

its lines ; but such work is very pleasurable, and unless in the complexity of the subject or the disheartening number of forms or amount of literature necessary, would seem to present no insuperable difficulties not to be met with in other sciences.

It is perhaps almost unfortunate that there has been a fashion for a few years past to discredit the value of systematic work, and to laud the researches in histology and embryology as the only work deserving the name of science. The tone of contempt that has sometimes greeted the faithful worker in systematic entomology must have had the effect of discouraging some who might otherwise have made valuable contributions to the science.

We should not be narrow, but let our sympathies and appreciation be as extensive as the group in which we are interested ; our perceptions of the *earnest effort and the good in others as sensitive as the organizations* which we place under our microscopes ; and our encouragement as quick as the movements of our tiny friends.

The work in histology and embryology is essential, and its importance cannot be ignored. Often giving us the only rational method of discovering affinities, it must be resorted to by the systematic student, and none need underrate it. The further study of entire life-histories of insects, one of the most fascinating of all branches of study, presents a field of such great importance to the economic entomologist, so rich in discovery as to modes of life, and so often important in revealing the affinities of related groups, that he who would neglect or deride this part of entomology must have little conception of its range.

But systematic work too has its place and importance, and I trust the time is now coming when there will be a return of workers to this field.

The need of collections and libraries for this work is appreciated by all, and has been well discussed in the address of last year.

I would like to suggest, however, in this connection the importance of the preservation of collections that have been the basis of systematic work by a specialist. Often such collections go to ruin, and the question comes again and again, would it not have been better if such collection had been placed in some established museum, where its preservation would be assured. I believe fully in the formation of working collections, particularly in limited groups, but when it is possible to deposit such a collection