar and Suzanne Hare. She came from a French family associated with the wine industry of the Boreadux region. For he was indeed a connoisseur of that delectable product of France. He never gave up his interest in the Classics and used to enjoy reading the great Greek tragedies in their original text. After leaving Marlborough he went straight into the legal profession which was to be his *métier* for life. Soon after being called to the Bar he joined Queen Anne's Bounty which he served for over thirty years with an interval when he served in the 1914-18 War. He eventually became its Treasurer and finally the Secretary of this Church Body which merged with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1948. For his long and signal services he was awarded the C.B.E.

He joined the South London Entomological and Natural History Society in 1902 and eventually became a Life Member with 67 years of continuous membership to his credit, though he never served it in an official capacity. He was a regular attendant at the Dinners and Exhibitions of this society and seldom missed a Verrall Supper. All who knew Edgar Hare have indeed lost a good friend, for with his charm, zest and above all his sense of humour he endeared himself to all who came into contact with him and he inspired others to follow his example. All sympathy goes forth to his widow and to members of his large family which extends to the fourth generation. C. G. M. de W.



Worms, C. G. M. de. 1969. "Obituary: Edgar James Hare (1884-1969)." *The entomologist's record and journal of variation* 81, 151-152.

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