

Papers on the geographical distribution of insects were read by Dr. Anton Handlirsch (Vienna), who ranged over the whole field of fossil insects, and Dr. P. Speiser (Labes), Baron von Rosen (München), discussed the forest Termites, while Prof. Calvert gave an exceedingly interesting review of the advance which has been made in the knowledge of the dragon-flies since 1895.

Among the papers on insect bionomics which were read, three may be specially mentioned, on account of their exceptional interest. Dr. W. M. Wheeler (Harvard), gave an account of his recent investigations in Central America in ten Acacia-inhabiting ants. His results do not confirm the popular idea as to the adaptation of the acacias for the purpose of encouraging ants with a view to protecting themselves against the leaf-cutting ants. The ants merely frequent the convenient hollow places in the acacias because it suits their convenience so to do. Dr. A. Seitz (Darmstadt), described the results of an interesting experiment which he devised to test the sense of sight of insects, in this case butterflies. The character of this sense may be judged from the fact that the male butterflies of the species observed were found to be so short-sighted that they attempted to copulate with paper-coloured replicas of the females mounted on pins. A masterly and extremely suggestive paper on the Mallophaga was read by Prof. Vernon L. Kellogg. It was demonstrated that the association between these parasitic insects and their avian hosts was of a most remarkable character, tending to show that the parasites had become associated with their present hosts before the latter had become divided into separate species. They showed to an extraordinary degree the effect of isolation brought about by specific association.

Before the sections for economic and medical entomology many valuable and important papers were read. Sir Daniel Morris read a paper by Mr. W. A. Ballou (Government Entomologist for the West Indies), on the more important insects of the West Indies and the methods adopted for their control. Prof. J. Jablonowski (Budapest), contributed two papers, one of which on the methods of fighting the locust, *Stauronotus maroccanus*, in Hungary was of unusual interest and importance from the Canadian point of view. Mr. A. G. L. Rogers (Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, England), contributed a paper on the necessary investigation with relation to insect pests preliminary to legislation. While the ideas set forth by the author were in the main sound, he made many assertions which were not borne out by facts. This was shown in the subsequent discussion, which proved so interesting that it was postponed until the following day, when a resolution was passed, and subsequently submitted