



M.A. Schneider

NEWS BULLETIN

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF QUEENSLAND



PRICE 40c

Registered for Posting as a Periodical Category B.

SEPTEMBER 1980 VOL. 8 NO. 6

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THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND

GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Entomological Society of Queensland Inc., held in Room 323 of the Hartley Teakle Building, University of Queensland on Monday 8th September, 1980 at 8.00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

P.J. McFadyen (President), P.G. Allsopp, M. deBaar, N. Benier, B. Cantrell, H.T. Clifford, J. Conran, T. Cribb, E.C. Dahms, G. Daniels, E. Exley, B. Franzmann, I.D. Galloway, A. Gildea, J.F. Grimshaw, C. Hagan, M. Harris, M. Harbison, M. Hockey, D. Holdom, G.H.S. Hooper, W. Jorgensen, B.H. Kay, J. King, R.L. Kitching, R.J. Kohout, E.N. Marks, G.F. Maywald, D. Merritt, G.B. Monteith, R. Piper, B. Sabine, V. Salanitri, D. Sands, M.A. Schneider, B. Sorby-Adams, R.W. Sutherst, R.W. Taylor, K. Williams, T.E. Woodward, D. Ye

VISITORS

G. Gordh, J. Graff, B. Hölldobler, J. Kikkawa, C. King, B.S. Niven.

APOLOGIES

P. Boreham, R. McFadyen, I. Fanning, K. Harley, E. Reye, E. Sinclair, K. Walker.

MINUTES

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 11th August were circulated in News Bulletin Vol. 8 No. 5. It was moved Ted Dahms, seconded Bruce Sabine that the minutes be accepted.

CARRIED.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The president outlined the October meeting which will be held in the Cunningham Laboratory, CSIRO, University grounds on Wednesday 22nd October. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE. For details of this meeting see calendar of events, page 66 this bulletin.

As this meeting is later in the month, there will not be an October issue of the Bulletin. However the November issue will combine the information for both October and November meetings.

MAIN BUSINESS

The main business of the evening was an address by Dr. R.W. Taylor of CSIRO Canberra entitled:-

APPLICATION OF MODERN TECHNIQUES IN DESCRIPTIVE TAXONOMY OF INSECTS

Unfortunately no transcript of Dr. Taylor's talk is available at the time of going to press. However, if one is submitted at a later date I will include it in a later issue of the Bulletin.

In an attempt to fill the gap that this omission has left, here is an off-the-cuff summary provided completely without the aid of notes or any "Modern Techniques" by the publications convenor.

Dr. Taylor gave a lucid and well illustrated talk on aspects of involving some of the modern electronic gadgetry in the ancient and honoured profession of trying to make some sense of a confusing array of life forms by catagorising and cataloguing the information available to us on their morphology.

Some of the major "rate determining" processes existing between an unknown, unnamed insect flying about in the Australian bush, being transformed into a neatly pinned type-specimen with published name and distribution records, were examined by him. Once these steps are analysed it can easily be seen where best to apply the "modern techniques" in order to bring about the desirable end result, i.e. all species known and named, with greater speed.

The development of computers has been responsible for many things, one of which is a binary way of looking at things. From this, the use of punched cards for data storage and retrieval has become more popular. Dr. Taylor outlined his method for notating presence/absence of characters on a small easily transportable card system. This can best be used for species in a large genus. The compact system allows its easy transport to overseas museums, information can be easily entered and its use for species identification is equally easy. The information that is not easy to retrieve from this system would be the characters of a known species. This system is used mostly by Botanists but has proved useful within the Formicidae.

The computer itself can be used to bridge the largest step in "species designating". By use of a suitable programme the computer, once fed with the data on presence/absence of characters, can print out a species description in the format for a journal of your choice. Other programmes can be called upon to draw dendrograms showing the degree of relationship between the species in the group. Keys to species within a genus etc. can be produced by the same means. By seeking a print out of the key it can be quickly seen if enough information is available to separate the species and if not, information on more characters must be included. To make best use of this process a computer terminal is adjacent to the microscope in the taxonomy section. Information is then transferred directly from the insect to the memory bank of the computer.

