

David G. Graham
Diary no. 20.
Summer collecting trip
July and August 1934

First skin of mammal
135-9
First box 346

July 2 Started late in the afternoon from Chengde by boat. We had some trouble securing passports because of the inefficiency of course Chinese clerks but are finally supplied with plenty of passports.

We reached Kiating in the afternoon of July 4, and sent the Smithsonian skins up to the Baptist compound for storage.

On the morning of July 5 we started for Anant Anai arriving July 6, about 11 AM. I have with me on Mt Anai Mr. Pen of the West China Union University and Yao, the netter.

July 7 Bought a baby black monkey. We are working at insect catching but luck is medium so far.

July 10. We have a few good frogs so far no snakes.

The Black monkey is no 1359.

July 17 Filled Box 346 insects value \$3.00

Box 347, mammal skin no 1359.

Box 348 insects, \$3.00

This morning my wife had a very bad case of palpitation of the heart. It certainly scared me.

I am preparing to leave tomorrow for the summer collecting trip.

Yesterday Mr. Pen got
a wild rat, mammal
1360.

July 18

went to Kiating. On the
way a coolie became so ill
at Lodsidas though he would
die. Chinese were going to
bleed him and do other
things that would probably
have injured him or possibly
caused his death. I took
charge, and had him on
his feet in a short time.
It looked like a marvellous
cure to the Chinese, and
they thought I used very fine
medicine.

I expected the Suifu
boat to be ready for me at
Kiating, but there was
a bad slip-up and
no boat had been engaged.
We had to take our

loads to the home of
the Jensens, and try to hire
a boat. The boatmen began
to ask exorbitant prices.

July 19. The boatmen were so
unreasonable in their prices
that I took the steamer to
Suifu. The steamer
turned out to be cheaper
by one half, and saved
a day's travel for us, excepting
that for the shipment of
mammal skins I will
have to pay extra freight
charges. By taking the
steamer I reach Suifu
today instead of tomorrow
afternoon.

P.M. we reached
Suifu just before
dark, with Suifu
old friends to help
we got off the

steamer and through
customs nicely.

Mr Tompkins
entertained me at
his home and helped
out in many ways.
July 20 I got up early and
went to the steamer to
forward the specimens. The
price charged was very
reasonable. They called
on the military official and
the civil magistrate. They
received me very cordially
and gave me additional
passports. A runner was
appointed to escort us. Mr
Tompkins appointed his
business manager to
help so we were able to
travel all afternoon, so
we are a day faster than if
we started tomorrow. The

magistrate gave me some
very fine tea leaves.
we started right after
dinner and took a small
boat to San Guang.

Had to take two boats
to Yoh Kev. Arrived after
darker, went to the
Yoh Kev militia to secure
an escort. Lined.
July 21. Travelled through
Sa Ho E (SA-HO-E) to
Hua Jan Chiao Eighty
li. Had a soldier
escort most of the way.
There is one place
called da-er-o where
robbers occasionally
appear. During the
day it rained most
of the time so we
caught nothing. The
rain became a

down pour just before
we reached our
destination. Our
bedding and clothing
got wet. At Hua San
Chiao I met some
old Chinese friends.
I am in territory
where I travelled and
worked more or less
for twenty years, so
I meet old friends
in nearly every village.

There are yellow
mountains a few miles
from this place.

July 22. Reached Kungshien
about 1 P.M. Met magistrate
and local official at
Chao Jia Yeh where I
expect to collect first.
also met a Hsiao
Chief. Spent part of

the afternoon fixing
nets &c. for the
insect netting.

23

We got up at the first
break of day. The coolies
have ^{been} very tired,
and the road is bad, so
I had to stop at
Lih³ Long⁴ ~~Shan~~³ for the
night. There is
evidence of a regular
cloudburst in this
section. Roads are
in bad condition.

