

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

OTTAWA, September 14, 1917.

To the Honourable

The Minister of Agriculture,
Ottawa, Ont.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for your approval, Entomological Bulletin No. 14, Part II, entitled "Canadian Bark-Beetles; Part II: A Preliminary Classification, with an Account of the Habits and Means of Control," which has been written by Mr. J. M. Swaine, Assistant Entomologist in charge of Forest Insect Investigations.

As I pointed out in Part I of this series, the bark-beetles constitute the chief insect enemies of our coniferous forests. Forest fires are spectacular, and the results are immediately and strikingly noticeable, but competent authorities are of the opinion that the annual loss caused by the depredations of these and other forest insects which are widely distributed throughout the country is greater in the aggregate than the loss due to forest fires.

The methods to be adopted to control the outbreaks of these serious enemies of our forests depend upon a knowledge of the species of bark-beetles concerned. Different species have different habits, and as control measures are based upon their habits it is necessary for the forester to be able to recognize the various species that are to be found affecting our timber and shade trees. The object of this bulletin, which brings together the results of the work of many years, is to place in the hands of foresters, students, and other workers requiring such information, a means whereby they will be able to identify readily the species of bark-beetles causing any injuries that may be found in our Canadian forests. An account of the general habits and of the methods of controlling bark-beetle outbreaks is included, and descriptions are given of a number of new species.

At all times the protection and correct utilization of our timber resources are of greater importance than ever from a national and imperial standpoint. When the information contained in this bulletin is available to practical foresters it will be of inestimable practical value, as it will assist them in taking the necessary steps to prevent the continued loss of timber now being destroyed and to protect extensive areas that are threatened by the attacks of bark-beetles, most insidious enemies of the forest.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. GORDON HEWITT,
Dominion Entomologist and Consulting Zoologist.