## THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST

not at all correspond with his supposed type now in the National Museum. I did in this case as I have always done, followed the description rather than the supposed type. It is inconceivable that any one who pretends to know anything about the Hemiptera would describe a Jalysus with unarmed connexivum and pronotum and membranous elytra in a genus belonging to a distinct subfamily and having the connexivum and pronotum long-spinose and the corium coriaceous and punctate. Ashmead also distinctly describes the head as trispinose. Characters omitted may be charged to an oversight, but non-existent structural characters cannot be added. His name multispinus could hardly apply to any Jalysus. I fail to see how the ends of science can be advanced by trying to connect Ashmead's description with his supposed type, and in my catalogue I have retained my species, leaving Ashmead's as a still unknown species of Hoplinus. Mr. Barber also sinks my Jalysus wickhami as a straight synonym of spinosus. It, however, readily separates out as the western form of spinosus. The typical form of this species I have not seen from west of the Rocky Mts., although in Texas the two seem to intergrade and may do so wherever their habitats overlap.

Genus Lygaeus Fabr.-This genus was founded by Fabricius in 1794 to include a heterogeneous assemblage of species that he could not satisfactorily locate in his other genera, or so it looks to Lamarck in 1801 named equestris as its type, and in 1803 115. Fabricius indicates tenebrosus as the typical species. Kirkaldy and others claim that his repeating the generic characters in his description of valgus in 1794, but without italics, was a valid naming of the type. An argument in favour of this is found in the fact that he did not repeat these type indications in the case of two of the five genera so distinguished in his Systema Rhyngotorum, but in Lygæus and one other genus he has indicated a different species as type in his later work, which in a measure will offset Kirkaldy's contention. In these two cases of double type-fixation, if such they be called, I think we should ignore both and take the next valid fixation, which in the case of Lygæus is equestris, and in the case of Gerris, the other genus referred to, is lacustris. This procedure, which I believe is perfectly justifiable and logical, conserves these names for the genera as almost universally used

381