It was cloudy all day,
so there were not many
insects. So far it has
not been a good time for
collecting.

after supper the
educational director
and the military officers
of the town came and

requested me to let the crowd hear the victrola, which I did. We had quite a long visit.

24. Reached Chao Jia Jie. We are living in a temple used by the militia, and the town school ^{is in this same building} I here months ago robbers raided this place, killed four, and wounded many, taking rifles and looting.

We got some strange butterflies

In one place a large stream comes out of the mountain side.

There are lots of leopards around

here, but they are hard to find. There are also bands of monkeys. I went hunting but found nothing.

July 25- This morning I climbed a high mountain to hunt monkeys. I saw them but did not get a shot at them.

Then I went down the valley.

The four netters have to do only day netting because the moon is at its full and is shining all night. We are in bad luck for night moths for they can not be caught by night lanterns when the moon is at its full.

Robbers made a raid
only five miles ^{15 li} from
here today and it
is feared that they
may raid this place
soon. The militia is
much excited, will
have to clear out of
here tomorrow afternoon;
and seeks a safer
place in which to
collect.

This is a paradise
for geologists, as there
is a great abundance
of fossils, we are
gathering a few.

July 26 In the morning I went to
the home of Yang Dong Deang
who was burnt to death
last fall. He had four netters
worked for days inside
In the afternoon we

travelled to Li Dong P'u.³
The militia was much
scared because of the
activity of the brigands
and last night were
on the qui vive all
night.

Several of the ^{Cookies}
are suffering from
sore shoulders. The
officials at Ched Jia
Yeo and Li Dong
P'u have been very
friendly.

We got a good catch
of insects yesterday
and today.

July 27. We got up at daybreak
and travelled to Shaye fo.
There was hard climbing
part of the way. ~~There~~
The netters had a
Francus with a nest of

large wasps or yellow-
jackets, and I've
got stings above the
eye, at first the
people of Shang fu
were very suspicious,
but they finally became
very friendly and
invited us to make
our headquarters
in one of the public
schools, where it
is quite convenient
and clean.

This will be a lean
year for collecting,
one of the leanest
I have had, but
we will do our best.

I sent the ~~man~~
guide to the ~~man~~
country to get
into touch with

the miao, who are
good hunters, and in
whose region hunting
and collecting ought
to be best.

July 28. The moon is our
enemy this time, it is now
at full moon and out
practically all night,
making night work
catching impossible. There
is not much to catch during
the daytime excepting
bees and wasps.

Today we moved
to So 2 Shin' Shu, a
better place and
center from which to
work. I am trying
to hard to get into
touch with the Chuan
miao aborigines so
as to hire some of
their hunters.

This morning I came to this town and interviewed the head officer of the village. He assured me it would be all right for me to move here and occupy a temple. I went back to Shang fo and moved everything here. The female Buddhist in the temple went on a great trade about our occupying the temple but now she is as nice as pie.

July 29. This morning at daybreak I sent a messenger into the Miao country. He returned with no results. I wanted to get an invitation to stay among them and to get their hunters to work for me.

I then went up myself. After awhile I met some old friends. I visited several homes, and then the school. I was given a royal welcome at the Miao school. All the pupils lined up and saluted and sang a special song of welcome they had made up. They used flags and banners, and a bugle. There were many visitors. One of the head Miao invited us to stay at his house. Then I returned for dinner at the temple at fo shu. Practically all the officials and gentry of the town came to the temple to visit. I showed them the guns.

I saw only one bird worth shooting and it was behind a limb so I did not get it. We got a good catch of bees, but not a great deal else. Two delegates from the Miao called urging me to go into their district. We received an invitation from the teachers and educational officers of So Biao to call on them. I am going there tomorrow. Next day I will move to the Miao home.

One reason I am going to So Biao is to secure money sufficient to use.

The moon came up at 8 o'clock.

