

not consider that the scheme proposed by Mr. Westcott for the publication of an entomological periodical, a practicable one for the Club to undertake.

Mr. Smith gave an account of the secondary sexual characters of the Noctuidæ, illustrated by blackboard sketches, showing peculiarities of leg structure in the male butterflies and some analogous variations in the Deltoids, in which latter group the tibæ often become aborted, while the first tarsal joint is often so abnormally developed that it is usually mistaken for the tibia. The peculiar brushes of the fore legs were noticed and some modifications commented on. The abnormal development of the last tarsal joint of *Palthis* was illustrated, as was also the peculiar palpal structure of the ♂ of that genus; so of antennæ, the peculiar bends and tuftings of the ♂, especially of the group *Herminiinæ*, were noted, as were the more usual pectinations. In conclusion, Mr. Smith mentioned the varying practice of systematists as to what generic value these characters should have. In some instances these male characters were wanting, while in all other respects the species agreed with others in which all these peculiar structures were well developed; on the contrary, occasionally a species would be found which offered some peculiar character in the ♂ not usually found in its near allies, instancing *H. paradoxus*, in which the ♂ has a pellucid impression in the fore wing, around which the venation is somewhat modified. What shall we do with such a species? The ♀ well fits into *Heliothis*. Shall the ♂ then authorize a genus where the ♀ offers no basis for it? Students of other groups should give their experiences.

Prof. Fernald said that in the Tortricids, generic, and even higher value, had been given to these characters. The costal fold was a prominent ♂ character, abnormally developed in many exotic forms. In a South India form it extends fully two-thirds across the wings, while in other Indian and Japanese species it is very wide, but not so abnormally developed. Families have been based upon these characters, and one genus has been based upon a character peculiar to the ♀ only. This genus he thought would have to be abandoned.

Dr. Horn said that in systematic work and in characterizing a species both sexes should be considered. It requires two individuals, a ♂ and a ♀, to make a single complete example of a species, and classification should consider these individuals together in assigning positions to them.