

**PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

By E. H. Blackmore, Victoria, B.C.

As President of your Society, I beg to extend a hearty welcome to all those members who are present at this our Seventeenth Annual Meeting. Following the precedent of Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, at the Annual Meeting of the parent Society in 1915, I am not going to give you a presidential address. In opening that meeting he said that he did not consider it necessary or even desirable for the President to give a presidential address on re-election, and in that view I fully concur. Instead I am going to talk to you about ourselves, both collectively and individually; what each of us has done, and what the Society has done to advance our knowledge of the entomology of British Columbia.

I have had the honour and privilege of being your President now for the past two years, and I think it is my duty to give some account of my stewardship, as it were—to review the past two years and note what progress we have made. On looking back I am glad to say that we have progressed, and we are in a better position now as regards active workers and students than we have ever been in the history of our Society.

Last year, during my address to you, I made an earnest appeal to each one of you to do something, however small, towards advancing our knowledge of the insect fauna of this great Province; I asked you to take up some of the more neglected orders, and for all of us to work together in a spirit of harmony and co-operation, and I am pleased to say that my appeal was not made in vain. Work has been commenced in some of these neglected orders and much good work has been done throughout the year, some of the results of which will be seen in the programme which you have before you.

It is with great regret that I notice the absence of many familiar faces this morning; some have answered their country's call and are now in training, others have gone overseas, and some have left the Province to go to other spheres of usefulness. In this latter category I have special reference to Dr. S. Hadwen and Dr. A. E. Cameron, who have been recalled to Ottawa to take up other and, in the opinion of Dr. Hewitt, greater activities.

These two members are a distinct loss to our Society. Dr. Cameron, who was only with us a comparatively short time, endeared himself to all those members with whom he came in contact, and was ever ready to help with advice and suggestions any of us who were confronted with some of those difficult problems which are forever arising.

In conjunction with two other of our members, Messrs. R. C. Treherne and E. W. White, he wrote a valuable Bulletin on the Pear

Thrips of British Columbia, which added materially to the known history of this important insect pest. However, he has kindly sent us a paper to be read at this meeting, so that although absent in body, he will be with us in spirit. Dr. Hadwen was one of our best known members, and has never missed a meeting since the Society was resuscitated in 1911. We shall miss his valuable contributions, which were generally on Ticks and Blood-sucking Flies, which affected the health and well-being of animals. I am sure that I am only endorsing the feelings of all our members, in expressing our regret at the removal of these two gentlemen from our midst, and to extend to them our hearty wishes for their future success in their particular lines of investigation.

I am now going to introduce our more active members to each other, as we only meet once a year, and many of us only see each other at this time. I think it is only right that we should know what the other fellow is doing, what lines he is working on, and whether we can help him or not. I do not want you to run away with the idea that I am forming a mutual admiration society, but I do say this, that when we have members of our Society who are doing good work, and who are spending their spare time in the study of the particular order they have taken up, I think some measure of recognition should be given them, and perhaps I, being in closer touch with all the active members, may be a little better qualified than most to make a few remarks along these lines.

In the Lepidoptera, Mr. G. O. Day, of Duncan, has done some very valuable work in raising many of our western moths from the egg to the imago, thereby giving us life histories of species that have never before been recorded. Much work still remains to be done in this particular field of endeavour, many knotty problems that still perplex us can only be solved by working out the life-history of the species involved. I should be glad to see some more of our members take up this exceedingly useful work.

I am pleased to note that one of our old members, Mr. J. W. Cockle, of Kaslo, has taken up active work again, and he is now specializing in the genus *Eupithecia*, a group of small geometrid moths. Mr. Cockle has done some very valuable work during the many years he has collected in the Kootenay district, and has added a large number of species to our British Columbia list, including many new to science.

Mr. M. Brinkman, of this city, is a very enthusiastic worker, and has gathered together a very interesting collection containing many rare and uncommon species.

In the Coleoptera, I am sorry to say that we have only one member who has made any attempt to really study this very interesting and important order, and that is Mr. A. W. Hanham, of Duncan. He has got together what is probably the largest private collection in the Prov-

ince, and is able and willing to determine specimens in this order for any of our members who wish to avail themselves in this way.

Most of us have done a little desultory collecting in this order, but none of us have taken it up in a proper systematic manner, and there is a great field open for any member who would undertake to do this. I feel sure that many species new to British Columbia and probably new to science await the collector who devotes himself solely to the study of this order.

Coming next to the Diptera, our thanks are due to Mr. R. S. Sherman, of Vancouver, for the able and painstaking manner in which he has worked in this order. Since the death of Capt. R. V. Harvey, he has worked practically single-handed, and has added extensively to our knowledge of the dipterous fauna of British Columbia. Latterly, he has devoted himself to the study of the Fungus Gnats, and has added an immense number of species to our local list.

On looking over the list of members, I do not find any that are taking any special interest in the Hymenoptera, with the exception of Mr. Williams Hugh, who is taking up the study of the aculeate hymenoptera, that is, the Social and Solitary Bees and Wasps. In that section alone he will find a life's work.

