

the same remark, viz., that they had never before seen such a beautiful insect, and, of course, they all ask for its name and something of its life-history. Many of the boxes in which we have received these specimens contained, as well, pieces of sugar, etc. for the moths to feed on. Correspondents are surprised when told that they are unlike most other moths, in that they cannot feed.

Soon after the female moth emerges from the cocoon, she deposits whitish eggs, which turn dark before hatching. These are oval-cylindrical in shape and in size are about 2 mm. long by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  mm. wide. They are attached to twigs or laid on the leaves upon which the caterpillars feed. In about from fifteen to twenty days, according to the season, the eggs hatch. The larvæ at first are pale green, about one-quarter of an inch in length, with brown markings on the head, and some have markings of the same colour along the side of the body. They cast their skins five times, and during the different stages noticeable changes take place. The tubercles on the body which at first are very small, become quite large in the later stages, and there is a conspicuous change in their colour. As the caterpillar becomes older yellowish lines appear on the body. The tubercles, when the larva is mature are, as a rule, pearl-colored tinged with purple; at the end of the body there are three brown spots edged with yellow. In some specimens the tubercles are of a much brighter colour; one writer described them as "blazing like a coronet of rubies." The larva is now about three inches long and of a beautiful pale bluish-green colour, the yellow band along each side of the body being conspicuous.

The caterpillar has been found feeding on walnut, hickory, butternut, maple, birch, beech, oak, willow, plum and sweet gum. When mature, in late summer, it, as a rule, leaves the tree upon which it has been feeding and makes an irregular oval cocoon, generally among leaves on the ground. The cocoon is thin, not nearly as tough as that made by the American Silkworm, *Telea polyphemus*, which is a much more common insect in eastern Canada. The winter is passed as a pupa inside of the cocoon and the moths usually emerge in May.

#### THE PREPARATION OF A CATALOGUE OF THE INSECTS OF CANADA.

By C. GORDON HEWITT, D. Sc., *Dominion Entomologist*, Ottawa

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