

net or when bottled. Most of the Noctuids contented themselves with crawling about the net, and quite a number feigned death; the presence of a *Plusia* in the net could almost always be told by the noise it made in flying.

First bottling the lively ones as they flew up the side of the net, I would then shake or gather the rest into a corner, and then, putting my wide-mouthed bottle in, I would run it up the slope of the bottom side of the net and everything would tumble or be scooped into it. Of course, during the whole process the net had to be held up against the sky, and I managed to keep it at the right elevation and steadiness by gripping the end of the stick between my knees. This allowed me the free use of both hands for securing the catch.

Even on quite cool evenings—when before dark hardly a thing had been noticed on the wing—quite a number would still be swept off the flowers, and they were even more sluggish than usual.

As in "sugaring," the number of species taken, outside of the Noctuidæ, did not amount to anything.

As the catch of the evening was, to a great extent, an unknown quantity—as to the species taken, not the numbers—the anticipation of the "output" on arrival home was decidedly pleasurable, and, till the novelty wore off, rather exciting.

*Plusias* were not taken in any great abundance by this method; in fact, the majority of those captured during my visit were netted before dark.

The plants or flowers off which the moths were swept were as follows:

Wild bergamot or horsemint (*Monarda fistulosa*, var. *mollis*).

Scotch thistle (*Cnicus undulatus*).

Spreading dogbane (*Apocynum androsæmifolium*).

Wild sunflower (*Helianthus rigidus*).

Species of golden-rod, of which *Solidago rigidus* appeared the most attractive.

Of the above, the wild bergamot, while it lasted, was, without doubt, the most alluring. It seems to grow pretty generally over the prairie, both in the open and in open bush, especially among clumps of silver-bush.

Unfortunately, during my second visit very little of it remained in bloom, but the wild sunflower was everywhere in profusion.

On July 15th I took my first specimen of *Plusia insolita*, and on