

least one-quarter of the pin should project above the thorax. Bees, flies, etc., are also pinned through the thorax a little to one side of the central lines, and beetles (Fig. 4, B) through the right wing case near the base. Collectors unused to pinning material should not attempt it in the field as they are apt to cause more damage to the specimens by doing so than if they had employed one of the simpler methods.



Fig. 4.—Methods of pinning insects:—(A) a moth, (B) a beetle, (C) double mount, (D) cardboard point, (E) locality label.

In packing such specimens for shipment they should be securely pinned as closely together as possible in a cigar box, the bottom of which is lined with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch sheet of compressed cork; date and locality of capture may be either fastened to each pin or written on the inside of the lid of the box.

When shipping boxes of insects, packed according to any of the above methods, by mail or express, the box or boxes should be first wrapped in paper



Fig. 5.—Cross section of a package ready for shipment.

and securely tied. The package should then be either imbedded in a generous layer of excelsior or sea-weed and the whole tightly wrapped in heavy paper (Fig. 5) or, better still, packed into a larger box or carton with plenty of excelsior. The latter method is essential when shipping pinned specimens, which are much more liable to damage through rough handling than papered specimens. In any case, however, an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure, and while over-care in packing will never harm the specimens, careless packing may often result in the partial or total destruction of much valuable material.