Canadian Kntomologist.

VOL. XLV.

LONDON, JUNE, 1913

No. 6

NEW NYMPHS OF CANADIAN ODONATA BY E. M. WALKER, TORONTO, ONT.

During the summers of 1907, 1908 and 1912, the writer spent much of his time at the Great Lakes Biological Station, Go Home Bay (Georgian Bay), Ont., in collecting and rearing dragonflies (Odonata). A full account of this work will appear in the forthcoming report of the Marine Biological Stations of Canada; but, as this report will not be issued in the immediate future and is comparatively unknown to entomologists, it is thought best to publish in advance the descriptions of the new nymphs obtained.

Nymphs of certain species of Aeshna, which were reared for the first time at Go Home Bay, have already been described in the writer's memoir on this genus,* and are omitted from the present account. In addition to the species described from Go Home Bay, the nymph of Somatochlora semicircularis (Selys) from Vancouver

Island is also included.

Nehalennia gracilis Morse

A few nymphs of this species were found in floating sphagnum bogs, some distance back from the open water. Several imagoes

emerged in the laboratory during July.

I have compared these nymphs carefully with a few specimens of N. irene (Hagen) from Toronto, and the only differences I can find are the smaller size, less spinulose hind margin of the head and entire absence of spots on the gills. It is not improbable that none of these characters are constant, as I had but few specimens of either species for comparison.

In N. gracilis the convex posterior margin of the head has only 4-6 slender inconspicuous colourless spinules; in N. irene there are a dozen or more spinules, which are somewhat coarser and blackish at base (Figs. 2, 3); gills very slender, widest in the distal third, tapering somewhat more gradually than in N. irene, with no indication of spots (Fig. 1).

*The North American Dragonflies of the genius Æshna. University of Toronto Studies, Biological Series, No. 11, 1912.