Tonight so we got a few night insects. Box 349 insects from Kungshin district, near So Shin Au, alt 1600 to 2200 feet. Box 350 same as above. July 30. Went to So Biao to secure money but was unsuccessful. Secured it later in the day at So Shin Au. Had a very fine welcome at the school, and other important people. Visited the "white men's graves" on nearby cliff and took notes and pictures etc. Returned late. Only a fair catch of insects, and one snake.

31 Several Miao came to act as guides, to lead us to the home of the Lhuan Miao. Mr. Fair at the top

of the hill the school
children and teacher
marched out with
flags and bugle to
welcome us and
escorted us to the home
of Mr. Pao.

This is the poorest
year for catching insects
I have seen. Positively,
it is a lean year.

The netters put out
traps in the woods
last night. We use
the night lanterns
every night, but
the stars are very
bright, and the results
are very meagre.

There are lots of
fossils and we are
gathering some,
but of course they

are very heavy, and
complicated the matter
of transportation.
The collectors are very
dissatisfied and
complain of the ill luck
fabled to be 351-3, insects
from the Kongsien
district.

July 1. The Chuan mar
gave me a great ceremonial
welcome today. Fourteen
years ago I was instrumental
in starting the first
primary school among them
here, and it is still
thriving, a graduate has
finished high school.
The nearby Chinese official
is present. There
was singing, exercises
by the students, jolls
dancing, etc. The netters

have worked hard all day,
a good snake was caught.
Last night at San Bias
there was a fight between
brigands and the
militia. The brigands
escaped. Shooting was
not admissible today.

The collectors are
putting out more
traps tonight. So
far, night with
catches has been
very unfruitful,
because of unfavorable
weather.

Aug 2. We are positively having
the worst luck I
have ever had
collecting. There seem
to be no wild mountain
snice and practically
no other mammals

here. The insects
are scarce, and
they do not come to
the night lanterns.
Several times there
have been thunder
storms in the after-
noon, as there was
today, but always
the stars shine
brightly at night.
We are getting more
bees and wasps than
anything else.
The altitude here
is 3000 feet.

Aug 3. Got a few insects and
one snake. Another
heavy thunder and
rain storm this
afternoon, and again
tonight the stars
are shining brightly.

Aug 4. Luck is certainly
against us this year.
For the first time
tonight we have had
a long bit of luck.
Some fine moths have
come to the night
lanterns.

We are planning to
go to Mt Omei and
see what we can
catch on the way
to the top of Mt Omei.
Maybe we can have
better luck there.

Aug 5. Last night for the first
time the sky was very
cloudy, there was thunder
and rain and moths
came to the lanterns.
The collectors were
delighted and want
to delay our departure.

We got some strange -
looking moths quite
a few of which were large
I filled Box 354,
fossils from the
limestone hills near
Kangshien

Aug 6. Mr. San took the gun
and went hunting. I spent
much time packing
specimens. We dried
three boxes of insects.
They are
Boxes no 355-357,
insects.

I also filled several
boxes with bottled insects,
but am not numbering
them yet.

I filled three birds
and Mr. San several.

Aug 7. We got some good
day insects today,
several snakes, and
two bats. Tonight
the stars are out.
Killed Box 358, insects
at 3000 feet.

Aug 8. We went to So Shin Lu,
and there took boats to
Sang So. It was an
exceedingly hot day
and would have killed
off several cookies if
they had carried all
the way to Shi Lang Pa,
where we are tonight.
As it is, one cookie
is laid off because of
the heat.

It has not rained
here for a long time, so
insects are few. We got

a small number on the
way.

The gang of brigands
who were at Ho Biao a
few days ago are now
in this vicinity. They
are in striking distance
of us tomorrow. We will
therefore have a military
escort. We had one this
morning, as we passed
a spot where robbers
occasionally appear.

