

I am indebted to Mr. Grossbeck for calling my attention to Hulst's descriptions, as well as a note by Bruce (Ent. Amer., 3, 48), to the effect that he bred the species from the egg of *Galium*. Packard gives *Celastrus scandens*, and it is evidently not very particular about its food.

## THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY.

BY HENRY H. LYMAN, MONTREAL.

I confess that it is with considerable diffidence that I approach the above subject. Reports of the meeting have already been published by Mr. H. Rowland-Brown in "The Entomologist," and by the Canadian Government representative, Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, in this journal, but there are certain aspects of the subject which these gentlemen have not dwelt upon that appear to me, at least, to be of considerable importance.

I hope I am not wrong in assuming that the *raison d'être* of an international scientific congress is primarily to study the subject in its international aspect, and to secure, as far as possible, co-operation among the scientists of all the countries represented, and that this aspect should never be lost sight of. Yet, it appears to me, as one who has attended both congresses so far held, that this aspect was less in evidence at the Oxford meeting than at the one held two years previously at Brussels; while the social aspect, which was almost absent in Brussels, was very strongly developed. I fully admit the agreeable nature and also the important character of the social aspect, but I think there is a danger of overdoing it, and that it should never be allowed to obscure the more serious business of the gathering.

These congresses being from now on held only every three years, and, considering the very considerable expense incurred by governments and institutions in sending representatives to them, is it not of the highest importance that they should not be merely very pleasant reunions where highly interesting papers are read by eminent scientists, and where afterwards the pipes of social peace are smoked around the social board, but that the many pressing questions of international importance should be given first place and some attempt made to solve them, instead of referring them to committees from one congress to another, while every year confusion, at least in nomenclature, is becoming worse confounded? It is quite true that some attempt was made by some authors to deal with matters of international concern, but such attempts were few, and, unfortunately, some of the ideas were crude.

The programme, including the President's annual address,  
December, 1912