

teresting, and was well illustrated by a number of colored drawings of the insects described. Dr. Fyles' attention was first drawn to the subject of forest insects by their depredations in the woods of the parish in Quebec, where he was first settled. The careless tapping of the maple trees by a former proprietor of his land had made them the abode of horntails and beetles, while the brush and fallen trees of the surrounding woods were infested with many varieties of destructive insects.

Dr. Fyles divided the insects under two great heads, namely: biting insects, Mandibulata, and sucking insects, Haustellata. To the former class belong the borers in the tree trunks, the twig girdlers and the leaf devourers; to the latter, the cicadas, the scale insects and the plant lice. It is difficult to tell which of the two orders is more hurtful to vegetation. The insects which have come from foreign sources are the most to be dreaded. The larch sawfly that destroyed the tamarack of our northern forests is an example of this. The Gypsy Moth in Massachusetts caused an expenditure by the Legislature, in four years, of \$275,000 in the effort to exterminate it. The Tent Caterpillars and Tussock Moths are well known insects, destructive to the leaves of trees. The white grub and the cicadas feed upon the roots of plants. The cicada is an interesting insect from its long sojourn underground, lasting from three to seventeen years according to the species, feeding upon the roots of trees. Its loud stridulations are one of the most characteristic sounds of the summer.

The borers do a great deal of damage to timber and as an evidence of the manner in which they may be transported from place to place, Dr. Fyles related the case of one which dropped from the frame of a door in his own house, after having survived all the processes of finishing the wood. It must not be supposed that nature has left these borers to multiply and work their will without a check. There are a number of ichneumon flies engaged in reducing their numbers. Insectivorous birds and predaceous insects under ordinary circumstances keep the spoilers within bounds. And man may give his assistance to the same end by, for instance, preserving the insectivorous birds.

Professor Roth emphasized the importance of a study of for