Today I saw one of
the strangest phenomena
that I ever saw - if I had
not actually seen it I
would have doubted it.
The sky was clear
almost everywhere,
and the very few clouds
to be seen anywhere were
so thin you could see

the blue sky through them.
But it rained, and there
was a large and brilliant
rainbow to the northeast.
It barely sprinkled where
we were, but there were
no clouds above us
for a long distance.

aug 9

Reached Kungshien. The
mother of the robber chief that
escaped from the Biaos is in
captivity at Kungshien. The
chief and his band are
not far from here, and were
striking distance with
his band today, but I had
a good escort and he
did not strike. I am to
have a good soldier escort
tomorrow. The chief would
doubtless like to get hold
of a foreigner for a ransom,
demanding the release

of his mother, &c. It behooves
the officials to get me out safely.
The local official has been
very friendly.

There is a regular draught
here now, and insects are
very scarce. This excursion
is much like that to
Tingmen a few years ago.

aug 10. The draught continues.
The weather is extremely hot.

We got up very early and
got 50 li to Hsiao¹ Chia²
by 12 o'clock. After that
we travelled slowly to
Sa Ho E. Mr. Yan, one
of the collectors, went
to his home at Shui
Yin Si and rejoined
us at Sa Ho E today.
He met a man that
had just been robbed
by three brigands.
We have a fine

escort of ten soldiers. Aug 13
There are very few
insects in this
section now.

Aug 11. We got up very early and
reached Yoh Kio by three
o'clock, and for many by
12, or o'clock. Arrived by four
o'clock. Spent the night
in the Simpsins home
but left all the baggage
in the godown of the
Steamship Company.
Had a good bath.

Aug 12. After breakfast I went to
the steamer, bought tickets,
and got all the baggage
onto the steamer. The steamer
started off about eleven o'clock,
This was a very large steamer,
the Min Chiang. We
reached Yoh Chia where we
spent the night. The weather
was cool and cloudy.

Aug 13 The steamer started at
daybreak. an uneventful
trip to Kiating.
We got to Kiating just
at dusk. We had a
hard time settling with
the coolies and boatmen,
and finally getting coolies
to the mountains. Stayed
at Jenseus.

Aug 14 Went to Orneishien and
stopped for the night
in little Buddhist
temple just outside
the south gate of
Orneishien.

Fixed the gasoline
lanterns and post
perovene in the kerosene
lanterns.

15 Reached Shin Kai Shi
about 12 o'clock noon. Prepared
collectors for a trip. a fair

Aug 16. catch of night moths.
Sent the four collectors
off on collecting trips the
Pen brothers to the top of
the mountain and Sun
and Yas to the Si⁴ Pin²
Spent most of the day
getting ready.

17. Ho and Ben, the two
collectors who went to
Kueichow and Yunwan,
arrived today. They
report a moderate catch.
18. I went hunting with the
shotgun and secured only
one bird. The moon
is coming out, so the
catch of night moths
is slim. Ben watched
the light all night
until daylight last
night.

19. Rain and fog
20. Filled Box 3⁵ with insects
from Shin Kai Shi
Mt Omei

Boxes 360-61, boxes of
insects from Shin Kai Shi
Mt Omei in small
bottles.

Boxes 362-3 Boxes of
insects from Shin Kai
Shi Aug 15-20, 1934

Yas returned from the
Si⁴ Pin² and the two
Pen brothers from the
Golden Summit, with
their catches. The Pen
brothers report a good
catch of snakes and
insects.

21. Yesterday we secured a
coral or a small barking
deer, or mountain goat.
Mammal no 1361

Filled boxes 364-7,
insects from Mount
Amie. Yesterday I
mailed nine boxes
of specimens.

Secured mammal 1362
a single small deer.

23 Took care of the deer hides
a box of insects came from
the Si Gi Pin, BH
no 368

23 Filled Box 369, from
Shin Kai Si, Mt
Amie, and elsewhere
on Mt Amie.

Mr. San and Yao
are collecting at the
Si Gi Pin. The other
collectors are working
here. The catch is not
large each day, last
night there was a
thunderstorm and after

two o'clock we got a few
night moths. It is now
full moon nearly all the
night, so night moth-
catching is not very
fruitful.

