

which may, indeed, never be solved. We know that its breeding grounds once extended over a very wide area, much of this having been classed as permanent by Riley and others who investigated the plague at that time. At present, however, the insect seems to have vanished completely. Indeed, there are some who would place it with the Passenger Pigeon as an object of the past. It seems almost incomprehensible, however, that such can be the case. More probably the real permanent breeding grounds are more restricted than was supposed, and the locust will yet be located either by the discovery of its real haunts or by a new invasion following favourable weather conditions for breeding purposes. This, however, is beside the question. What I wanted to point out was that the Rocky Mountain Locust always invaded Western Canada during a dry season, arriving in swarms from elsewhere in July or August. As this was the time of oviposition, eggs were soon deposited in vast numbers, and, as a result, crops naturally suffered much more the following year than they did on the insects' first appearance. While the locusts were able to breed for a season or so in the invaded territory they seldom remained long. Frequently an excess of moisture to what they had been accustomed to produced sickness from which many died, while others taking advantage of sunny days and favourable breezes drifted to parts unknown.

In other words, dry weather had enabled them to overstep their usual breeding grounds, only, however, to be driven out or killed by a return to normal climatical conditions. The same dryness which induced an invasion of Rocky Mountain locusts was also instrumental in increasing the indigenous species of *Orthoptera*, so that such kinds as the Lesser Migratory Locust (*M. atlantis*) became almost as destructive as its close relative mentioned above, while many other species were sufficiently numerous to aid materially in the work of destruction. We have another example of an insect's control by conditions of humidity alone in the Western Wheat-stem Sawfly (*Cephus sp.*). In this instance a lack of precipitation causes a dearth of the flowering stems of grasses in which the larval life is passed, resulting in a decrease of the species in proportion to prevalence of suitable grass stems for breeding purposes. This, of course, relates to natural conditions before