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ANNUAL ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

To the Members of the Entomological Society of Ontario.

GENTLEMEN,—While Entomology may be said to deal with small things, the abundance or scarcity of the tiny creatures called insects involves great issues. The truth of this statement has been illustrated forcibly in several directions this year, notably in the case of the Angoumois wheat moth, which has played sad havoc among the stores of corn and wheat in granaries in the South-western States. It is said to have destroyed many thousand bushels of grain, and so widespread has the evil become that it is the opinion of the New York Sun that if the Government or the farmers of America could at this time arrest the progress of this insect by expending five millions of dollars, it would be the best investment ever made by the people.

The Angoumois grain moth, *Butalis cerealella* Oliv., is a small moth the larva of which is very destructive to all sorts of grain. The female lays her eggs on the grain sometimes in the field before it is fully ripened, but more frequently in the bins in the granary. The eggs are of a bright orange-red color, and in a few days there issue from them very minute whitish-colored worms, scarcely thicker than a hair, which bore into the grain and occupy it, one larva in each kernel. Each kernel contains sufficient food to support one occupant until it reaches maturity, when it changes to a chrysalis within the grain, which, although hollowed and almost entirely consumed within, appears outwardly sound and plump. On pressing between the fingers the grain is found to be soft and yielding, and when dropped into water it floats on the surface.

When the larva is full grown it spins a white silken cocoon, which occupies one end of the cavity within the grain, the other end being filled with the castings of the worm. The moth makes its escape through a small round hole in the side of the grain, which the larva cuts with its jaws before spinning its cocoon. When preparing this orifice for the