24 Mailed specimens to
Shanghai.

25 Filled Boxes 370-371,
animal bones, value 3.00 each
4.00 each Boxes 372-3,
animal skins, value
3.00 each.

Mr. San and Yao
returned from the Si Gi Pin²
with a small number of
specimens including two
boxes of insects and two
good snakes.

26 Filled boxes 374-5,
insects from the Si Gi Pin
Mt Amie at 6000 to 7000 ft.
Filled Box 376, insects in
bottles + jars etc.

Purchased a female deer
or mountain goat without
horns, and a black
monkey that is nearly
grown.

27. Mailed total of 22 boxes
of specimens.

Skinned female deer,
mammal 1363

male monkey, black, 1364

Spent much time
packing to go down the
mountain.

28. I had to go to Omeishien,
to secure money for the
trip, and we all spent
the day getting ready
for the trip to Chengtu.
There are rumors that
the military governor of
Szechuan may be
removed, and civil war
may ensue. We packed

Carefully all the
specimens net, and
forwarded to Shanghai.
29. Went overland to
Tungshu Miao and by
frat to Kiating. We had
been promised money for
the trip to Chengtu by the
Bank of China and when
we went to get the notes
they were Chungking bank
notes that could not be
used at all. I had to get
money from the Postoffice,
but finally succeeded in
doing so.

I have a very large boat,
a fine one that does not leak.
The six collectors take a lot of
space.

30. We started by moonlight
before daybreak, and made
90 li to Han Yang Bu.

Sept 1, 2. Travelled up the Min
River above Mei Chow
towards Chengtu

Sept 3. Reached Jiahy K'eo.

" 4. Travelled 50 li to
F^u Jia' Ba 4 (nearby)
Crossed several bad
rapids, made worse by
the large number of boats
trying to cross.

5. Made good speed

6. Reached Chengtu by
sending all baggage
overland.

7. Much unpacking.

8. Worked with specimens
and accounts

9. Today I looked over the
skins purchased last
summer and find them
in a much better
condition than I
expected. I will ship
them as soon as I can.

10. Sent the netter Yao⁺
to Kuanshien. Some
of the Yunnan insects
were dried in the
oven.

11. Prepared to send the netter
Ren to Beh Juh Shin.
Packed and labelled
some of the specimens from
Kueichow and Yunnan
Province.

I find that the
summer collection is
strong in snakes and frogs,
and lizards and
insects in formalin,
but rather weak in
dried insects, birds,
and mammals.

12. Spent much time
labelling specimens
in bottles.
Ren left for Beh Juh Shin

13 Wrapped two small boxes
for shipping

14 wrapped five insect
boxes for shipping
Box 377 contains
animal bones, value 4.00
Box 378 contains
animal bones,
value \$ 6.00

Box 379 contains a
white panda skin,
value \$ 15.00
no 1347

Box 380 contains Bones
value 10.00

Box 381 contains a wild
ox skin ^(no 1344) value 20.00

Box 382 contains a
white panda skin value
\$ 15.00 no 1348

Box 383 contains a
white panda skin, no
1349 \$ 15.00

Box 384 contains a

wild ox skin value 20.00
no 1344

15 Filled Box 385, snakes
value \$ 3.00, also
Boxes 386-8, snakes,
value \$ 3.00 each.
mailed seven boxes
of specimens.

I am trying to
get the specimens on
hand shipped away
as rapidly as possible.