Not only can the computer produce published material in English, but the application of more programmes can produce the same information in another language - thus offering instant translations to interested parties in other parts of the world.

Similarly the scanning electron microscope can be utilised to fill the gap of an illustrator. A good S.E.M. photograph can provide more information than an illustration which is naturally limited by the patience and skill of the artist as well as presenting an interpretation of the subject rather than the real thing. The drawbacks of the S.E.M.'s use are that the insect, a type specimen, must be subjected to the hazards of cleaning and coating with gold/poladium before submission to the bombardment of an electron beam. Standard views must be presented and it is sometimes difficult to produce a straight, unrotated view, free from astigmatism. However, the development of clamps etc. for use in the microscope make this easier to achieve.

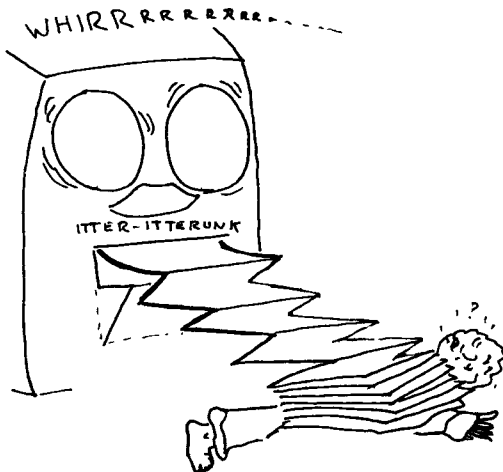
Personally, I (the editor) feel the 'ultimate' illustration will be in that happy day when an infra-red hologram can be included with a publication. With the text on micro-fisch and a hologram 'chip' it will be almost as good as having the type specimen in hand.

The talk stimulated many questions but unfortunately these too are not available. Maybe later.

VOTE OF THANKS

Mr. Dahms proposed a vote of thanks for an excellent address. The vote was carried by acclamation.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting and invited all to supper.



NOTES ON THE LIFE HISTORY OF ISCHIOPSOPHA YORKIANA (JANS.) (COLEOPTERA : CETONIINAE)

Murdoch De Baar

A series of adults were collected near Cairns, north Queensland in rain forest, flying around and present in humus of a rotten log. The adult beetles were observed laying eggs in the collected humus material 24th November, 1970.

Eggs hatched 30th November, 1970. Larvae fed in humus from December, 1970 to October, 1971.

One larva pupated 15th October, 1971. The adult emerged 14th November, 1971 and died 1st December, 1971.

Reference

BRITTON, E.B. (1970). Coleoptera (Beetles). In CSIRO "The Insects of Australia". (Melbourne University Press). Chapter 30.

Department of Forestry,
80 Meiers Road,
INDOOROOPILLY. Q. 4068.

Notes of some people mentioned in the article "Early days of the Entomological Society"
(ESQ Bull. 8(5):54)

Some of these I know, or knew when I first joined the Society; some were before my time but spoken of by F.A. Perkins and others.

Jack Simmonds, still an active member of the Queensland Naturalists' Club, was a foundation member of ESQ, from which he resigned in 1930 after Henry Tryon had directed him into plant pathology. He became the Department of Agriculture (Primary Industries) Chief plant pathologist, was co-author of the text on plant pests and diseases known as "Veitch and Simmonds", and was awarded an Hon D.Sc. by the University of Queensland for his contributions to plant pathology. During World War II, as C.O. of a Malaria Control Unit in New Guinea, he conducted some of the earliest field tests of DDT against malaria vectors. He continues an interest in mosquitoes and has brought me many interesting specimens from his travels through Australia in recent years.

Miss Mavis Walker (now Mrs. Sinclair) was the first woman in Queensland, if not Australia, to be employed on mosquito work. A Queensland graduate, she undertook mosquito surveys for the Hookworm Campaign in 1923-4 in central, coastal and inland, and southwest Queensland. She did her field work on horseback. She lives in Brisbane but is presently overseas.

