

striped, the lynx is spotted, the lion-cub is spotted: but these marks disappear. They are of no use and simply persist as an ancestral landmark in each generation. In some striped creatures, the zebra, tiger and leopard, these external marks have proved of use and have persisted. Passing from ancestral coloration, Professor Prince referred to colours due to food, instancing the green oyster and the cochineal insect. Other colours may be called physiological, like the red or green colour of worms due to the hue of the blood. We have also emotional (cuttlefish); aesthetic (sex colours of birds, etc.,) and seasonal coloration. The stoat and hare turning white in winter illustrate the last. Parasitism furnishes strange instances, the green sloth owes its colour to minute algae which clothe the coarse grey hairs of that animal. Environment is most potent in causing animals to assume the colours of their surroundings. Insects afford striking cases. Strikingly tinted creatures such as the skunk, amongst quadrupeds, and the wasp among insects, exhibit warning colours. Mimicry is of great interest and there are many types, the most interesting being that of harmless insects mimicking poisonous or disagreeable kinds. Lastly, many colours appear, in our present state of knowledge, to have no useful purpose, and must be classed as indifferent. Interior organs and membranes are coloured in various ways for which no explanation is at hand. Why should the chimpanzee possess a palate of a bright rose colour, and the interior of the orang's mouth be black as ink? Much still remains to be done in this subject, and few subjects present more facts curious and interesting in themselves but also of far-reaching significance.

On conclusion a vote of thanks was moved by His Excellency the Governor General, who congratulated the Chairman upon having been able to secure the services of such an able man as the lecturer to discharge the duties which had been assigned to him by the Department of Marine and Fisheries. The motion was seconded by Sir James Grant, carried unanimously, and very suitably acknowledged by the lecturer, who then moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was seconded by Dr. Sweetland.