

was brought out in pellets and formed into a neat little embankment, or causeway, against the wall, leading away from the entrance. They were a very orderly and peaceable family, and never annoyed any one, though passers-by were frequent along the gravel path not a yard away, and up and down the stone steps at the end of the nest.

It cannot be too often repeated that bumble-bees are decidedly useful insects, and do much good work for farmers and fruit-growers. Their hairy bodies are specially adapted for carrying pollen from one blossom to another, and thus they are instrumental in fertilizing many varieties of fruit-trees, melons, cucumbers, pumpkins, etc., clover, red and white, and various flowers, many of which would be unable to produce any seeds but for the kindly offices of bees.

THE NORTH-WEST (CANADA) ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The First Annual Meeting of the North-West (Canada) Entomological Society was held at Lacombe, Alberta, N.W.T., in the Agricultural Hall on Tuesday, the 7th November, 1899. At the request of the President, the chair was taken by Griffin Fletcher, Esq., J.P.

Agriculturists were well represented. The minutes of the last ordinary meeting were read and approved. Letters were read from Mr. J. A. Guignard (in the absence of Dr. James Fletcher); Dr. L. O. Howard, of Washington; the Bishop of Calgary and Saskatchewan: Dr. Sanson, of Banff; F. Oliver, Esq., of Edmonton, M.P., and a very large number of other gentlemen interested in the work of the Society, expressing full sympathy with its objects.

The Chairman, in a few opening words, explained that the object of the meeting was to popularise the Society amongst farmers, by showing the use of Entomology and Botany, and that a number of gentlemen had written special letters with advice, which would be read after the addresses on the agenda had been delivered.

The Chairman then called upon the President, Mr. Percy B. Gregson, to address the meeting. (See page 114).

The President then read an address by the Revd. C. J. S. Bethune, D.C.L., upon "The Use of Entomology."

An address from Mr. H. H. Lyman, M.A., (the President of the Entomological Society of Ontario), was next read.

The suggestion in Mr. Lyman's address as to affiliation of the North-West Entomological Society was discussed, and it was decided that at present affiliation was impracticable, owing to the somewhat original course adopted by the North-West Society, (of which details appear in the Report of Council).

An address by Dr. Henry George, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), of Innisfail, Alta., on "The Pocket-Gopher," (*G. bursarius*) was next read by the President.

Numerous letters in support of the President's course of procedure were next read from members of the Society, among them being a letter from The Bishop of Calgary, in which His Lordship (after remarks as to the uphill work before the Society) advised quarterly meetings, to which the public should be specially invited; a letter from Mr. E. Firmstone Heath cordially supporting the President's project of giving sketches of insect life to the school children and parents, and of holding quarterly meetings for interchange of experiences; from Mr. A. W. Hanham, Mr. F. Oliver, M.P., Dr. N. B. Sanson, of Banff, Alta., and several other gentlemen to the same effect.

Mr. Hanham and Dr. Sanson suggested the formation of a "Naturalists' Club," but, in view of the scattered community, it was decided to be impracticable at present; but that a suggestion by Mr. Heath that some kind of Natural History Periodical might be published eventually by the Society, which would be circulated among the public, should be seriously considered at the earliest opportunity.

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A letter from the President was then read, inviting members to bring their own insects to the meeting, and expressions of interest in Entomology.

A letter from the President's work could not be done without the help of hundreds of thousands of other people, by the carrying out of the work, also, in approving of the display of insect

The Chairman

The election of the President for the ensuing year; P.

The Rev. J. P. Gregson, J. P., Treasurer; and Mr. T. N. W. Council.

Before concluding the President has given a short sketch on the value of the work, and the attend, and the

The Chairman: G. Wolley-Dod (Natural Societies), value as regards the annual meeting.

The Secretary: President for the Society.

After a vote

In submitting their sincere congratulations and Agricultural work of the North-West Society, an enterprise in a word, from many people, having advice from Dr. James Fletcher.

The Society's Sanson, of Banff; other gentlemen, Hutchinson, A. W. active of their respective public.

Mr. E. Bayne President of the entire Fletcher, a full set

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