John Weddell. The interesting obituary article (ESQ Bull. 8(5):55) did not bring out the warm friendliness of his personality, nor did it mention his role in our Society to which he was elected on 16 April 1924. He told me that Henry Tryon, who expected the Society to fail, discouraged him from joining at its foundation. He was appointed assistant to the Secretary (J.L. Froggatt) in 1926, was Acting Secretary during Froggatt's prolonged absences in 1927 and 1928, and was President in 1937 and 1944. I well remember the friendly welcome he gave as President to put a rather shy new member at ease. He was a very amusing raconteur and I wish we had recorded his accounts of trips with Henry Hacker in motorcycle and side car to inspect apiaries, and of Society activities during E.J. Goddard's presidency.

Mrs Preston Day (listed as Preston Day in the "Early Days" article) acted as hostess at the initial meeting at the Hardy's home on 16 March 1923. Mr. Perkins explained that Mrs. Hardy (who had or was about to have an infant daughter) was reluctant to act as hostess so their friend and neighbour, Mrs Preston Day, did so for her. She was probably an amateur entomologist in a mild way. At the general meeting of 20 October 1926 she was proposed for Associate Membership by G.H. Hardy, seconded by A.J. Turner, and was unanimously elected at the meeting of 17 November. However the following Council meeting on 22 December decided that the meeting of 17 November had been held without the President and Secretary, and without a quorum and with other irregularities, and declared it null and void, as also was the election of Mrs Preston Day. Her nomination by Hardy and Turner was then put before this meeting which voted against it. John Weddell was Acting Secretary at the time and it may be from him that I have the impression that the rejection was because of her limited entomological background. At this distance one cannot tell whether personalities (the President, E.J. Goddard, was a dominating one) were involved; Hardy was at the meeting but A.J. Turner, another strong, though quiet, personality, was away.

Dr E.N. Marks,
Queensland Institute of Medical Research,
Herston. Q.

CALENDAR OF ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF QUEENSLAND MEETINGS

October 22nd - A combined meeting with the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, Plant Pathology Society and Queensland Entomological Society.

There will be two speakers: John Irwin of Plant Pathology

John Rogers of Entomology

The topic will be: "Developing of Plant Resistance to Pests and Diseases".

The venue for this meeting is the CSIRO Cunningham Laboratory (near J.D. Storey Building, University of Queensland). The gathering will start at 5.30 p.m. with a few drinks to put you on until 6 p.m. A fork dinner is provided between 6 and 7 p.m. at a cost of \$4. The dinner will be followed by the meeting proper which should close at about 9.30 p.m.

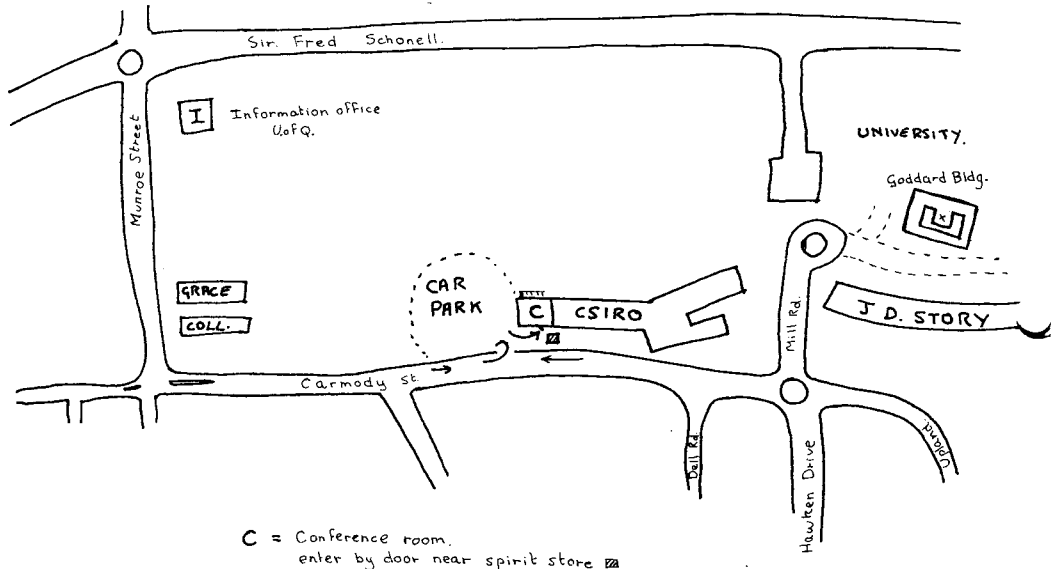
We need numbers for the dinner so if you intend eating there, please notify the Secretary, Marlene Harris at QIMR.

