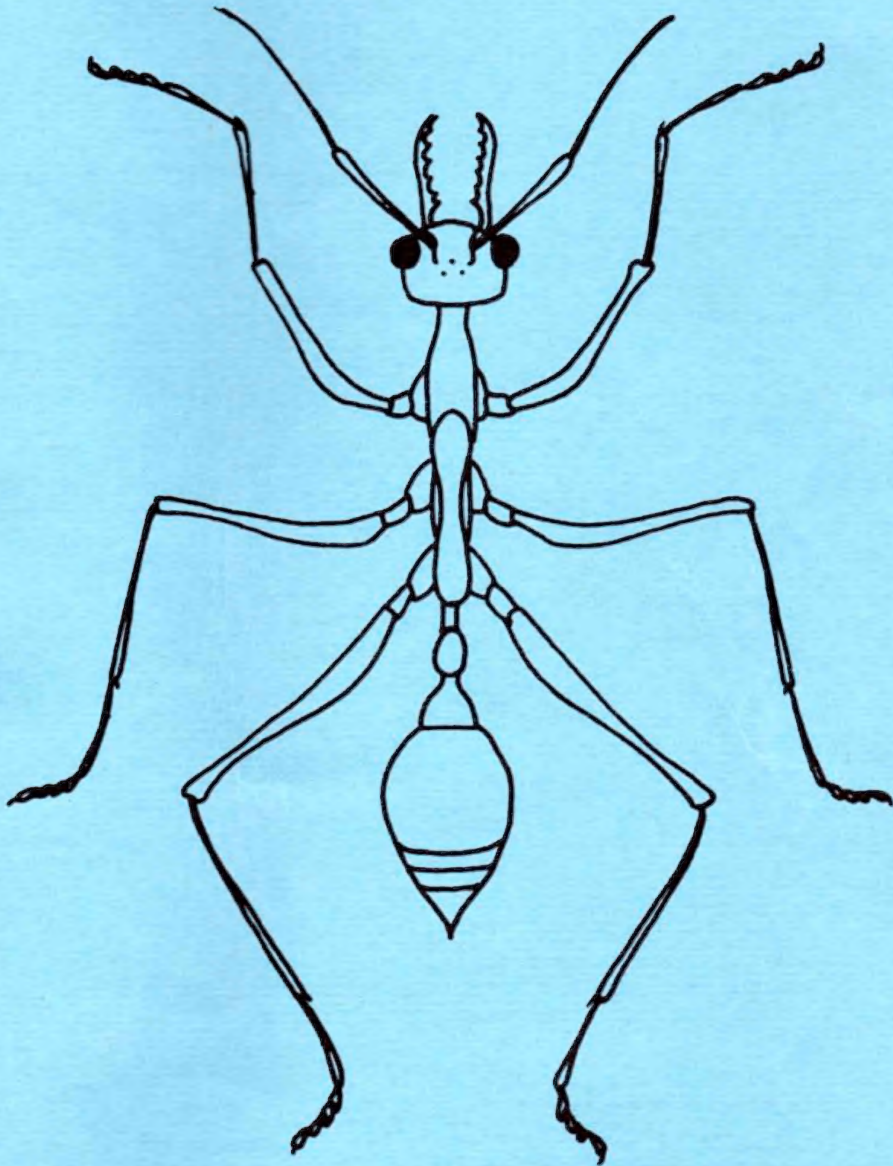


AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWS BULLETIN

Volume 5, Part 2, May, 1969.

Price 50¢

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OCCASIONAL PUBLICATIONS
OF THE AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

HANDBOOK NO. 1

Methods of Collection and Preservation of Insects

By K. R. Norris, Division of Entomology, C.S.I.R.O.

This Handbook is indispensable for all, whether amateur,
professional or student, who collect insects.

40 pp. Price: A\$1.00.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATION NO. 1

The Entomology of Citrus in New South Wales

(W.W. Froggatt Memorial Lecture)

By P. C. Hely, Department of Agriculture, N.S.W.

