

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Hawaiian Entomological Society

VOL. X, No. 3

FOR THE YEAR 1939

AUGUST, 1940

JANUARY 5, 1939

The 397th meeting was held at the H.S.P.A. Experiment Station, January 5, 1939, at 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Miss Margaret Poor, Miss Amy Suehiro, Messrs. Bryan, Ehrhorn, Fullaway, Holdaway, Illingworth, Mason, Pemberton, Rosa, Van Zwaluwenburg, Williams, and Zimmerman.

In the absence of the President and Vice-president, Mr. C. E. Pemberton was appointed Chairman pro tem.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. E. M. Ehrhorn reported that he had audited and found correct the financial report of the treasurer of the Hawaiian Entomological Society for the year ending December 1, 1938.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Mr. E. C. Zimmerman presented a paper entitled: "On the Genera of Anobiidae and Ptinidae Found in Hawaii (Coleoptera)."

Dr. F. G. Holdaway presented a paper on "The Susceptibility of Bean Varieties to Melon Fly Attack."

NOTES AND EXHIBITIONS

Mr. E. M. Ehrhorn transmitted an interesting note reading as follows: *A Singular Phenomenon*.—A few evenings since a gentleman went into his bedroom, where a lamp was burning on the bureau, and noticed a large number of what, at first, appeared to be mosquitos flying about. On looking around he found the bureau literally covered with *large winged ants*, from one-half to one inch in length, of a light red or rather flesh color. He set to work to destroy them, and killed over two hundred in ten minutes. They exhibited none of the viciousness of the small red ant, which will bite ferociously, but so far as was noticed, were entirely harmless. On examining where the insects came from, he found them crowding through an aperture in the wall, evidently driven to seek shelter from the rain which was then falling quite freely. The next day he found a picket which exhibited the mischief done by these ants, which are

Members present: Miss Ethel Lucas, Miss Margaret Poor, Messrs. Bianchi, Browne, Bryan, Keck, Marlow, McBride, Sakimura, Van Zwaluwenburg, Weinrich, Williams and Zimmerman.

Visitors: Dr. Anne Hager, Mr. Wm. C. Look.

President Bianchi in the chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr. William C. Look was elected to membership.

NOTES AND EXHIBITIONS

Scyphophorus acupunctatus Gyll. (Yucca weevil) was found abundant and widely distributed in the Wailupe Valley, injuring sisal very commonly. The specimens were identified by Mr. Pemberton.

Mr. F. A. Bianchi exhibited a head of *Bidens pilosa* (Compositae) collected at Honouliuli, Oahu, from which he had reared the fly, *Trypanaea crassipes*.

Mr. Ashley Browne stated that the adults of the vegetable weevil, *Listroderes obliquus*, at Waimea, Hawaii, were now feeding on Citrus foliage.

Astata bella Cresson (1882) (Hymenoptera, Sphegoidea, Astatinae).—Dr. F. X. Williams exhibited 4 males and 2 females of this small species of *Astata* that he had taken on *Portulaca* plants at the Waianae end of Ewa Plantation Company, Oahu, on July 18, 1939. This seems to be the first time these little bug-catchers have been noted in the territory. They measure up to about 6.5 mm. long. This wasp was described from specimens taken at San Diego, California. More active and much more numerous on the *Portulaca* plants, that were teeming with *Nysius* bugs, was the little larrid wasp, *Silaon rohweri* Bridwell, another immigrant. Most probably the little *Astata* stored its nest-hole with *Nysius*. Usually *Astata* spp. are very alert and often difficult to catch but these six were easily caught by means of small vials. The specimens were in a fresh condition.

Armyworms and other injurious insects were then discussed.

Miss Poor introduced Dr. Anne Hager, parasitologist from Iowa State College. Dr. Hager gave some interesting data on the grasshopper problem on the mainland. A discussion followed.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1939

The 405th meeting was held at the H.S.P.A. Experiment Station on September 7, 1939, at 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Miss Ethel Lucas, Messrs. Bianchi, Bishop, Browne, Bryan, Ehrhorn, Holdaway, Illingworth, Ito, Look, McBride, Pemberton, Rosa, Swezey, Van Zwaluwenburg, Williams and Zimmerman.