

BOOK NOTICE.

GUIDE TO THE INSECTS OF CONNECTICUT.—Prepared under the direction of William Everett Britton, Ph.D., State Entomologist and Entomologist of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Bulletin 16, Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey. Part I, General Introduction, by W. E. Britton. Part II, The Euplexoptera and Orthoptera of Connecticut, by Benjamin Hovey Walden, B. Agr., Assistant in Entomology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

This is the first of a series of papers on the insects of Connecticut, in which the authors "expect that the entire subject may ultimately be treated."

Part I, comprising the first thirty-eight pages of the report, is a very brief introduction to the study of insects, adapted to the non-entomological reader. Besides a general account of insects, their structure, habits, distribution, economic status, etc., a short bibliography is given of the more important works relating to North American Entomology, and a simple but practical key to the various orders. The arrangement of these in the list which follows is that of Comstock, modified in the Neuropteroid groups by Banks.

A few statements are made that are not strictly accurate, e.g., that tracheal gills persist in the adults of some dragonflies and that the mayflies, which form a very large item in the food-supply of many of our food-fishes, are not important economically.

Part II is an excellent guide to the Euplexoptera and Orthoptera of Connecticut, and contains useful analytical tables and descriptions of the various families, genera and species of these orders known to inhabit Connecticut or adjacent territory. 102 species are described, of which 92 are definitely recorded from within the limits of the State. The nomenclature followed is that which has been in general use for a number of years, and we are glad that the author has not chosen to adopt any of the recent changes through which old and familiar generic names, by a rigid adherence to the laws of priority, have been transferred to other genera, the result being a succession of confusing alterations involving not only generic but sub-family and even family names as well.

The text-figures, of which there are sixty-six, are well chosen, and are, for the most part, copied from the works of Scudder and Morse. There are also eleven half-tone plates from photographs, the first five illustrating Part I and showing typical examples of the various orders and the early stages of a few forms, the remaining six illustrating fifty species of Connecticut Orthoptera and Euplexoptera.

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