

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

The Forty Fifth Annual Meeting of this society will be held at the Agricultural College, Guelph, on the 5th and 6th of November under the presidency of Dr. James Fletcher of Ottawa. The first session will be held on Thursday afternoon and the meeting will continue during that evening and the whole of the following day. On Thursday evening a popular address will be given by Dr. Felt, State Entomologist of New York, and short addresses will also be given by President Creelman of the College and Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario. At the morning and afternoon meetings papers will be read by various members of the society on a variety of topics, both economic and scientific. Visitors from a distance will be very heartily welcomed, and any papers they wish to bring forward will be gladly received. Those who intend to be present are requested to inform Professor Bethune, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Canada, some time during the week previous to the meeting, and to let him know the titles of any papers they wish to present.

C. J. S. BETHUNE.

Scientific Notes

Shade tree work in Brooklyn. The work of this city in the care of its shade trees was extended last year to include a systematic warfare against the tussock moth (our worst enemy) and other insects. In the winter, spring and during the last few weeks, egg masses of the tussock moth have been collected from trees over a large area and burned. The owners of adjoining property have been asked to clean their fences and house walls, through the medium of a postal card and also by verbal notification. The results have been most encouraging. There appears to be a sad lack of knowledge among people as to the simplest methods of caring for their trees and fighting insect pests. Our work has thus served as a very efficient object lesson, if one is to judge from the numerous letters requesting attention from other sections of the city and the hundreds of queries regarding methods and formulæ.

On the hatching of the first brood of caterpillars early in June, all the trees within the cleaned area were banded with cotton batting in order to prevent reinfestation by caterpillars hatching from egg masses on neighboring fences.

A series of chemical and field tests with some of the most important brands of arsenate of lead purchased in the market revealed some very important facts regarding the worthlessness of some that were thought genuine and the good quality of others. This information will prove very helpful another

year. Our spraying apparatus will also be increased by several more gas spraying machines and many barrel pumps, which will enable us to treat all the trees within the infested area within a very short time, thus destroying the larvæ when still young and most susceptible to poison.

The past season has been a bad one for most insects and many species have been abundant this year that were not injurious last season. The elm leaf beetle has been controlled by spraying with arsenical poisons for the destruction of adults and larvæ, supplemented by destroying the pupæ with kerosene emulsion in August. The bag worm was very abundant in certain centers early in the season, and serious injury was averted by collecting the bags before the eggs hatched.

Several rainy days during the winter were utilized by lectures to the men employed in this work. Not only were the fundamental principles of arboriculture presented but also the work against insect pests, their characteristics, etc., were duly discussed. These talks were copiously illustrated with specimens and colored slides. The gypsy and brown-tail moths were discussed so that should either of these species ever invade Brooklyn, the more intelligent of our men might be able to identify them and call attention thereto. The beneficial effects of these meetings have been proven by the numerous "new" insects brought in for identification, and by the better grade of work done by the men. At present there is a force of 163 men attending to the street trees of Brooklyn alone.

J. J. LEVISON, Arboriculturist,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Muscina stabulans (Fallen). During the month of July, 1907, my wife in preparing beets for the table discovered that the stems were infested with maggots and called my attention to the matter. The larvæ were placed in a breeding jar, together with the stems, which were not decayed at this time, though they speedily became so. The larvæ began pupating on July 14, the first fly appearing on the evening of July 22. Dr. L. O. Howard, to whom the adults were submitted for identification, pronounced the insect to be the above named species. They were all undersized individuals and some half dozen or so were reared from the stems. During the past summer I found some very young dipterous larvæ upon a leaf of the common rhubarb or pie plant, which had begun to decay. There issued therefrom no less than 35 full-sized specimens of *Muscina stabulans*. The larvæ were found on the 25th of May and the flies began to issue on June 10. This species seems to be most common in houses about Harrisburg during the months of May and June, almost completely disappearing by July 1.

W. R. WALTON.

"The mosquito lit on the sleeping man,
And looked for a place to drill,
'The world owes me a living,' he said,
And at once sent in his bill."

—*Cornell Alumni News*.



Levison, Jacob Joshua. 1908. "Shade tree work in Brooklyn." *Journal of economic entomology* 1(5), 328–329.

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