

THE ORTHOPTERA OF WESTERN CANADA.

BY THE EDITOR.

The Orthopterous fauna of Western Canada was, until a comparatively few years ago, almost unknown. Several papers, however, have appeared within recent years, which have added considerably to our knowledge of the Canadian species of this order, and during the past four years the writer has examined nearly a thousand specimens from a large number of localities in the four western Provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, and a good deal of light has thus been thrown upon the distribution of many species. It seems best, therefore, to bring together in a single paper all the information available on the distribution of Orthoptera in these four Provinces.

The collections examined by the writer, but not yet reported upon, were made chiefly by Prof. W. J. Alexander, of Toronto; and Messrs. N. Criddle, Aweme, Man.; T. N. Willing, Regina, Sask.; and N. B. Sanson, Banff, Alta. My thanks are due to all of these gentlemen for generous gifts of specimens or the loan of material for study, but especially to Prof. Alexander, who, although not an entomologist, devoted a large part of a two months' trip through the Canadian West to the collection of Orthoptera for the writer's cabinet, and although without any experience in collecting insects, succeeded in taking some 400 specimens, representing 40 species.

Prof. Alexander's trip was made in September and October, 1906, and his collecting was almost all done at the various stations along the Canadian Northern and Canadian Pacific Railways. As with few exceptions not more than a day was spent at any station, a list of the stations, with the dates on which the collecting was done, is given below, in order to avoid the necessity of repeating these dates in the list of species.

List of localities and dates of capture of specimens taken by Prof. Alexander in 1906:

Manitoba: Carman, Sept. 6; Swan River, Sept. 8; Elkhorn, Sept. 13; Gilbert Plains, Sept. 18; Grandview, Sept. 18.

Saskatchewan: Findlater and Condie, Sept. 10; Yellow Grass and Pasqua, Sept. 12; Moosomin, Sept. 13; Kamsack and Kuroki, Sept. 19; Langham, Radisson, Vonda and Weyburn, Sept. 20; Medicine Hat, Sept. 26.

Alberta: Vermilion, Sept. 21; Ponoka and Red Deer, Sept. 24; Calgary, Sept. 25; Lethbridge and Macleod, Sept. 27.

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