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A NORTH AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGISTS' UNION.*

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When seven years ago I had the honour of occupying the Presidential chair of this Society, I ventured in my annual address, as some of you will doubtless remember, to suggest the formation of a North American Entomologists' Union on similar lines to those on which the American Ornithologists' Union has been so successfully carried on; and in my second address the following year I again returned to the subject. I hoped that the idea would be taken up by some of the leading entomologists of the continent, but though the matter has been, I believe, the subject of correspondence among a number of entomologists, nothing of a tangible nature has, apparently, resulted.

Last year when in New York I was told that a move had been made, and that I would soon receive a circular about it, but on a subsequent visit this year I was told that owing to certain local jealousies the matter had been, at least temporarily, abandoned.

It therefore appears to me opportune, as the original proposer of the scheme, to again bring it before our Society, and through it before the entomologists of the continent.

One thing which caused my thoughts to be again turned to this subject was the reading of the very admirable article on Entomological Literature by Mr. C. F. Baker, in the October number of "Entomological News." If all our writers would use the same restrained and courteous manner there would be no excuse for bickering and ill feeling among entomologists. I entirely agree with Mr. Baker that having so many publications devoted to general entomology, so that any student in any branch has to refer to all of them, is a great evil and a hindrance to the progress of original research in special lines; but while it is easy to see the evil, I fail to see how it can be remedied except by the co-operation of entomologists in a Union such as I have suggested.

*Read at the Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Ontario, Guelph, Oct. 19, 1905.