20 pp. Price: A\$1.00

AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN, VOLUME 5, PART 2 - MAY 1969

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- Queensland: Mr. H. A. Standfast, Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Herston, 4006, Queensland.
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- N.S.W.: Mr. J. R. J. French, 96 Harrington Street, Sydney, 2000.
- Prof. A. F. O'Farrell, University of New England, Armidale, 2350, N.S.W.
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- W.A.: Mr. P.N.M. Forte, Department of Agriculture, Jarrah Road, South Perth, 6161, W.A.
- T.P.N.G.: Mr. T. V. Bourke, D.A.S.F., Popondetta, N. District, Papua .

COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

- Entomological Society of Queensland: Dr. E. J. Reye, Department of Entomology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, 4067.
- Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales: Mr. C. N. Smithers, Australian Museum, College Street, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000.
- Entomological Society of Victoria: Mr. J. S. Barnes, 42 Lucknow Street, Mitcham, Victoria, 3132.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Bulletin Editor: Dr. F.J.D. McDonald, Department of Agricultural Botany, The University of Sydney, Sydney, N.S.W. 2006.
- Assistant Secretary: Mr. K.W.B. Utech, C.S.I.R.O., Long Pocket Laboratories, Private Bag No. 3, Indooroopilly, Queensland, 4068.
- Assistant Treasurer: Mr. T. A. Weir, Department of Entomology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Queensland, 4067.
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MATERIAL IN THIS BULLETIN MUST NOT BE REFERRED TO NOR
REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE MATERIAL.

Articles, Notes, Letters to the Editor and other material for the News Bulletin should be sent to the News Bulletin Editor, or to your Regional Councillor.

EDITORIAL

Members should note with interest the Symposium at the next annual general meeting "Whither Taxonomy" ?

The question is a good one and should be given careful consideration by all taxonomists and non taxonomists. The current drift in teaching institutions from any form of taxonomy being taught in courses to biology students will in the end have quite serious repercussions on Australian taxonomy, insect or otherwise. The tragedy is that students are not being introduced to taxonomy as a subject and can therefore have little idea as to its importance or its practices. We are therefore loosing the interest of the few students who would be attracted to taxonomy as a subject. It would be foolish to think of Taxonomy gaining back the place it once had during Linnaeus' time and in the period after Darwin had propounded his theory of evolution. However, it still has a part to play in our modern biological programmes. There have been some recent revolutions in taxonomic practice, such as numerical taxonomy, the subject is far from dead !

It is to be hoped that Taxonomy is not eliminated entirely from the curricula of Australian Universities. The University of Queensland is the only University which teaches Taxonomy of insects as a complete subject. The University of Sydney has happily re-introduced the subject as an option in its third year Biology courses. One further disturbing fact is employment, it would be useless to turn out many taxonomists, the market for employment is low. Museums are by far the largest employers of taxonomists but their numbers in Australia are painfully small. Here again the winds of change are blowing through Museums and every new job created in these institutions is not now necessarily for a taxonomist. C.S.I.R.O. is the next largest employer of insect taxonomists but again the chance of employment at a senior level is quite small.

Last but not least is the band of gifted amateur taxonomists who have done a tremendous amount of entomological work in Australia, some good some bad. Perhaps it is to these people we will have to look in the future for the propagation of insect taxonomy in Australia.

As this was going to press it was interesting to read an article in the newly published Bulletin of the Entomological Society of Canada by Dr. W.R.M. Mason of Canada Agriculture, Insect Taxonomy - Is it Dying in Canada? Dr. Mason is apparently also alarmed at the rapid decline of trained entomological taxonomists in Canada. Quoting from his article, he concludes with the following statement.

"I do not wish to include all, but I have the impression that many professors in Canadian Universities believe either from ignorance or from their own lack of interest that taxonomy is old fashioned and a branch of science that is dying. You who give credence to this belief, try to trace the beginnings of the attitude in yourself. I suggest that it may have been passed on by teachers who probably formed their outlook on Taxonomy a generation before the neo Darwinian revival. In those days such an attitude may well have been justified but not today. Taxonomy is as vital and modern as any other branch of entomology. Don't allow the supply of students to dry up. We need your help.

