

as nearly as possible, a natural sequence, while under these the species are arranged in alphabetical order; 494 species and subspecies, besides 27 fossil species, are listed.

Fortunately but few changes in nomenclature have been found necessary, the most important of these being the return to Kirby's use of *Agrion* and *Cænagrion* for the genera commonly known as *Calopteryx* and *Agrion* respectively. The change was well-founded, according to the decision of the Commission for the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, to whom Kirby's reasons for the changes were submitted.

The references, among which all that are of taxonomic value appear, include also others relating to the descriptions of early stages, morphology and distribution.

In regard to types, the custody of which is given wherever possible, the author has introduced two new terms, "Allotype" and "Morphotype." The former is used to designate a type specimen of the opposite sex to which the type (holotype) of a given species belongs; while the latter is employed for the second form of a dimorphic sex, as in the dimorphic females of many *Cænagrioninae*.

The only feature in this excellent catalogue which we would criticise is a tendency to unduly restrict the distribution of many of the species. Many species, *e. g.*, are designated "Transition" or "Carolinian," which have been recorded from well within the limits of the Canadian zone, and in many cases are characteristically boreal. These northern records should not be ignored, for frequently they do not indicate the extreme northern range of the species; the more numerous southern records being due merely to the more thorough exploration of the warmer localities.

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CATALOGUE OF NEARCTIC SPIDERS: By Nathan Banks, Bull. 72, U. S. National Museum, 1910.

This is a very valuable contribution to North American arachnology. Twenty years have lapsed since Dr. Marx published his Catalogue of the described Araneæ of temperate North America (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XII, 1890), and until now it has been a difficult matter indeed for the student to post himself on the many species described since that time. The present list includes 1,330 species, distributed through 270 genera. Mr. Banks's catalogue should considerably stimulate the study of our spiders.—KARL R. COOLIDGE.

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Mailed August 5th, 1910.