

LITERATURE CITED

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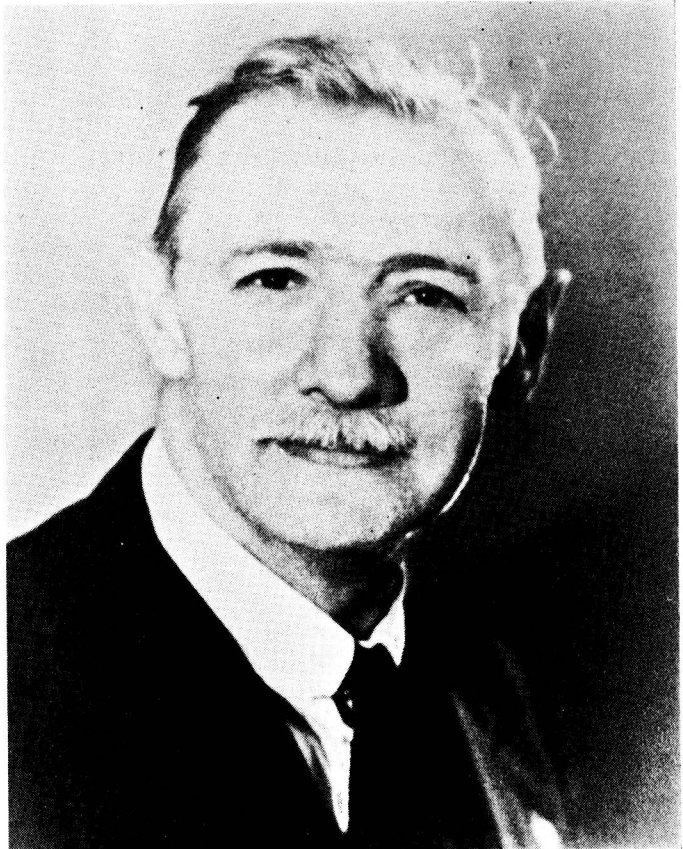
In Memoriam

MAX HERMANN RUHMANN, 1880-1943

It is with deep regret that I record the death of Max Hermann Ruhmann, Provincial Entomologist of British Columbia, which occurred on December 4, 1943 at Tranquille, B.C. Having known him from the time of his arrival in the Okanagan until his death, I may claim the privilege of a long and valued friendship with one whose attainments and knowledge in the field of our own particular science was quite unique.

Max Ruhmann was born on September 9, 1880 at Hzehoe, Holstein, Germany. His early years were spent in Holland and in 1886 his family moved to England where he attended Claremont House School, Wateringbury, Kent. Subsequently moving to Ireland, he attended the Harcourt Street High School, and later studied medicine at Trinity College, both in Dublin. On the outbreak of the South African War he enlisted in the British Army and saw active service with a noted cavalry regiment. In 1902 he returned to Ireland but owing to severe attacks of malaria, contracted abroad, decided to abandon medicine and devote himself to horticulture and it was at Glas-

nevin Botanical Gardens, then under the direction of his friend Dr. W. Moore, that he laid the foundation of the wide knowledge in pathology and entomology



which became his life's work. By that time he had made plans to become a fruit grower in British Columbia, and was already seriously interested in economic entomology.

He was married in 1904 and moved to Canada in 1907, residing in the Kootenay district until 1909 when he came to Vernon. For four years he worked on fruit ranches to gain practical experience. Then in August, 1912, he was appointed to the Provincial agricultural staff as Assistant Plant Pathologist and Entomologist, which position he held until the separation of the pathological and entomological work in 1918. He then became Assistant Entomologist. In 1935 he was appointed Provincial Entomologist and held this office until his retirement due to ill health in December, 1942.

It is as an extension entomologist that Mr. Ruhmann will be particularly missed by the farmers and fruit growers in all parts of the Province. The many well arranged exhibits of injurious insects and plant diseases which he prepared for agricultural exhibitions were of great interest and value, and it was this phase of his work which caused him to be so widely known and so constantly referred to on all matters in which the correct identification and control of insect pests was concerned. Max was a skilled photographer; we are still using illustrations and lantern slides prepared by him when the Provincial and

Dominion Entomologists shared the same rooms between 1919 and 1930.

