

night. A paper by Mr. Young on the "Inflation of Larvæ" was then read and the author gave an exhibition of the skilful manner in which he prepares his beautiful and lifelike specimens. He inflated a *Mamestra* larva and also the hairy caterpillar of *Phragmetobia rubicundula*, pointing out that hibernated individuals were somewhat more difficult to make good skins of than the summer forms. He showed fine skins of the caterpillars of *Orgyia leucostigma*, *Ampelophaga myron*, *Phyrria umbra* and *Acronycta impressa*, and also a fine series of imagos of *Colias Eurytheme* (with larva) and a specimen of that rare little yellow butterfly, *Terias Lisa*. Dr. Fletcher showed a White Grub (*Lachnosterna* sp.) bearing the parasitic fungus *Cordiceps melolonthæ*, and Mr. Young stated that similar specimens occurred annually in his garden. Mr. Harrington exhibited a case of some of the chief insects in different orders which he had taken in Japan, and Dr. Fletcher drew attention to several new books on nature study which were upon the table, including Roberts' "Kindred of the Wild" and "Round the Camp Fire" and Long's "Fowls of the Air," etc.

W. H. H.

MEETINGS OF THE BOTANICAL BRANCH.

The first meeting of the Botanical Branch was held on the evening of February 5th, at Dr. Fletcher's house, who, as chairman for the evening, explained that the reason the meeting had been called was twofold. After discussion, the botanical leaders had decided that regular meetings of the Branch would be very useful in keeping up the interest in botany among the members, by giving an opportunity for the reading of notes and short papers and for the discussion of many matters which might not be considered of sufficient importance to bring before the general meetings of the Club; further than this, these contributions would provide valuable matter for publication in the OTTAWA NATURALIST.

Each member present was invited to express his views on the subject. All were unanimous in the opinion that such meetings would be very helpful and Mr. J. M. Macoun, the Editor of the OTTAWA NATURALIST, stated that the contributions would