

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

J. R. J. LLEWELLYN JONES, M.A., F.R.E.S.

It is my pleasure to welcome the members of our Society to the 43rd Annual Meeting, held unfortunately while still under the shadow of war, but with the increasing hope that victory and peace may not be long delayed.

Since the last Annual Meeting our Society has suffered the loss by death of three of its senior members.

Mr. M. H. Ruhmann, our Honorary President, who had been in ill health for some little time and whose passing was not entirely unexpected. He was well known to many of you and will be greatly missed by those who knew him best.

Mr. A. W. Hanham of Duncan, Vancouver Island, who also for some few years had been in failing health, was 86 years old at his death. For many years he had shown a keen interest in many branches of Natural History and was a keen collector of Lepidoptera and of other orders of insects, as well as in other fields of Natural History.

Mr. W. B. Anderson at the age of 87, who in the past took an active interest in our Society.

I refrain from further comment on their work and leave that to more competent members who had the privilege of knowing them better than I.

I ask the meeting to rise as a token of respect. May their souls rest in peace, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

The Secretary-Treasurer will shortly present his Financial Statement which I think you will consider satisfactory under the present difficult conditions due to the prolongation of war. He reports a credit balance of \$44.91.

The Endowment Reserve Fund shows a small increase, and I should like to take this opportunity to put forward with a view to discussion later, after you have received the Statement, certain suggestions as to the ways and means of making this fund more worthy of our Society.

We are looking forward to the day when we can publish the Proceedings

without assistance from outside the Society, and it was to achieve this end that the Reserve Fund was primarily instituted some few years ago. I should like however, if I may be so bold, to indicate another use for the fund, if and when it has reached a reasonably large capital sum. I refer to a scholarship for needy students in Entomology to be valid at the University of British Columbia, or at some other University or College at the discretion of our Society. As a learned Society it should in some measure co-operate with the educational authorities in providing training for the coming generation of scientific men. It has been well said that "no man liveth unto himself" and by establishing such a scholarship the Society would be showing in practical form its interest in the youth of Canada, out of whom will spring our leaders in future years.

And now to return to the immediate task before us, namely to investigate ways and means of attaining our objective:

(1) An increase in the membership dues. I hesitate to recommend this in view of the ever heavier financial burdens both in the field of taxation and in the cost of living imposed upon us by reason of the war. But this possibility should not be overlooked as a source of increased revenue.

(2) Increase of membership to a number which would allow the dues received, together with other sources of revenue, to cover the cost of publishing the "Proceedings" and financing our Society, and yet leave a reasonable sum to be transferred to the Reserve Fund each year.

It will be necessary to go outside the ranks of the professional entomologists, remembering that anyone interested in the scientific study and collection of insects would be a welcome acquisition to the Society. Our schools and universities together with the teaching profession should form a source of supply. There are many too in the learned professions who are interested in scientific work.

I am informed that there are nine names of candidates put forward for membership and that they will come up for election at this meeting. I extend to them, on your behalf, a hearty welcome.

(3) A contribution to the cost of publication of the "Proceedings" from those submitting papers for publication. This is in force at least in principle at the present time in that members requiring "separates" of their papers are now charged for them at a set rate.

(4) By means of bequests. For generations past this has been the means of providing endowments for schools, colleges, universities and learned Societies, and if some of our members were to leave even only a small sum to the Society in their wills, eventually our goal would be reached.

I commend these suggestions to your careful consideration and comment later.

And now to pass from the consideration of matters of concern only to our Society. Let us consider together briefly the part played by entomologists at the present time and the part that they should play in the future, after the war has been won and peace has been restored.

As is only right in such times as these economic entomology has been pressed forward and redoubled efforts made to promote the well-being both of the armed forces and the civilian population. The general public however, takes a good deal of educating and unfortunately we are still not very far remote from the attitude of mind which some years ago caused the will of a certain Lady Glanville to be disputed on the grounds that, as she was interested in butterflies, she was of unsound mind. True we have advanced a little beyond this stage, but still, in the minds of many, the entomologist is rather a curious person and certainly a little eccentric, but not to the extent of being dangerous.

Possibly we are somewhat to blame ourselves in this respect in that we have not sought sufficient publicity for our efforts in the public good. However the labours of

entomologists, in co-operation with medical science, to control and cope with tropical diseases, many of which are spread by various species of insects are being more widely known and are receiving greater publicity. Also the part that entomological research plays in the protection of the farmer's crops and the preservation of his herds, all so important at the present time, is being more generally realised and appreciated. On matters of public health too, the entomologist keeps a watchful eye, and from time to time gives warning of trouble ahead to the public bodies concerned, but unfortunately city Corporations and the like do not always lend a sympathetic ear, however timely the warnings, or however tactfully they may be given. Despite these discouragements the entomologist continues his labours hoping for the co-operation of the authorities concerned, and of course in many instances getting it, and looking for the sympathetic understanding of the general public to the end that the health and well-being of the community at home may be assured and the fighting services protected abroad.