BULLETIN EDITOR

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Two Executive meetings were held on 10 March and 17 April, 1969 and two Officers' meetings on 21 March and 17 April, 1969.

Membership:

Eight members were elected, three resigned and one member's death was recorded. Membership of the Society was 369 on 17 April, 1969 (N.S.W. 83, Qld. 80, A.C.T. 56, Vic. 59, S.A. 25, W.A. 14, Tas. 19, T.P.N.G. 15 and overseas 18). The Executive records with regret the death of Mr. H. Irzykiewicz.

Journal:

Sixteen papers have been accepted for publication in Volume 8 No. 1 which will be about 120 pages including advertisements. This is larger than had been expected, due in part to the inclusion of a large taxonomic paper by Dr. F.H.S. Roberts on "The larvae of Australian Ixodidae (Acarina: Ixodoidea)." The increase in subscriptions for 1969 has made it possible to increase the size of the Journal without jeopardising Society finances.

General:

Although there have been a number of resignations so far this year, a few due to the increased subscription, total membership has not decreased. However, about 140 members have so far failed to pay their subscriptions. Similar numbers have failed to return the cards for the preparation of the list of Australian entomologists. Members are asked to complete the card, enclosed in the stamped addressed envelope provided and return to the Secretary as soon as possible. Payment of the subscription at the same time would be appreciated.

Constitution:

It is expected that a draft for the definitive constitution will be circulated to Councillors before the end of May.

Third Annual General Meeting:

Further details of the meeting are recorded elsewhere in this Bulletin. The Executive has tentatively arranged for Council meetings to be held at 8.45 a.m. on Saturday 16 August and Sunday 17 August, 1969. Councillors who are unable to attend are asked to nominate suitable proxies (preferably a member from their state or Society) to attend these Council meetings.

XIV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

A meeting of the Policy committee for the 1972 International Congress of Entomology which was appointed by the Council of the Australian Academy of Science will be held in Canberra at the Academy of Science on the 5th of June.

THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The third Annual General Meeting of the Australian Entomological Society will be a residential meeting held at the Hotel Victor, Victor Harbour, S.A., on Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th August, 1969.

The agenda for the A.G.M. is -

Saturday: Morning - Contributed Papers
 Afternoon: - Presidential address
 "Cytogenetics of speciation -
 Professor M.J.D. White.
 - A.G.M. (Business Section)
 Evening: - Society Dinner

Sunday: Morning - Invited Papers
 "Chemical releases of insect
 behaviour" - Dr. B.P. Moore
 "Bushfly research" - Dr. R.D.
 Hughes.
 "Some aspects of the ecology of
 soil inhabiting termites" - Dr.
 T. G. Wood and Dr. K. E. Lee

Afternoon - Symposium "Whither taxonomy" ?

1. "Present status of Australian (insect) taxonomy" - Dr. K.H.L. Key.
2. New trends and future prospects -
 - I Non-morphological techniques - Dr. J. Martin
 - II The phenetic approach - Dr. D. H. Colless.
3. "Taxonomy and the study of evolution" Prof. I.W.B. Thornton

Thursday 21st August - One day excursion to the Southern Vales area visiting a prominent winery for a barbecue luncheon.

Costs for A.G.M.:

Registration	\$6.00
Full accommodation (Includes Society Dinner but excludes lunches)	
(a) Friday and Saturday night	\$21.00
(b) Saturday night	\$12.50
(a) and (b) include dinner Sunday night	
Non accommodation (Includes Society Dinner)	\$4.00

Transport will be leaving Adelaide for Victor Harbour at 5.00 p.m. Friday 15th August and returning after dinner on Sunday 17th August.

Members wishing to attend the A.G.M. should send the Attendance form with all particulars filled in to P. G. Allen S.A. Department of Agriculture, Box 901E G.P.O., Adelaide S.A. 5001.

See note to students - p.38.

NEW MEMBERS

Elected by Executive on 10.3.69.

Dr. W.V. Russell, 11 Hunter Street, Yarralumla, A.C.T. 2600.