I am gratified to learn that Mr. W. Downes has taken up as a special study the order Hemiptera. This is an order which has been entirely neglected for many years from a systematic standpoint, although from an economic view it is a very important one, as it contains many species which do a great deal of damage. I am pleased that so able a man as Mr. Downes is associating himself with this order, and I feel sure that we shall benefit by his researches in the future, and shall look forward to a valuable paper at our next annual meeting.

Mr. W. R. Carter, who has been a member for several years, is now associated with the Provincial Museum. He is a good botanist, and should be very helpful to those lepidopterists whose knowledge of botany is limited, in determining the food plants on which they find their larvae feeding.

On the economic side, we have three more valuable members, chief of whom is Mr. R. C. Treherne, whose valuable and important work on the insect pests of British Columbia is known from coast to coast. Mr. Ed. White, who was associated with Dr. Cameron in his early work on the Thrips, and is now Inspector of Fruit Pests for the Department of Agriculture, taking in the district comprised by Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland; and Mr. M. Ruhman, the Provincial Entomologist, who is stationed at Vernon, and has done a lot of good work during the past year, in conjunction with Mr. Treherne, in investigating and controlling outbreaks of the codling moth in the Okanagan district.

During the past year we have had several new members, and I have made it my business to write to each of them, extending a hearty welcome on behalf of the Society and ascertaining what particular field of endeavour they were most interested in. By giving this information to the members here assembled, those that are working along similar lines could get in touch with these new members and possibly form associations which would eventually prove of mutual help and benefit, both to themselves and the Society. Mr. W. R. S. Metcalfe, who is now located at Peachland, is an ardent student of certain families in the order Hemiptera. Mr. W. Sykes, who is a school teacher at McAllister, is taking up the Diptera, and should be able to add many species new to British Columbia, as he lives in a district from which very little material has been taken. Mr. A. W. A. Phair, of Lillooet, is a very enthusiastic collector of Lepidoptera, and will be a valuable addition to our Society.

Out of a large number of noctuid moths, brought down by him for identification last November, there are no less than eleven species new to British Columbia.

Mr. H. P. Eldridge, now residing in this city, is a keen student of Coleoptera, specializing among the smaller forms, and I look forward to his doing some good work in the near future. Last but not least is our worthy friend, Mr. W. B. Anderson, who is pretty well known to the most of you. He has been appointed to the position of Inspector of Indian Orchards, rendered vacant by the death of our late lamented member, Mr. Tom Wilson. Mr. Anderson is an accomplished botanist, and is rapidly becoming a keen entomologist, and as his duties take him into parts of the Province where very little collecting has been done previously, I feel sure that we shall benefit greatly by his membership.

By some of you I may be accused of introducing what may be termed as too much of the personal element, but I have felt for some time that we, as individual members, are so far apart, and in some cases isolated from each other, that we do not really know what each of us is doing, and I have taken this means of bringing the work of each to the attention of all.

During the past two years a very large number of species have been added to our previously known records, not in one order alone but in practically every order. I have not had the time to compile the exact number of species that have been thus added to our list, but I can say this, that nearly every active member of our Society has contributed more or less towards them.

In searching through the Entomological publications for the past two years, insofar as they were available to me, I have found that 33 insects new to science were described from British Columbia, representing 4 different orders. Of these, Lepidoptera claimed 26, Coleoptera 3,

Diptera 2, and Hymenoptera 2. Of these 33 new species and varieties, no less than 22 were described from material collected by members of this Society, divided as follows: E. H. Blackmore, 9; J. W. Cockle, 5; late Capt. Harvey, 3; E. M. Anderson, 2; G. O. Day, 1; A. W. Hanham, 1; and the late Tom Wilson, 1. This is a showing of which we should be proud, and should spur our individual members on to greater efforts, for much work remains to be done in each and every order.

It has given me much pleasure to place these facts before you, and perhaps I have put them in a rather unconventional manner, but if so I must beg your forgiveness, as I have only done what I have thought to be right and in the best interests of the Society.

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**LIFE-HISTORY OF THE LEAF-EATING CRANE-FLY  
CYLINDROTOMA SPLENDENS, DOANE (DIPTERA, TIPULIDAE)**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Previous to the discovery of the larvae of *Cylindrotoma splendens* by the author and Mr. E. W. White of Victoria, at Westholme, Vancouver Island, the species was known only from Alaska, and apparently the female had not been found. The original description of Doane (1900) was made from three male specimens, and Coquillett (1901) re-described the species under the name of *Cylindrotoma juneta* from a single male specimen.

In addition to the fact that the author, in the present work, obtained in the course of breeding all the pre-adult stages for the first time and described them in a paper recently read before the Annual Meeting of the American Entomological Society at Pittsburg, it may be remarked that never before had the immature stages of any species of the genus *Cylindrotoma* been found on the American continent.

The tribe Cylindrotomini occupies an isolated and intermediate position between the *Tipulidae brevipalpi* and *longipalpi*. The structure of the adult flies, especially as regards certain details of the venation of the wings, is quite unique, but it is in the immature stages of the different genera that the most interesting distinctions are found. The larvae, instead of living in the mud along the banks of streams or in rotten wood, as do the majority of the known crane-fly larvae, dwell upon the leaves of various terrestrial and aquatic plants; instead of being brown or grey in colour, they are bright green and usually resemble the leaves of their host-plants to a very remarkable degree.