Boxes 389-92, insects
from Chongta, July and
August 1934

16 Labelled boxes
393-399, all
insects from Chongta
Zichuan China, alt
1700 feet, (1700 ft.)
July and Aug 1934.
also wrapped eleven boxes
of insects for shipping

- 17 Filled boxes 400 to 405,
Insects from Kweichow
and Yunnan Provinces;
and wrapped them.
- 18 Filled boxes 406 - 411
mailed six boxes of
specimens.
- 19 Mailed eleven boxes
Filled Boxes 412 - 422
Snakes, lizards and
frogs - value \$3 each.
Mailed eleven
boxes of specimens.
- 20 Filled boxes 423 - 432
Snakes, lizards, frogs &c.
also snails.
mailed 10 boxes of
specimens
- 21 Mailed 12 boxes
of specimens,
Packed
Box 433, Snake
Box 434, Insects

- Box 435, frogs.
436 snakes and lizard
437 snails
438 frogs
439-40 insects
22 Mailed twelve
boxes of specimens
Packed boxes
441 - 443, Insects
444 - 446, Snakes.
- 24 mailed 11 boxes,
labelled and packed
Boxes 447, Snakes
448-50, Insects
- 25 Labelled and packed
boxes 451 - 464
insects in bottles.
mailed ten boxes
of specimens
Today mailed 10
boxes of specimens
- 26 I bought a snow leopard
skin, at \$30.00, a low
price mammal no 1365

Packed this in Box 365,
The Snow leopard
is a rare species
found on the high
mountains on the
China - Tibet border.

The netter has
come back from
Kuangshien
with four boxes of
insects, boxes, nos.
466-469. altitude
from 2000 to 3000 feet.

Box 470, animal
skeleton &c

Box 471, insects and frogs

Packed boxes
472, snakes and
frogs,

473, 2 animal skins

474 frogs

475 snakes

476 snakes

477 insects

478 snakes and snails

30 I am sending a
shipment of light
boxes of skins and
bones to Shanghai to
be forwarded to the
United States.

I am dropping
one of my collectors
to save expenses.

Sept 1.

Labelled birds and
mammals no

1366, Rat from Shih men
Kai³ Kueichow province

1367, 1368, 1369 rats
from the same place.

also 1370.

Labelled some birds
from Shih men Kai
Kueichow Province
China.

Ren returned from
Behful Lin.

Oct 5. Got Ho for Chue
ready for a collecting
trip.

Ben left ~~at~~ Tuesday or
Wednesday for Beh Jul
Shin again.

Oct 8 Skimmer Ho went to
Yin Shin, was on
a collecting trip. Ben
and Ho got the birds
out collecting insects.

Oct 9 Labelled Box 479, 481,
insects from Beh Jul Shin
Szechuan China
Boxes 482-484,
Birdskins

Oct 10 Filled Box 485, Bird
skeletons. value \$3.00
Box 486, Birdskins
value 10.00

Oct 17 I am planning to
Dr. Wetmore. My
dear until July 6, 1934,
Alger C.

This dear should
be mailed before long.

Oct 18 Yao returned today
with some insects
and a few frogs.
almost every day has
been cold and rainy.

Oct 19 Filled boxes 487-490,
insects from Kuanhsien.

Oct 20 Mailed twelve boxes
of specimens, one
large, to the
Smithsonian Institution.

Oct 26 Filled Boxes 491-3, insects
from Beh Jul Shin
altitude 5000 feet
Boxes 494-7, frogs.