Mr. R.A. Yule, 43 Longman Terrace, Chelmer, Q. 4075.

Mr. J.A. Harris, Department of Zoology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Qld. 4067.

Elected by Executive on 17.4.69.

Mr. R.T.G. Greaves, Forest Research Institute, Banks Street, Yarralumla, A.C.T. 2600.

Professor I.W.B. Thornton, Department of Zoology, Latrobe University, Bundoora, Vic. 3083.

Mr. L.A.Y. Radunz, 357 Annerley Road, Annerley, Q. 4103.

Mr. T. Passlow, 14 Cranley Street, Toowoomba, Q. 4350.

Mr. R. H. Fisher, 468 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park, S.A. 5041.

DEATH

Mr. H. Irzykiewicz, 5 Godfrey Street, Campbell, A.C.T. 2601.

RESIGNATIONS

Dr. A.K. O'Gower, 20 Gaerloch Avenue, Bondi South, N.S.W. 2026.

Mrs. N.E.K. Perry, 34 Russell Street, Campberwell, Vic. 3124.

Mr. N.C. Stewart, Waite Agricultural Research Institute, P.M.B. No. 1, Glen Osmond, S.A. 5064.

Dr. R.A. O'Brien, Travel Dept. Bank of N.S.W. Box 2722, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W. 2001 (from 31.12.69).

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(State of previous residence is indicated in brackets)

Rev. B. B. Lowery, St. Ignatious School, 137 William Street, Norwood. S.A. 5067 (N.S.W.)

Mr. E. Hamilton-Smith, P.O. Box 36, Carlton South, Vic. 3053 (Vic.)

Mrs. J. Tan, P.O. Box 655, Cairns, Qld. 4870 (unallotted)

Dr. J.R. Willard, Dunchurch, Ontario, Canada. (S.A.)

Mr. E.B. Tay, Imperial College Field Station, Silwood Park Sunninghill, nr. Ascot, Beaks. U.K. (unallotted)

Mr. A.F. Atkins, 39 Tania Drive, Point Clare, N.S.W. 2251 (Vic.)

Mr. G.A.Y. Pasfield, 8 McDonald Crescent, Strathfield, N.S.W.
2135. (N.S.W.)

Mr. J.E. Dunwoody, University of Illinois, Dept. of Chemistry
and Chemical Engineering, Urbana, Illinois, 61801 U.S.A.
(unallotted)

Mrs. C. Brock, 121 Charlestown Road, Kotara, N.S.W. 2288.
(Qld.)

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

The Victorian Entomological Society held its annual Election of Officers at its last meeting. New Office bearers for 1969-70 are as follows:

President:	Mr. Peter Kelly
Vice-President:	Mr. Zoo Le Souef
Secretary:	Mr. John Barnes
Treasurer:	Mr. Bob Condron
Committee:	Mr. Arthur Hall, Mr. Peter Williams, Mr. Clyde Wilde, Mr. Fred Hallgarten and Miss Jenny Force.

Mr. Peter Sheldon - Councillor for Victoria of the Australian Entomological Society spoke on "Careers in Entomology". At our previous meeting an enjoyable evening was spent with Zoo Le-Souef reminiscing on early entomologists. Membership of our society is growing and it is pleasing to see new **young** members joining us. They are keen and very observant.

J. S. Barnes
HON. SECRETARY

A SOCIETY HANDBOOK FOR SCHOOLS ?

In his paper at 2 AGM in Armidale, Dr. M.F. Day suggested that the Society might take a lead in establishing a study panel to examine views of more dynamic teaching of biology in schools using entomological examples. Ensuing discussions indicated that a handbook which told how **Australian** insects could be used to illustrate biological principles, and where these insects might be found, and how handled, could be valuable in arousing interest in entomology among school pupils, in helping biology teachers, and in furthering the objects of the Society.

Judging by our experience with Handbook No. 1, for which there is a steady demand from tertiary teaching institutions, a handbook for schools could be also a financially rewarding project for the Society. Income from Handbook No. 1 could appropriately contribute to the cost of publishing it.

