

THE OCCURRENCE OF *GLUTOPS SINGULARIS*, BURGESS, IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

By R. C. Treherne, Field Officer, Entomological Branch,
Dominion Department of Agriculture

A single male of *Glutops singularis*, Burgess, was taken last June, 1915, at Agassiz, British Columbia, by the writer. Its identity was determined by Dr. J. M. Aldrich, La Fayette, Indiana, U.S.A., on a recent professional visit to Ottawa, Ont. Dr. Aldrich remarked at the time that it was extraordinary that an insect, apparently so rare, should have such a wide distribution. Former specimens of this species had only been taken in Massachusetts and Connecticut, U.S.A., consequently I was advised to enquire from Mr. Chas. W. Johnson, of the Boston Society of Natural History, who had been brought into touch with the insect on various occasions, regarding earlier records of its occurrence. I am indebted to Mr. Johnson for giving me the references from which the following notes are gathered.

A single male was first collected by Dr. George Dimmock, at Springfield, Mass., U.S.A., about 1872, but it was not described until 1878, when Mr. Edward Burgess placed the insect as a new species in a new genus (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. 19, p. 322, 1878). For thirty years the above solitary male remained the sole representative of its species, and it was not until April 18, 1909, that Mr. William Reiff captured three males near Purgatory Swamp, Norwood, Mass., U.S.A. Under the heading "The Rediscovery of *Glutops singularis*, Burgess," Mr. C. W. Johnson records (Psyche, Dec., 1909, p. 132) the capture of these three males and gives the location of the types as they were placed in museum collections at that time.

On April 21, 1912, Mr. Reiff was fortunate in again taking some males at the same place as before mentioned in Norwood, Mass., U.S.A. Three years later, on April 17, 1915, at South Meriden, Connecticut, U.S.A., Mr. Harry L. Johnson captured a single male.

I am now able to record, for the past spring also, the occurrence of this fly on the Pacific Coast. This specimen is in the National Collection of the Entomological Branch, Dominion Dept. Agriculture, Ottawa, Ontario. It is very strange, therefore, that the species should be so widespread in distribution and yet be so rarely captured. Up until the present time only males of this species have been taken, consequently nothing is known of its life history or habits, but it is hoped that before long more information will be gathered on this interesting insect.