
ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE—ANNUAL
ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

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At the Ann Arbor meeting of our Club, in the year 1885, Prof. John B. Smith proposed as a subject of discussion "How shall we create and foster an interest in the study of Entomology?" In the discussion a rather gloomy view was then generally taken by the members regarding the general lack of interest in entomology in this country, Prof. Riley alone expressing himself hopefully as to the future outlook. As the best means for creating such interest the production of a *popular* compendium of North American insects was recommended, but the discussion only dwelt upon the difficulties in the way of producing a popular and yet valuable work.

Now, no one can deny that within the few years that have elapsed since 1885 a great change has taken place, a change which has been alluded to by others, and among them by Prof. A. J. Cook in his presidential address delivered at the Indianapolis meeting of this Club in 1890. Many new and conscientious workers in the various branches of both pure and applied entomology have appeared; orders or families of insects hitherto sadly neglected have found competent students; the life histories and earlier stages of a multitude of insects have been studied and recorded with a thoroughness and exactitude previously rarely attained; entomological instruction, both of a scientific and practical nature, is now given by competent teachers in many colleges; the increase in popular interest in entomology is manifested in the many collections that have recently been formed by young beginners; and, finally, even the newspapers have ceased to make fun of "bug catchers." In short, the combined work of our entomologists from the time of Say and Harris down to our day begins to bear fruit, and has enforced for entomology that recognition among the other sciences which her importance demands.

An excellent illustration of this change can be found in the records of last year's meeting of our Club, held at Washington. In his admirable address as president of the Club, Prof. Herbert Osborn again proposed the production of a Manual of North American Entomology, but this time not of a popular one to create and foster an interest in the study of entomology, but of a scientific compendium for the use of the advanced