MUD-MAP TO HELP YOU FIND CSIRO CUNNINGHAM LABORATORY

Not drawn to scale

STOP PRESS

Dinner in Cunningham Laboratory, but lecture in Goddard Building. (Botany/Zoology) lecture theatre 1. in basement.



Fork dinner below conference room. -stairs down on other side of building.

November 10th - Room 323 Hartley Teakle Building, University of Queensland.
Dr. Angela Arthington will speak on - "Insects and Water Pollution".

Dr. Arthington is on the staff of the School of Australian Environmental Studies at Griffith University. She has worked extensively on the insects of suburban creeks, carrying out much of her work in Bulimba Creek - a system which is heavily polluted in its lower reaches.

December 8th - A notes and exhibits meeting.

This will be held at Griffith University again and will take the form of a Bar-b-que followed by the meeting. People intending noteing (or exhibiting) are asked to contact the secretary so that a programme can be worked out. We hope to have many short contributions, rather than a few longer ones, so think of something to tell us about!

NOTE

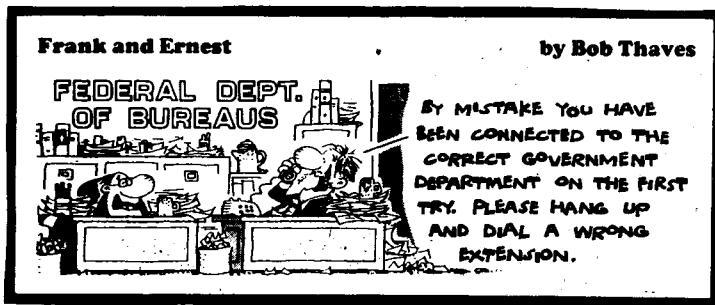
Because of the late date of the October meeting, there will be no October Bulletin, so please take this issue as notification of the October meeting and the November meeting. Material from both meetings will appear in number 7 issue at the end of November, making this a fatter than usual issue.

ABOUT PEOPLE

Tony Molyneux has been appointed as an Experimental Officer with the Division of Entomology of CSIRO Regional Laboratory at Hobart. There he is working with Dr. Robin Bedding. The work will involve the biological control of agricultural insect pests, using nematodes.

John Turner (DPI, Indooroopilly) has left the country again. John has gone to India where he is collecting *Trissolcus basalis* for biological control of the Green Vegetable Bug. This particular *Microhymenoptera* parasitises the egg of the Bug host.

Congratulations to Paul McFadyen whose thesis was recently accepted by the University of Queensland, thus admitting him to the award of Ph.D. Paul's thesis subject was the insects introduced into Australia from South America for the control of Groundsel bush, *Maccharis halimifolia*.



Some notes from XVI International Congress of Entomology, Kyoto, Japan, 3-9 August

The Congress, with over 2,000 attending, was a tremendous success, dispelling doubts as to whether they should continue. The next will be in Hamburg, Federal Republic of Germany, in 1984. Dr. D.F. Waterhouse is the new President of the Permanent Committee of the International Congresses of Entomology, which has been enlarged.

The Entomological Society of New Zealand in July asked the Australian Entomological Society to support a resolution concerning primary type specimens and their deposit in or loan to institutions in their areas of origin; AES Executive, after modifying the wording, gave the Society's support. The resolution, circulated in English in the daily Congress bulletin on the second last day, was put to the Systematics Section where about 14 voted in favour and about 60 abstained. It went then to the Permanent Committee who suggested it might be brought up early at the next congress to allow full discussion. (It should of course have been sent to AES much earlier also).