In considering the possibility of producing such a handbook, the Executive needs the advice of members, particularly school teachers, in the different states who are aware of what needs of their curricula a Society handbook might fill. It may be that one member would be willing and able to produce the text for a handbook, or that a small group might organise it.

The Executive would like to receive from members interested in this project comments, suggestions and offers of assistance.

These will be collated so that the project may be fully discussed at 3 AGM and associated Council meetings in August, 1969.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR FROM OVERSEAS

Sir Vincent B. Wigglesworth C.B.E., M.D. F.R.S. the distinguished insect physiologist will be paying us a visit during the months of November to December this year.

Sir Vincent has been invited to Australia to give the opening address at the Applied Entomological Research Conference from the 4th to 7th November. A tentative schedule for his visit is as follows:

November 4th - 7th Applied Research Conference

November 10th - Seminar at the University of Sydney.

Sir Vincent will also pay visits to Canberra, Adelaide and Perth between the 4th of November and 11th December and opportunities will be given to all interested persons to meet him. Further details of Sir Vincent's visit will be given in a later Bulletin.

VISITORS TO INSTITUTIONS

Waite Agricultural Research Institute

During his stay in Adelaide from 3rd to 7th April Dr. Richard D. Alexander, Professor of Zoology and Curator of Insects, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, visited the Entomology Department and the South Australian Museum.

Dr. Michael Locke from the Developmental Biology Center, Western Reserve University, U.S.A., visited the Entomology Department from 19th to 22nd April. He gave two seminars entitled: "Use of Insect Cells for Studies in Developmental Biology and Endocrinology" and "Uptake of Macromolecules, and other Problems in Developmental Biology".

C.S.I.R.O. Canberra.

Mr. Warren Thomas of the Entomology Division, DSIR, Nelson, New Zealand, recently visited the Division of Entomology for a period of two weeks, to continue the work he had commenced in 1964 on the introduction of beneficial insects for the control of light brown apple moth (Epiphyas postvittana) in New Zealand. Mr. Thomas is engaged on a programme of integrated control of orchard pests.

Mr. D.H. Perry, formerly of the Western Australian Department of Forests, recently visited the Division of Entomology, CSIRO, for discussions on termites with Mr. F.J. Gay and Dr. J.A.L. Watson.

Mr. M. Fougousse, Chief of the Division de Preservation, Centre Technique Forestier Tropicale, France, visited the Division of Entomology to discuss field and laboratory test procedures against termites.

Dr. A.M. Stuart of the University of North Carolina is at present spending a sabbatical year in the Division of Entomology working on communication in termites.

Mr. Ian Barbour, formerly of the Rhinoceros Beetle Project of the United Nations South Pacific Commission in Samoa, recently visited the Division of Entomology.

Mr. J.G. Brooks spent several days at the Division of Entomology to study the Coleoptera in the National Insect Collection.

Mr. Raymond Straatman, formerly of the Bishop Museum Field Station at Wau, New Guinea, visited the Division of Entomology.

VISITORS TO TASMANIA

Dr. Elizabeth Exley of the Entomology Department, University of Queensland made a collecting trip to Tasmania early this year.

Dr. & Mrs. J.W. Evans were down holidaying and collecting in Tasmania in April. Dr. Evans was at one time Government Entomologist in Tasmania, he and Mrs Evans visited many friends and acquaintances in Hobart renewing happy memories.

VISITORS TO THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Mr. N.L.H. Krauss, Honorary Associate in Entomology, Bishop Museum, Honolulu, left the Territory in mid-November after a six month collecting trip. During this period he was engaged in general collecting with some emphasis on parasitic Hymenoptera in the mountain regions inland from Madang, Lae and Wau. Mr. Krauss was formerly Exploratory Entomologist with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, specialising in biological control of insects, land snails and weeds.

Dr. Haruta and Dr. Ogasawarra, two entomologists from Japan, left the Territory in November after a short, general collecting visit.

Dr. Dobrotworsky, who is on the staff of the Bishop Museum, spent one month (February) in the Territory collecting mosquitoes in the Port Moresby, Wau, Bulolo, Popondetta and Milne Bay areas.

