In Memoriam

ABDIEL WILLIAM HANHAM, 1857-1944

It is with deep regret that we record the passing, on Jan. 18, 1944, at the age of 86, of another old and valued member of our Society. Mr. A. W. Hanham became a member of the British Columbia Entomological Society in 1905.

He came to North America from England in 1881, landing at Philadelphia and from there went to Missouri. Shortly after, he joined the Bank of British North America in Montreal, but was moved almost at once to Kingston, Ont., and then to Ottawa. From there he went to Paris, Ont., then to Hamilton and Brantford, Ont., thence to Quebec City in 1891, to Winnipeg, Man., in 1893, to Victoria, B.C., in 1901, and finally to Duncan, B.C. In 1905 he was appointed manager of the Bank of B.N.A. at Duncan, in which post he continued until his retirement in 1921. He made his home at Quamichan Lake, near Duncan. From late January to May, 1905, he was in Southern California, collecting chiefly at La Jolla, near San Diego, and also at Avalon on Santa Catalina Island.

Mr. Hanham was a keen lepidopterist, but was also interested in Coleoptera and made extensive collections of both orders. The greater part of his British Columbia material was presented by him to the Provincial Museum, Victoria, B.C., shortly before his death. His interests, however, were not by any means confined to entomology and he was even better known as a conchologist, being a recognized authority on mollusca, both marine and terrestrial, and he accumulated a large and important collection of shells. On one occasion, when a collector sent some shells to the United States National Museum for identification, the specialist to whom they were sent replied: "I do not know why you send shells to me when the best authority on the subject, Mr. A. W. Hanham, is living in your own district."

While not a frequent attendant at the meetings of the Society, except in its early years, nor a contributor to its Proceedings, the late Mr. Hanham gave valuable aid to fellow members or other students of entomology or conchology. The Society’s files contain many letters from him to members of the executive, and show that his interest and council were greatly appreciated. Hospitable, generous, kindly and full of unbounded enthusiasm for his favourite sciences, his knowledge and experience were always available to others, and through his extensive collecting and studies he has added much to our knowledge of Canadian mollusca and insects.

—W. Downes

Species and Subspecies of Lepidoptera Named in Honour of A. W. Hanham.

Melitaea hanhami Fletcher
Orthodes hanhami B. & McD.
Fishia evelina hanhami Smith
Eremobina hanhami B. & B.
Philometra hanhami Smith
Sterrha hanhami Hulst.
Eupithecia hanhami Taylor
Pyla hanhamellae Dyar
ENTOMOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS BY A. W. HANHAM

All in the Canadian Entomologist (C.E.) and the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of British Columbia (Proc.)

1900. Additions to the list of Manitoba butterflies, with notes on other species. C.E. 32 (12): 365-367.

COLLECTING NEOCLYTUS PROVOLANUS AND N. BALTEATUS (Coleoptera, Cerambycidae).—In 1931 when the late Ralph Hopping identified Neoclytus provoanus Casey for me he noted that it may be a variety of balteatus LeConte. In the description Casey mentions that he at first thought it might be balteatus. The question is still unanswered. There are several characters separating the two and in a fairly good series of both species these characters hold. The most conspicuous difference is in the basal band of the elytra, which in balteatus is sharply defined, but in provoanus extends over most of the base. Recently C. A. Frost examined some of my material, and of provoanus writes: “I think it is a very good species.” But there is one suspicious point: both forms are taken together on the same unexpected plant. Since, at Creston, B.C. I discovered their hide-out I have not had an opportunity to investigate if the same holds good for other localities. They are found on the underside of the large leaves of muleen (Verbascum thapsus) in the late afternoon and evening. In this way I have taken 10 balteatus (July 7-25) and 16 provoanus (July 13-Aug. 19). Nothing is known of the larvae. I have searched numerous plants, from the roots upwards, and am convinced that Verbascum, besides being an alien, is not the host.—G. Stace Smith, Creston, B.C.

NEW MEMBERS


Baverstock, William—Provincial Horticultural Branch, Vernon, B.C.
Guppy, Richard—R.R. 1, Marine Drive, Wellington, B.C.
Muir, Mrs. Margaret A.—Ganges, Salt Spring Island, B.C.
Palmer, B. F.—Kaslo, B.C.
Wisenden, Miss Grace—Box 236, Prince George, B.C.

Associate Member
Riedemann, Karl Anton—Alkali Lake Ranch, Alkali Lake, B.C.

STENICHIUS OVIPENNIS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (Coleoptera: Scydmaenidae).—Casey described ovipennis from California as a species of Scydmaenus (1897. Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 9: 480-481). A single specimen of this tiny reddish-brown beetle, slightly less than 1.5 mm. long, was found about 5 miles north of Lumby, B.C., September 16, 1943. It was under an old board lying on the top of a coniferous stump on the site of an abandoned mill; identified by W. J. Brown.—Hugh B. Leech.