The large and well arranged insect collection housed in the Department office at Vernon was almost entirely the result of his efforts, and bears witness to his painstaking skill. Mr. Ruhmann's personal library included a most complete collection of books and pamphlets, dealing with all phases of entomology, the bulk of which he bequeathed to the University of British Columbia at Vancouver. His attainments as a linguist enabled him to keep abreast of entomological research in various countries and here again, his help in translating and abstracting foreign literature was freely given to all. The most generous of men, one who in the goodness of his heart was always ready to give practical help and advice in matters which often covered a range quite outside of the entomological field, and whose personal interest were always held subordinate to those of his friends in all matters, professional or otherwise, he will be sadly missed.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Ruhmann of Vernon, B.C., a son William of Portland, Oregon, and a daughter, Mrs. G. E. Clark of Vernon.

E. P. VENABLES

THE BEETLE MELANDRYA STRIATA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (Coleoptera: Melandryidae). *Melandrya striata* Say, a shiny black beetle with striated elytra, is common in the eastern United States, but Carr's Alberta record (1920. An annotated list of the Coleoptera of northern Alberta; Alta. Nat. Hist. Soc. [Red Deer] 8 p.) seems to be the only one from the north-west. I took a male *striata* at Courtenay, Vancouver Island, B.C., on July 14, 1931; it was identified by Hugh B. Leech, who questioned the locality. However, another male was found at Courtenay on June 30, 1932. Both beetles are now in the collection of the Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver. Unfortunately, I did not keep any record of habitat but according to the literature, the species occurs under bark. There is an illustration of *M. striata* in Blatchley's Coleoptera of Indiana, page 1296, fig. 572.—J. D. Gregson, Kamloops, B.C.

EUCORETHRA UNDERWOODI AT SUMMERLAND, B.C. (Diptera: Culicidae). This chaoborid fly has been recorded from 6 localities in British Columbia by Hearle (1928. Ent. Soc. Brit. Col., Proc. 24: 17-18), but only one of these, Kaslo, is east of the coast mountains. A female of *underwoodi* (det. A. R. Brooks) was taken on the wing March 31, 1942, beside Trout Creek, about 4 miles west of West Summerland, at an elevation of 2,000 ft. above sea level. Excellent figures of the larva and pupa of this species are given by Johannsen (1934. Cornell Uni. Agric. Exp. Sta., Memoir 164, fig. 158-164).—Hugh B. Leech, Vernon, B.C.

THE FLEA BEETLE ORESTIODES ROBUSTA IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae). In 1935 M. H. Hatch recorded *robusta* LeConte from three localities in the State of Washington, two of them at elevations a little above 5,000 feet (Ent. News 46 (10): 276-278). Two specimens in the Hopping collection carry the following labels: "Midday Val., Merritt, B.C., 3. VII. 1924, K. F. Auden" [Det. F. E. Blaisdell, Sr.]; "Grouse Mt., 4,000 ft., Vancouver, B.C., 7. VI. 1931 H. B. Leech" [teste H. C. Fall].—Hugh B. Leech, Vernon, B.C.

CAMPYLENCHIA LATIPES ON ASTER (Homoptera: Membracidae). W. Downes has thrice recorded *C. latipes* Say in this journal (12: 14; 14: 18-19; 23: 16), reporting it from Vernon and Penticton, B.C., on willow and goldenrod. On August 4, 1944, I found a colony of adults on wild aster, *Aster multiflorus* Ait., at Vernon. Despite the hot weather the hoppers were inactive and made no attempt to elude capture.—Hugh B. Leech, Vernon, B.C.

THE BUG CORYTHUCHA PADI ON BRACKEN FERN. (Hemiptera: Tingidae). On September 29, 1943, near Needles, B.C., adults of *C. padi* Drake were found in numbers on the underside of the fronds of brake, *Pteris aquilina* var. *lanuginosa* Bong. The bugs were feeding, and not readily dislodged. Specimens were identified with the aid of Downes' key to the British Columbian species (Ent. Soc. B.C., Proc. 22: 12-19, 9 figs. 1925), and later verified by Mr. Downes, who said that bracken had not been recorded as a host.—Hugh B. Leech, Vernon, B.C.