Dr. & Mrs. J.J.H. Szent-Ivany, returned to the Territory in February for several months work at the Bishop Museum Field Station at Wau. Dr. Szent-Ivany is still working on his comprehensive "Annotated list of phytophagous insect pests of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea with host plant and distribution records". The list will be published by the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries as a Research Bulletin and should appear in 1970. The Research Bulletin should be of immense interest and use to entomologists interested or working in the Territory.

Mr. A. Catley, Project Manager of the U.N. Development Programme, S.P.C. Rhinoceros Beetle Project, recently (late March) spent 10 days in the Territory. Mr. Catley, who is stationed at W. Samoa, visited Tonga, the U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Micronesia) and Honolulu before returning to West Samoa.

VISITORS TO FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

March 8-9th. Kerry Ey, an Ayr member arrived in Cairns to collect Coleoptera and Lepidoptera. My elder son and I took him up the Black Mt. Road (Kuranda area) to a spot where we could find Phalacrognathus muelleri. It so happened that Kerry captured the lone male which came to the "light screens".

March 22nd. Prof. Adrian Horridge, School of Biological Science, A.N.U., Canberra called on me. He is interested in conducting experiments to study the Physiology of the sight of insects. Insects with large eyes were his target as these will be used in his experiments.

March 23rd. Mr and Mrs Jack Balfour-Brown (Ex British Museum) called on me to see my collection. His particular interest being the water beetles. Now that he has retired, he is hoping to carry out taxonomic work which he could not find time to do when he was actively engaged by the B.M.

April 13th-28th. Ian Common and Murray Upton, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra were on a collecting trip in North Queensland, with Lepidoptera the main objective, though all orders of insects were taken. I joined them at their camp on Black Mt. Rd. Kuranda on 23rd. The night was cool and windy so light collecting was not ideal. Many moths were taken but the Coleoptera collecting was poor. They had a successful hour at the Cairns Council Nursery on 24th collecting eggs, larvae pupae and one adult of the Lycaenid "Orchard Butterfly".

April 20th-22nd. John d'Apice a Sydney member and his son Tony were in the Cairns area collecting Lepidoptera (butterflies). They then flew to Iron Range where they expected to spend a week or a fortnight, before proceeding down the coast from Cairns to Mission Beach and Mt. Spec before proceeding to Townsville for the homeward journey.

April 14th-May 8th. Dr. George Bornemissza C.S.I.R.O., Canberra and Paul Ferrar C.S.I.R.O., Townsville were on a field survey and collecting trip for "Dung Beetles" Unfortunately I was unable to see them during the Cairns part of their trip as I was in Canberra at the time.

J. G. BROOKS

NEW APPOINTMENTS

N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Rydalmere.

Mr. Claude Gauchat a recent graduate in Agricultural Science from Sydney University has been appointed to the staff.

Dr. Eberhard Schicha from the University of Nurenburg has also recently been appointed.

Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

Mr. G. Balloch, Entomologist with the Commonwealth Institute of Biological Control, Rawalpindi, Pakistan, arrived in the Territory on secondment in January. Mr. Balloch had previously been working on the biological control of certain plant weed pests.

In the Territory, Mr. Balloch will be working on the biology, ecology and population dynamics of two of the more important coconut insect pests in the coconut leaf miner Promecotheca papuana (Coleoptera: Hispididae) and the coconut tree hopper (Mainly various species of Segestidae and Eumossula (Orthoptera: Tetigoniidae)). He is at present stationed at the Lowlands Agricultural Experiment Station, Keravat, New Britain.

PUBLICATION OF "BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW GUINEA ENTOMOLOGY"

This recent bibliography, prepared by Drs. J.L. Gressitt and J.J.H. Szent-Ivany and published as Pacific Insects Monograph No. 18 by the Entomology Department, Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A., in 1968, will prove of immense use and interest to entomologists and others interested or working in the Territory.

