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THE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 30 and 31, 1903.

One of the most enjoyable features of the St. Louis meeting of the A. A. A. S., from the entomologists' standpoint, was the informal sessions of the Entomological Club, held at the Southern Hotel on the evenings of Dec. 30-31. The duties of chairman were discharged by Dr. Jas. Fletcher in his inimitably felicitous manner, the proceedings being recorded by Messrs. Kirkland and Wilcox. Among those present were: Messrs. Howard, Marlatt, Lochhead, Corbett, Clifton, Symons, Cooley, Frost, Adams, Sanderson, Fairchild, Burgess, Fletcher, Gillette, Felt, Knab, Kirkland and others.

Mr. Marlatt gave a description of a recent trip in California, and described in detail the work of the introduced parasite, *Scutellista cyanea*, on the black scale (*Lecanium oleæ*). This insect has become well established in Californian orchards, and now practically controls the black scale. It will probably prove as valuable an ally of the fruit-grower as has *Vedalia cardinalis* in the case of the white scale (*Icerya purchasi*).

The black scale is a general feeder, breeding on orange, pepper tree, erigeron, cockle-burr, sunflower, Chili pepper, etc. It results that these food plants keep up the stock of scale in which the *Scutellista* breeds, and it in turn attacks the scale in the orchards. So valuable has the *Scutellista* proved, and so general is the appreciation of its services, that it is not unusual for orchardists suffering from the scale attack to surreptitiously remove infested scales from the orchards of their more fortunate neighbors and thus colonize the parasite among their own trees.

Dr. Howard discussed the first importation of *Scutellista* to Baton Rouge, La., several years ago, to which place he sent the parasite, hoping it would prove effective against certain *Ceroplastes* common there. This introduction, according to Prof. Morgan, was a failure. When Lounsbury bred the *Scutellista* on the black scale in S. Africa, Dr. Howard at once arranged for an importation of the parasite to California, where, through the work of the agents of the Department of Agriculture, and Mr. Craw, the insect has now become well established, with results as previously described by Mr. Marlatt.

The *Scutellista* was probably sent to South Africa originally on plants from English colonists at Ceylon, where it is a native species. It is the first known *Chalcid* that destroys *all* the eggs of its host. In the case of