

OBITUARY

F. C. WHITEHOUSE

Francis Cecil Whitehouse was born in Leamington Spa, Warwick, England, in 1879, was educated locally and left school at 16 to enter a bank. In 1905 he came to Canada and continued in banking until he retired in 1934 after 26 years as a branch manager in each of the western provinces. Always an ardent fisherman, he fished widely in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. It was on his many fishing trips across Canada that he became interested in dragonflies, first in Alberta and then in British Columbia. His studies led to two publications "British Columbia Dragonflies (Odonata)", University Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, 1941, and "Catalogue of the Odonata of Canada, Newfoundland and Alaska", Royal Canadian Institute, 1948, the latter a very valuable comprehensive compilation from all publications on this Order. On a trip to Jamaica, he collected extensively and produced "A Guide to the Study of Dragonflies of Jamaica" which was published by the Institute of Jamaica in 1948; his specimens on this trip were identified by Professor E. M. Walker of the University of Toronto, the Canadian

authority on Dragonflies with whom Whitehouse worked in close association. Walker named *Somatochlora whitehousei* after him.

When he ceased active field work, Whitehouse divided his Odonata collections between the Provincial Museum, Victoria, the City Museum in Vancouver and the University whose share consisted of two carefully spread and labelled specimens of each sex of 61 species of dragonflies and 18 species of damselflies, making 79 out of a total of 89 species recorded so far for the province. Most species of damselflies have 6 specimens each.

Whitehouse was a versatile author, for besides his publications on the Odonata, he wrote a novel, a book of poems, many essays on a diversity of subjects and two books on Sport Fishing in Canada. He was a sportsman to the end, being stricken in his 80th year while readying for a game of golf in Phoenix, Arizona, where he latterly spent the winters and where his funeral was held on December 5, 1959.

—G. J. SPENCER

The eversible glands of *PAPILIO MULTICAUDATUS* Kby.

Most lepidopterists are familiar with the eversible glands on the prothorax of larvae of the genus *Papilio*. When extended, these enhance the grotesque appearance of the larvae, and emit an odour. The following observation, made on September 3, 1961, indicates that these glands may have a more practical value than is commonly attributed to them. A larva of *multicaudatus* Kby. was observed resting on a silken hammock spun over the leaf of a hop tree, *Ptelea trifoliata* L., at the Forest Entomology Laboratory, Vernon. A braconid wasp 2.5 mm. in length was perching on the larva's dorsum. Attempting to see if the wasp was ovipositing, I carefully spread the foliage apart but the movement aroused both insects. The wasp flew about three inches to a nearby leaf and the larva reared up and extruded its thoracic glands. After

a few moments the wasp flitted back to the larva and lit on the tip of one of the glands, where it was instantly enveloped in a clear, viscid fluid. Several minutes later when the larva retracted its glands, the dead wasp slid down the larva's side and onto the leaf in a globule of fluid.

Subsequently, larvae of *multicaudatus*, irritated by application of live ants held in forceps, lashed backward, alternately brushing each side of the body longitudinally with the extruded glands. Contact with the sticky secretion quickly immobilized small ants. It seems probable that parasites not sufficiently light of step would suffer the same fate.

—J. Grant, Forest Entomology Laboratory,
Vernon, B.C.