The Congress was held in the Kyoto International Conference Hall set beside a small lake in the foothills of the forested ranges behind Kyoto. Free buses ran from and to city hotels and public buses stopped nearby. The main auditorium and eating and open spaces were huge and the many small lecture theatres well equipped. Ease of movement from place to place under the one roof contributed to the organisational and social success, and our gracious Japanese hosts made us all feel welcome.

The Congress began on Sunday 3 August with enrolments, opening session in the main auditorium and the welcome reception, a slap-up feast. Scientific sessions ran Monday - Saturday with a free day on Wednesday, a farewell party on Friday evening, and the closing session on Saturday afternoon.

Congress emblem was a dragonfly, represented in gift tiepins or pendants for delegates.

All papers were given in English. Programmes ran to time and slide projection was efficient; the main difficulty was that some speakers had too many slides, too complicated tables, or just tried to say too much with a galloping delivery incomprehensible to many listeners. Medical and Veterinary entomology was a strong section dominated by mosquito papers, including symposia on biocontrol and on mosquito systematics and ecology in relation to vector control. In addition, on the free day, a symposium on genetics and cytogenetics of vectors was held, followed by a memorable sukiyaki dinner. All in all, a very stimulating and enjoyable congress.

Dr. E.N. Marks,
Queensland Institute of Medical Research,
Herston. Q.

Another Plea for more Material.

Whilst a few people have contributed a little extra material to me for printing in the Bulletin, it always seems to be the same few. There are more than 300 members supposedly reading this Bulletin. It would be nice to hear from more of you. It would be nice to have a Bulletin that reflected the interests of our membership, so put pen to paper, or better still feed the paper into a typewriter and send in a contribution.

Judy

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Dept. of Lands,
Alan Fletcher Laboratory,
Sherwood, Q. 4075.

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University of Queensland,
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Entomology Branch,
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PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CONVENOR

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Entomology Branch,
Dept. of Primary Industries,
Meiers Road,
Indooroopilly, Q. 4068.

Dr. E. Sinclair,
Entomology Branch,
Dept. of Primary Industries,
Meier's Road,
Indooroopilly, Q. 4068.

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

October 22. This will be a joint meeting of Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, Plant Pathology and the Queensland Entomological Society. This meeting will be held at the CSIRO Cunningham Laboratory at St. Lucia. The topic will be:-

"DEVELOPING OF PLANT RESISTANCE TO PESTS AND DISEASES"

See inside this issue for further details.

November 10. Meeting in Room 323 Hartley Teakle Building at 8.00 p.m. to hear Dr. Angela Arthington of Griffith University. The topic will be:-

"INSECTS AND WATER POLLUTION"

THE SOCIETY

The Entomological Society of Queensland is an association of over 300 people with a professional or amateur interest in Entomology. It is dedicated to the furtherance of Pure and Applied Entomological Science and, since its inception in 1923, has promoted liaison amongst entomologists in academic, private and governmental institutions. It has a concern for the conservation of Queensland's natural resources. Further information is available from the Honorary Secretary at the address given above.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone interested in Entomology and entitles the member to attend monthly Society meetings, held on the second Monday night of the month and to receipt of the News Bulletin. There are three classes of subscription membership:

Ordinary: persons residing in the Brisbane area (\$9.00 p.a.)

Country: persons residing outside Brisbane (\$8.00 p.a.)

Associate: persons not in receipt of a full salary (\$3.00 p.a.)

THE NEWS BULLETIN

The monthly News Bulletin reports on the Society's monthly meeting, keeps members informed of Society events and news, and provides a vehicle for debate and discussion. Contributions in the form of articles, notes, letters, news clippings and photographs are always welcome, and should be sent to the Convenor of the Publication Committee at the address given above. The deadline for contributions is the Wednesday following the monthly Society meeting.