And now as to the place of entomological research after the war. Economic entomology will continue to render service as now, to the medical profession, to public health authorities, to agriculture and to forestry; the findings of entomologists will be at the disposal of the departments concerned without restriction or reserve.

There is however another side of entomological research, which ought not to be overlooked or shoved into the background, which is concerned more with the advancement of scientific knowledge for its own sake than for material results.

As a scientific society, do not neglect the purely scientific side of the picture in an eagerness for material results and the plaudits of a public which unfortunately is all too apt to judge its values by a norm of dollars and cents.

Now science is a search after truth, and truth is a fundamental element, if we are to have after the war that "better world" which many politicians and others are promising us. Men of science are seekers after truth in that they probe the

laws whereby the universe and all that it contains are governed. The more science is able to tell us of the laws of nature the better we shall be fitted to face the problems which lie ahead, in that we shall possess more enlightened minds, and less narrow outlooks.

We hear much these days of international co-operation and of the greater necessity for understanding other people's point of view, if we are to have a just and lasting peace. Science and truth have this attribute in common, that they know no hindrance of race or creed and are thus truly international, and therefore can be of immense value in producing harmony

between the varied peoples and races of the world. The scientist therefore has a great and important duty to discharge for the ultimate well-being of the race.

Our Society already realizes the value of international friendship and co-operation as is evidenced by the number of members from the United States of America whose names appear on its roll. This membership is highly esteemed and augurs well for the future well-being of the Society, and is indicative that its members are fully aware of the part that they may play, as messengers of good will, in bringing into being that dream of a better world.

### SOME FOOD PLANTS OF LEPIDOPTEROUS LARVAE. List No. 10

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Cobble Hill, B. C.

An asterisk (\*) denotes that the species has been mentioned in these lists previously, and that the information now offered is either additional, or is an amplification of what has already been reported. Records in this list are supplied by the author.

#### Heterocera

\**Acrionicta (Apatela) fragilis fragiloides* B. & Benj. June-berry (*Amelanchier alnifolia* Nutt.), and species of plum (garden varieties).

\**Acrionicta (Apatela) funeralis* G. & R. Alder (*Alnus rubra* Bong.).

\**Acrionicta (Apatela) grisea revellata* Sm. Alder (*Alnus rubra* Bong.).

*Acrionicta (Apatela) lepusculina cyanes-cens* Hamp. Willows (*Salix scouleriana* (Hook.) Barr., *Salix barclayi* Anders.).

\**Amphidasis (Lycia) cognataria* Gn. English oak (*Quercus robur* L.), hazel (*Corylus rostrata* Ait.), species of huckleberry (*Vaccinium*), species of plum and raspberry (garden varieties).

\**Dicentria semirufescens* Wlk. (*Ianassa semirufescens*). English h a w t h o r n (*Crataegus oxyacantha* L.), and Judas tree (*Cercis canadensis* L.).

*Gabriola dyari* Tayl. Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia* (Lamb.) Brit.

\**Paonias excaecata* A. & S. June-berry (*Amelanchier alnifolia* Nutt.), species of plum (garden varieties), and species of cherry (ornamental varieties).

*Sarothripus revayana*  
*lintnerana* Speyer.

*Sarothripus revayana*  
*columbiana* Hy. Edw.

*Sarothripus revayana*  
*cinereana* N. & D.

Willow  
(*Salix scouleriana* (Hook) Barr., *Salix hookeriana* Barr.) and probably on species of oak.

\**Schizura unicornis* A. & S. June-berry (*Amelanchier alnifolia* Nutt.), and species of cherry (garden varieties).

\**Synaxis jubararia* Hlst. Red flowered currant (*Ribes sanguineum* Pursh.).

VIRTUAL ABSENCE OF VESPINE WASPS IN THE SUMMER OF 1944 (Hymenoptera, Vespidae). Unusual number of overwintered queens of *Vespula* spp., both the yellow and black "yellowjackets" and the white and black "hornets", were seen visiting the flowers of cultivated currants and gooseberries in the spring of 1944. Few of the queens succeeded in establishing broods. The scarcity of wasps in the southern interior of British Columbia has been commented upon by entomologists, foresters and laymen. The writer has seen but a single wasp and no nests during the summer, while many persons have reported not seeing any wasps at all.—Hugh B. Leech.