

little concern for the dimmed light of a lantern, I was able to watch her movements without in any way interfering with her work. Thus, she was seen to run actively about the cage, climb up and around the various twigs, and when a promising crack appeared test its possibilities with her ovipositor. Eventually reaching a dead twig containing loose bark she became greatly excited, and before long had thrust her ovipositor behind the bark between a crack and deposited an egg upon the wood beneath. Then moving to another spot she repeated the performance. Many of her efforts to reach a favourable situation were, however, without avail, and while she seemed to object strongly to placing more than one egg in the same place, the scarcity of appropriate cracks elsewhere invariably induced her to return to the original twig. It thus happened that while she searched over every object in the cage with great care her entire clutch of eggs was ultimately placed in the one twig. In all about 40 eggs were deposited. These, as was to be expected, were somewhat bunched though no egg actually rested upon another, and all were well hidden by the overhanging bark.

The foregoing observations provide strong evidence to show that the eggs of *Poecilopsis rachele* are not laid in masses as was previously supposed, but instead are deposited singly or at most in small numbers. They are placed beneath the dead loose bark, probably on those twigs so commonly found attached to the lower stems of aspen poplars or upon willows which provide many similar conditions.

This will, of course, explain why the larvæ are generally found singly and have a diversity of food plants. It also accounts for the remarkable agility of the female moth and the activity of the young caterpillars.

Eggs from the above-mentioned moth hatched on May 10-11, and moths from the resulting pupæ on April 20 of the following year. A majority of the adults were, as usual, females.

#### ***Leucobrephos brephoides* Wlk.**

The remarkable earliness at which this moth makes its appearance in spring-time has often occasioned speculation as to whether or not it was able to force its way through the snow. The adults have frequently been observed flying and were captured too, while the woodlands still rested under a thick covering of snow and only the extreme uplands were free from its mantle. This seemed strong circumstantial evidence in favour of the supposition that the moths did make their way, though the small amount of visible land always left a doubt as to whether this was actually so or not. In 1916, however, evidence of a direct nature became available, which left no doubt as to the moth's habits in this respect.

The spring of 1916 was an unusually late one in Manitoba, while the winter preceding it had provided an abnormal amount of snow. Thus up to April 10 no land was visible anywhere, and the woodlands among which *L. brephoides* is known to breed presented a solid covering of approximately two feet in depth. Odd thaws had occurred, however, and once the temperature rose to 44° F. in the shade, so that the snow was actually in a thawing condition. The first moths were seen flying on April 1, and during the succeeding days were observed frequently up to the 10th, some of which we captured. As a rule these moths were noted resting upon bunches of straw, hay or some other material dropped