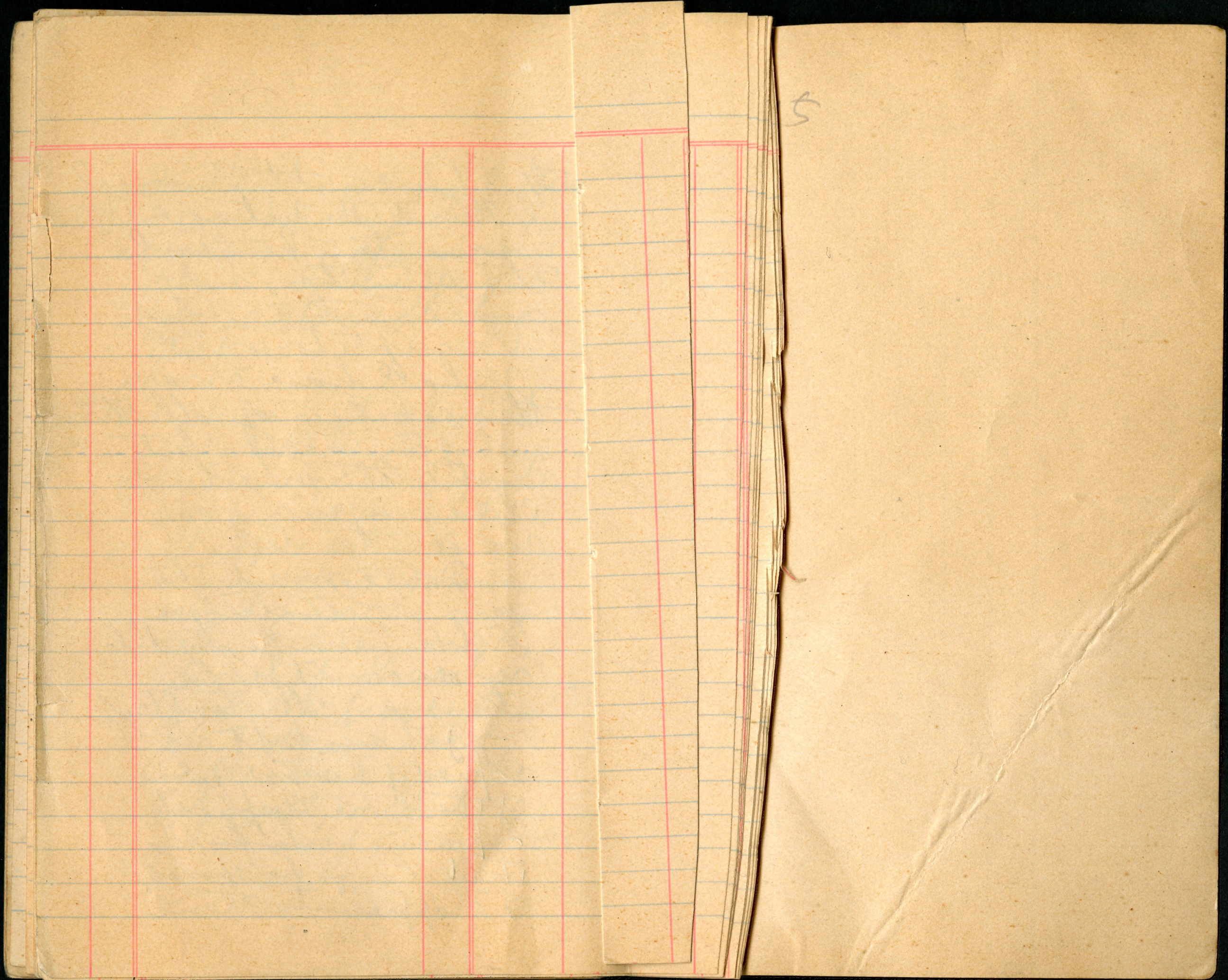
498, insects from Beh Jul Shin
The collector Gen returned

yesterday from Bob Johnson.
Oct 27. We mailed eight
packages of specimens.
Ren is starting tomorrow
on another collecting
trip.

Oct 30 I have just checked
up to date the
financial account.
I am absolutely
flabbergasted to
know that I have
used more money
than there is on
hand at Shanghai.
I shall have to further
cut down the
collecting for the
present, and do
it on a smaller
scale.

Oct 31 I have sent two airmail
letters to Dr. Wetmore
acquainting him with
the situation and
am mailing a lot of
receipts tomorrow.
I shall have to carry
the expenses of collecting
out of my own pocket
until the next
check arrives from
Washington D.C.

I will mail this
soon so that there
will be in Washington D.C.
an account of the
summer collecting trip.
I have kept no
copies of diaries B, C, D.
If there are duplicate
copies in Washington D.C.
that can be shared,
I'd appreciate them.



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