The bibliography covers all of the island of New Guinea, including Papua and West Irian (formerly Netherlands New Guinea), the Bismarck Archipelago (Including the Admiralty Is. (Manus etc.), New Hannover, New Ireland, Duke of York Is., New Britain), the islands adjacent to New Guinea, including Aru (Aroe), Ke (Kei, Key), Misool, Salwatti, Waigiou, Biak, Japen, Goodenough, Fergusson, Normanby, Trobriand Is., Murua (Woodlark), Misima, Tagula (Sudest), and Rossel, as well as Bougainville I. Since Bougainville, the westernmost and largest island of the Solomon Is., is part of the Trust Territory of New Guinea (Northeast New Guinea = former German New Guinea), general references to the Solomon Is. are included, although the attempt has not been made to make the bibliography complete for all of the Solomons.

References are included up to and including 1966. After each bibliographic entry is a brief annotation, broadly referring to its contents.

Copies can be obtained from the Bernice P. Bishop Museum or the Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96819, U.S.A.

LIST OF NEW OR INTERESTING INSECT RECORDS IN THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1969.

New Records

Acrocercops sp. (not in B.M.) near phaeodata Meyr.

(Gracillariidae) - adults reared from larvae mining in leaves of Terminalia captapa, Port Moresby, September 1968. This species is a common pest of the above host in the Port Moresby area.

Agrilus occipitalis Esch. (Buprestidae) - ex weak citrus tree Ilimo Farm, Central District, May 1968.

Antonina graminis (Mask.) (Pseudococcidae) - a heavy infestation contributed to the death of approximately 7 acres of para grass (Brachiaria mutica) on Erap Livestock Station, Morobe District, during January-February 1969.

Anthomyiidae, gen. et sp.? - adults reared from larvae infesting rice seedlings and causing "dead heart", Bubia, Morobe District, September 1968.

Atteta iridias Meyr. (Noctuidae) - reared from larva feeding on foliage of Terminalia sp., Konedobu, April 1968.

Blastobasis sp. nr. anthorptera Low. (Blastobasidae) - several adults reared from larvae damaging stored parchment coffee, Bainyik, East Sepik District, October 1968.

Caenolanguria sp. (Languriidae) - adults feeding on young oil palms, Murua, Gulf District, September 1968.

Cephrenes augiades Felder (Hesperiidae) - larvae collected from oil palms, Kapore and Mosa Plantations, West New Britain District, April 1968.

Chunrocerus niveosparsus (Leth.) (Cicadellidae) - ex mango inflorescences, Rabaul, New Britain, April to June 1968. Damage so severe as to cause nearly all flowers to drop.

Cryptophlebia ombrodelta Low. (Tortricidae) - reared from larvae in pods of Indigofera teysmani, Laloki, Central District.

Idioscopus clypealis (Leth.) (Jassidae) - associated with Chunrocerus niveosparsus (Leth.) on mango inflorescences, Rabaul, New Britain, April to September 1968. The entire inflorescence blackens as a result of feeding by this leaf hopper.

Dendrothripoides ipomoeae Bagnall (Thripidae) - feeding on foliage of Ipomoea batatas, Konedobu, August 1968.

Phthorimaea operculella Zell. (Gelechiidae) - several adults reared from larvae in potato tubers, Aiyura, 5500 feet, Eastern Highlands District, November 1968. This is only the second field record of this species in the Territory.

Stephanitis sp. (Tingidae) - feeding on foliage of Amomum magnificum (torch ginger), Port Moresby, August 1968.

Strumeta cucurbitae (Coq). (Tephritidae). Specimens of the melon fly have recently been identified by Mr. R. A. Drew, Entomologist, Queensland Department of Primary Industries. Details of the specimens are as follows:

- 1 specimen ex 'Kak-pot' lure, Konedobu, April
 - 2 specimens resting on Saccharum officinarum, Plant Introduction Station, Laloki, April.
 - 1 specimen bred from larva in fruit of Nomordica charantia ex Plant Introduction Station, Laloki, April.
- Several specimens ex methyl eugenol lure, Namamula Hill, Rabaul, August 1967 and May 1968.

