

end fastened to a faucet; the water could be thus kept steadily flowing with any desired rapidity.

Dr. Morris exhibited a gall recently collected, the inclosed larva not bred, and asked for information as to the probable producer.

Mr. Mann said the subject of galls had puzzled him in his bibliographical work, especially as to the proper method of indexing them. He had referred to them under the head of systematic botany, but doubted his correctness.

Dr. Morris asked what orders of insects contained gall producers. Mr. Osborn thought about all orders except Neuroptera and Orthoptera. Mr. Smith said that at least one American species of *Apion* is known as a true gall producer, and in Europe several species are known to produce root galls. Mr. Osborn said that many plants, especially the *Rosaceae*, were much subject to galls, while others were rarely if ever so infested. He thought them abnormal products so far as plants are concerned, and as rather belonging to insect economy since they are caused by insects; not only that, but insects were often most readily distinguished by the form of the galls, and in the case of mites those of the maple and ash were much alike, but produced very easily distinguishable galls.

Dr. Hoy thought the galls were pathological appearances, and were rather diseases of plants and should be classed as such. In descriptive botany they had no place, any more than in a description of the lips cancer should be treated of.

Mr. Mann stated he had also indexed them under pathological botany and under insects, but the chief difficulty had arisen through a descriptive paper treating galls from a botanical standpoint.

Dr. Morris said that he had seldom seen such a dearth of larvæ of all kinds, and butterflies were exceedingly scarce.

Mr. Saunders thought there had been no unusual want of insects in Canada. *Turnus* has been common, and so was *cardui*; the latter, indeed, had been extremely abundant in Manitoba, where it had destroyed large quantities of thistles, and caused great alarm on the part of farmers, who thought it would also attack their crops. *Thecla nippon*, usually rather a rare form, was found in some abundance this season, and in the early part of May quite a number of specimens were captured.

Dr. Hoy said that as compared with previous seasons, *cardui* has appeared in immense numbers, fifty for one. It had never previously to his knowledge attacked the hollyhock or sunflower. This season it has