

ever be prepared? The work is evidently too great for any one individual, for keys in any group to be serviceable must be prepared by someone familiar with the group; and, furthermore, the entomological workers of America are all too much engaged in active professional studies to devote much time to such work.

That some combined plan is requisite seems apparent, and I know no better place to inaugurate such an effort than in this Club.

There are already many valuable analytical tables, but these are scattered through so many publications (many of which are inaccessible to general students) that to be of service in the particular manner I have in mind, they should be brought together in some compact single volume, with such directions as to their use, as to make them serviceable without a specialist at hand.

I would suggest that a special committee be appointed at this meeting to consider the possibility of preparing such a work, either as a special effort of the club or by simple co-operation among members of the club, who are willing to assist by allowing the use of tables already prepared, or the preparation of new ones in the group with which they are familiar.

Such a manual would necessarily have certain limitations, and, doubtless, at first, some imperfections, but the scope of the work may probably better be discussed in a special committee, should it please you to form one, and the matter of imperfection is incident to every new undertaking.

The cordial reception which this suggestion has met with from some entomologists to whom I have presented it, and their generous offer to allow the use of tables they have published, and to revise and extend them, have encouraged me in the belief that such a plan can be worked out. The matter seems to me of such vital importance, especially in college work and for students who desire to make entomology a serious work, that I believe we should not be discouraged by the difficulties which certainly exist in such an undertaking.

Another matter to which I desire to call your attention is that of a general gathering of entomologists during the Columbian Exposition. We are all aware of the pleasure of meeting our national co-labourers in this field, and if arrangements are made so that a general congress of the entomologists of the world can be had, I believe the interest and profit of the occasion will be great.