

As source books the value of the series can hardly be questioned, either now when the backlog of papers is being reviewed, or later when the reviews are more immediately topical. The question is rather the

personal one of whether they are worth 59 cents per month to a hard-pressed professional entomologist. The answer must surely be affirmative.

H. R. MacCarthy.

The Collections of Lepidoptera in the Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia

In 1929 the University purchased what was stipulated and understood to be the entire collection of macro- and micro-Lepidoptera from the estate of E. H. Blackmore. Since that time, however, the United States National Museum reported the gift from Dr. Gates Clarke of "the Blackmore collection of 2,000 specimens"; the Provincial Museum at Victoria reported the acquisition of "The Blackmore Collection"; and the late J. R. J. Llewellyn-Jones told me that he had seen notices of two sales of specimens of "the Blackmore collection of Lepidoptera". How many species and how many specimens the collection originally contained is impossible to say. The University received approximately 1,300 species of 9,900 specimens, but many of the species, especially in the Noctuidae, are represented by single specimens and in some cases by name labels only. There is one cabinet of duplicates and "material for further study".

Within the last three years we have received some valuable additions. When he sold his estate at Duncan, the late J. R. J. Llewellyn-Jones deposited his large cabinet at the University. It contained nearly 5,000 beautifully spread specimens on short English pins, of bright unfaded macros, ending with the Geometridae. This collection was willed to the University when Mr. Jones died. Through E. Ronald Buckell we received the collection made by his uncle, Dr. W. R. Buckell (see Proceedings, Vol. 43). These named, beautifully spread, perfect

specimens, are housed in a tall walnut cabinet of 20 drawers. There are 541 species of macros and 232 species of micros, totalling 2,813 specimens, mostly from the Salmon Arm district.

By the will of James Wynne of Enderby, the University received his collection of macro-Lepidoptera the existence of which we had not known. For years Mr. Wynne had sent me valuable ectoparasites from birds and mammals and although we corresponded at intervals, he never mentioned being interested in Lepidoptera. His collection of 2,800 perfectly spread specimens is housed in 30 store boxes.

Both the Buckell and the Jones collections are separate units since they are mounted on short pins and cannot well be incorporated with others on long pins. The Wynne collection is on long pins and is being merged with the main Blackmore collection, which will henceforth be known as the Blackmore-Wynne collection. The Wynne collection is especially valuable since it contains some series of which we had few or no specimens, and some eastern North American forms.

Thus the University collection contains some 19,600 spread and named butterflies and moths of British Columbia and a few drawers of brilliant Tropical forms for demonstration, acquired a few at a time from various donors.—*G. J. Spencer, of Zoology, University of British Columbia.*

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