1908] REPORT OF ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH

Ceresa constans, Wlk., Hull, very local, but abundant on three special basswood trees, Aug. 25, (Metcalfe). A distinct and readily recognized species.

Pediopsis tifasciata, Van Duzee. Mer Bleue, on aspen poplar, June, a good species distinct from *trimaculata*, Fitch. (Metcalfe).

Peltonotellus histrionicus, Stal. Mer Bleue, August; the rare macropterous form of this nearly always wingless species. (Metcalfe).

Clastoptera proteus, Fitch. subsp. nigra, Ball. Mer Bleue, August. New to the Ottawa district. (Metcalfe).

Odonata:---

As mentioned above, large collections of Ottawa dragonflies were made during the past summer. Among these were many species worthy of mention, but as Dr. Walker is working up this material, along with other collections previously made at Ottawa, for a paper for the Ottawa Naturalist, it has been thought best not to publish these records here, as they will all be included in Dr. Walker's article soon to appear.

> W. H. HARRINGTON, JAMES FLETCHER, ARTHUR GIBSON, C. H. YOUNG, J. W. BALDWIN,

- Leaders.

MEETING OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH

Held on evening of February 23rd, 1908, at Mr. Gibson's house. Present: Messrs. Harrington, Young, Fletcher, Baldwin, Halkett, Metcalfe, Letourneau and Gibson.

Mr. Halkett spoke of his work during the past summer in the Beaver Lake and Qu'Appelle Lakes districts of the Northwest. Large collections of fishes were made for the Governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and while engaged in this work, some interesting insects were collected from time to time. Mr. Halkett showed three bottles containing specimens in fluid, which he had collected. Most of these were aquatic insects in an immature state. Some large curious larvæ of a Dytiscus was noticed, which had been collected at the same time and place as the perfect insects of *Dytiscus circumcinctus*. Dr. Fletcher stated that some of Mr. Halkett's captures were of interest and were being recorded in the Entomological Record for 1907, which will appear in the annual report of the Entomological Society of Ontario for that year.

Mr. Létourneau showed inflated specimens of the larvæ of *A patela radcliffei* and *A patela interrupta*, both of which he had collected on apple. Mr. Young said he had found the larva of the former at Ottawa on Mountain Ash. A general discussion followed on the food plants of lepidopterous insects, and many interesting points were brought out.

Mr. Baldwin exhibited a case containing some rare captures which he had made during the past summer. The most interesting were *Sphinx canadensis*, *Ampelophaga versicolor* (a beautiful specimen), and *A pantesis virgo*, var. *citrinaria*. All of these had been taken at light.

Mr. Metcalfe showed a long series of the interesting little homoptera belonging to the genus Psylla. He stated also that unfortunately many of these, although clearly distinct, had never been named. In the meantime he was saving all he collected and taking careful notes as to dates, localities and food plants. He also showed a nice collection of Manitoba hemiptera which had been sent to him by Mr. Criddle of Aweme.

Mr. Harrington showed some acorns of Red Oak which had been collected when newly fallen in the autumn of 1906 at Kirk's Ferry, Que. He had found a large percentage of the fallen acorns infested by the galls of some cynipid. These fusiform whitish galls arose from the base of the nut and developed between the nut and the cup, generally protruding slightly above the cup and causing a marked depression in the nut. The majority of the infested acorns had only one or two galls, but some had as many as five. These greatly exhausted or perhaps destroyed the vitality of the nuts. He had not succeeded in breeding the gall-maker or in finding any reference to such a gall.

Mr. Harrington also exhibited a recent fascicule of the Genera Insectorum containing a monograph of the Trigonalidæ by Mr. W. A. Schulz. The forty-two known species of these interesting hymenoptera are divided into seventeen genera, and five sub-families are indicated. The distribution of the insects is world-wide, but they appear to be most abundant in Central and South America. Only one Canadian species is known which was collected in Vancouver Island by Rev. G. W. Taylor and was described by Mr. Harrington as *Trigonalis canadensis*. This species has been made by Schulz the type of a new genus Bareogonalos and with *B. Scubellaris* Cam. (Mex.) forms the sub-family Bareogonaloinæ. A specimen of the male was shown and attention called to the armed scutellum and other generic characters.

1908]

Dr. Fletcher exhibited a pair of the very rare Neophasia terlooii, Behr, which had been given to him with many other rare species by Dr. W. Barnes, of Decatur, Ill. An account was given of a most enjoyable day spent with Dr. Barnes at his home, in company with Dr. J. B. Smith and Mr. H. H. Lyman. Among other specimens shown were: A grand specimen of the Tarantula, Mygale hentzii, Girard, which had been presented to the Division of Entomology by Mr. W. Bremner and was found in the building of the Ottawa Fruit Exchange. It had doubtless been imported with fruit from the south. This specimen measured over 6 inches from tip to tip of the outstretched legs, and the body was nearly 2 inches long. Some specimens of both sexes of the interesting little Boreus californicus which had been received in a living condition from Mr. J. W. Cockle, of Kaslo, B.C. A fine specimen of Cyphoderris monstrosa, Uhler, from Peachland, B.C., a new locality where it was discovered during the past summer by Mr J. B. Wallis of Winnipeg. A pair of the very handsome Scarabæid beetle Plusiotis gloriosa, Lec., from Dr. Henry Skinner of Philadelphia, who had collected them himself in the Huachuca Mountains of Southern Arizona. Five specimens of Pontia napi, L. var. b. hulda, Edw. which were taken by Mr. Douglas H. Nelles, on the 10th of June last at Bartlett Bay, off Glacier Bay, Alaska. Male and female specimens of the Brown-tail Moth, which had been reared in the Entomological Division from young larvæ collected in Nova Scotia last spring. Dr. Fletcher also exhibited for comparison a specimen each of Belostoma americanum and Benacus griseus. He pointed out the difference in the front pair of raptorial legs, but was unable to see why it had been considered necessary to put these two insects into different genera.

Mr. Young showed two beautiful cases illustrating the life histories of *Samia cecropia* and *Tela popyphemus*, Cram. These artistic cases were much admired by all present.

Mr. Gibson showed a selection of species from a collection of insects of all kinds which he had made at Rostrevor, Ont., on Lake Rosseau, Muskoka, last September, and spoke on the rare or more interesting species taken. He mentioned that he was preparing a list of the species of lepidoptera collected.

-A. G.



Gibson, Arthur. 1908. "Meeting of the Entomological Branch." *The Ottawa naturalist* 22(2), 43–45.

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