Strumeta dorsalis complex (Tephritidae). Specimens of the oriental fruit fly have been identified from the following material:

- Several specimens ex methyl eugenol lure, Namamula Hill, Rabaul, August 1967.
- 1 specimen ex methyl eugenol lure, Lumi, West Sepik District, December 1967.
- Large series, Wau, April 1965 (collected Dr. E.N. Marks).

Mr. Drew commented on this material as follows:

"Regarding the identification of S. dorsalis from Rabaul, this is not the oriental fruit fly as we know it. I have a large series of specimens from Wau, caught by Dr. Marks (April, 1965), and these appear to from a subspecies of S. dorsalis. The specimens from Rabaul fit into this series caught at Wau".

Quarantine Interceptions

Araecurus Faciculatus (Deg.) (Anthribidae) - infesting dried shrimps ex Singapore, Collected Port Moresby, October 1968.

Locusta migratoria L. (Acridiidae) - solitary female in crate of lettuce ex Queensland, collected Port Moresby, April 1968.

Phthorimaea operculella (Zell.) (Gelechiidae) - infestation in potatoes ex Queensland, collected Samarai, April 1968.

Sinoxylon anale Lesne (Bostrychidae) - infesting softwood crate ex Hong Kong, collected Madang, August 1968.

T. V. Bourke
Assistant Principal
Entomologist

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Victorian Plant Research Institute

Mr. T. W. Hogan, Principal Entomologist, at the Victorian Plant Research Institute, Burnley, recently spent time at Rockhampton collecting crickets for continuation of his studies on cricket control by the genetic approach.

Victorian Councillor, Mr. G. P. Sheldon, addressed members of the Victorian Entomological Society on "Careers in Entomology", at their April Meeting.

C.S.I.R.O. Canberra

Mr. I.F.B. Common and Mr. M.S. Upton spent a fortnight in north Queensland during April collecting Lepidoptera and other insects for the National Collection.

Dr. J.A.L. Watson and Dr. A.M. Stuart recently visited Queensland for about three weeks field work on termites and dragonflies.

N.S.W. Department of Agriculture, Rydalmere.

Mr. Gordon Passfield, Chief Entomologist, recently paid a visit to Melbourne to finalise arrangements for the Conference of Applied Entomologists which will be held from the 3rd to 7th November, 1969. Whilst in Melbourne Mr Passfield met Dr. K. R. Norris and Mr. A.C. Doery of the C.S.I.R.O. members of the organising committee

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr. J.J. Davis, Research Entomologist, Queensland Dept. of Primary Industries, has been granted three years leave for post-graduate work on spider mites at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, U.S.A., and departs from Sydney on May 17th.

Dr. N. Dobrotworsky, of the Zoology School, Melbourne

University, has returned after spending 12 months at the Bishop Museum, Hawaii, where he looked on specimens of a mosquito survey of Papua-New Guinea. He has resumed his studies on Tipulids.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir - Your reviewer of Chauvin's "The World of an Insect" (February News Bulletin) may well have been overkind in some places, but he was distinctly unkind in one: where he criticised the notion that parasites can "distribute their eggs at random in a uniform manner". There, he stumbles over a curious paradox, recently discussed by (I think) Martin Gardner, in "Scientific American". We may feel that something is wrong with the statement, but in fact, within normal usage of the terms, there is nonecessary contradiction between "randomness" and "uniformity" - a perfectly random distribution must be uniformly so! It depends, really, on what we are describing as uniform, the method of distribution of eggs or the spacings between individual eggs (a logician might say, the intension or the extension of the distribution).

In practice, we seem to use "random" as meaning little more than "without any obvious bias relevant to the problem at hand", which seems fair enough. But under close scrutiny, as an abstract concept, it proves to be extraordinarily perverse. Nor is such scrutiny to be recommended - it can induce fits of madness, or at least sleepless nights!

Donald H. Colless
Division of Entomology,
C.S.I.R.O.
CANBERRA, A.C.T.

NOTE TO STUDENTS ATTENDING 3 AGM

The executive has agreed to guarantee to the organising Committee the registration fee for those members of the Society who have been granted student concession rates. It is hoped that as many students as possible will attend the 3rd Annual General Meeting.