The Lepidopterists' News

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

P. O. Box 104, Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

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Edited by C. L. REMINGTON and H. K. CLENCH

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This, the last number of Volume I, is devoted substantially to the first annual Season Summary of Lepidoptera in North America. The region was divided into eight fairly uniform faunistic areas, for each of which a general summary was compiled. This year five of the eight were summarized by an individual member within the area. In succeeding years it is planned to have all areas so treated.

In all, 43 different members participated in the reports. These are listed at the end of each area summary. Of course each of the five signed compilers provided a large share of material for the report for his area. All areas were represented, but a particularly weak response from the Southeast and Central areas decreased the significance of summaries #5 and #6. Area #1 was the most completely covered. This year three members collected extensively in the Far North and two reports, covering well-separated sections, make that area probably better covered this year than usual. Certain important gaps appear in this year's record, with the following sections missing and needing attention: Nevada, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, the Canadian Far West, most of Texas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and the Dakotas, the entire Southeast, except Florida and Virginia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario, eastern Michigan, Iowa, most of Ohio and Pennsylvania, and Newfoundland. Eventually we hope to extend the summaries through Mexico.

A very noticeable lack of moth records shows up in a perusal of the following pages. It is hoped that moth records will be at least as numerous as those for butterflies next year, since the moths comprise a vastly larger group of the Lepidoptera.

This year some members were caught unawares or given too little advance notice of the Summary. Also, records had to be of a rather random nature and in some cases based on memory. Future participants are earnestly urged to begin keeping simple notes throughout the collecting season, with exact dates noted so that a basis for accurate comparison may be obtained after a few years and the records of the Summary may gain in value. The next Summary is planned as a supplement to the NEWS, with allowance for at least twice as much material as this year.

In these summaries an effort has been made to use up-to-date nomenclature (Limenitis, not Basilarchia or Heterchroa; Speyeria, not Argynnis; Boloria, not Brenthis; Minois, not Cercyonis or Satyrus; Sphinx, not Hyloicus; etc.). Most subspecific names have been omitted since in all American cases known to us the races are geographic. The NEWS does not use Latin names for varieties, forms, or aberrations. Authorities' names are not considered necessary for this sort of project and have been deliberately omitted.

FIELD SUMMARY OF LEPIDOPTERA - 1947 SEASON

1. SOUTHWEST- CALIFORNIA, ARIZONA, NEVADA

by Lloyd M. Martin

The early fall rains of 1946 caused many of the early species of butterflies to emerge ahead of schedule in certain localities in the Southwest. Lycaenopsis pseudargiolus echo was reported as early as Dec. 17, 1946, in La Tuna Canyon, Los Angeles Co., with Incisalia iroides out at El Cajon on Jan. 26 and with Melitaea wrightii, which usually appears in April, being taken on Feb. 24. Many species of moths that normally appear much later in the season came out very early and were gone by the first of February. From Jan. 1 to the present day has been the driest year in 64 years here in southern California with less than 3 inches of rain for most sections that normally have 15 to 20 inches. This long dry spell caused many of the local species that are usually common to hold over, possibly until next year, or until we get more rain. Bauer found Hemileuca nevadensis common at Riverside Nov.4.

In the desert, Melitaea neumogeni, Anthocaris cethura, and Euchloe creusa had a short, very early flight in late February. From late March through April very few of the desert species of butterflies, which are usually out in good numbers, appeared to any extent. In Mint Canyon the day-flying moths appeared in early March. Annaphila divinula, Xanthothrix neumogeni, Melicleptera pulcheripennis, Dysocnemis prorupta, and Euproserpinus phaeton mojave were more abundant than usual (Evans). Heid found the October desert collecting poor because of unusual dryness. Melitaea chara, Danaus strigosa, Hemiargus gyas, Brephidium exilis, and Pholisora libya were fairly common in washes, and one Apodemia palmeri was found.

Polygonus amyntas arizonensis was taken in Presidio Park, San Diego, by several collectors in unusual numbers in September. Also an unusual number of Pyrgus xanthus was taken during the season. Both of these are rare in collections. "Tharsalea hermes was much below normal at average date" (Thorne). Poanes melane, a recent arrival in San Diego Co., has become one of the commonest skippers in the county. Habrodais grunus was extremely common throughout August all over the S. California Mts.

In general, the collecting conditions were very poor in the mountain regions of California, though in some localities some good reports came in from late collecting. The High Sierras yielded Parnassius behrii, Melitaea malcolmi, Lycaena cupreus, and Papilio indra, in the early part of August. The Speyeria were not out as plentifully as usual, but several good species were taken in small numbers. Oeneis chryxus stanislaus was common on July 4. O. chryxus ivallda and Euphydryas sierra were scarce and two weeks early. Satyrium fuliginosa, Lycaena heteronea, and Melitaea hoffmanni all had a good year.

In northern California, Glaucopsyche lygdamus behrii and Plebejus maricopa emerged about a month later than usual. Colias occidentalis chrysomelas and Euphydryas editha rubicunda seemed to be fairly plentiful, but were two weeks early. Apodemia mormo langei was out in good numbers near Antioch, both males and females being taken at the normal date. E. editha bayensis was unusually rare.

(continued on next page)

1. SOUTHWEST- cont.

Southern Arizona also lacked its normal amount of rain. However, moth collecting was very good. Several very rare species were taken, such as Arctonotus terlootii, Bertholdia trigona, Gerrodes longipes, Charadra pata, Euchaetias antica and Sphinx dollii australis. So far, 250 species of butterflies and moths have been determined from the many thousands of specimens collected in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Arizona. When the material is all determined the number of species from this one locality will come close to 600.

Around Yuma and the Gila Mts. in Arizona Bauer took several good species. Papilio rudkini and its forms have definitely been established. Anthocharis pima (which was absent in 1946) was flying in considerable numbers all through February. The majority of spring species were out in numbers, though some that have been taken in the past did not appear. Melitaea dymas, though absent in spring, was common in late summer. The migrants, Danaus plexippus, Libythea bachmanii and Vanessa cardui, arrived earlier than usual. Anthanassa texana was taken for the first time at Yuma. Bauer found the larvae of Hemileuca juno "about 75% infested with two kinds of parasitic flies and one wasp."

Only one report came in from Nevada. Hammer spent June 13th at Lehman Caves in hopes of getting Euphydryas nubigena lehmani but not one specimen was seen. Aglais milberti and Plebejus saepiolus were fresh and common. They reported the country very dry, which generally should produce many good species of butterflies and moths.

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Contributors: D.L. Bauer, J.L. Creelman, T.W. Davies, W.H. Evans, W.A. Hammer, Graham Heid, R.T. Reeves, C.L. Remington, C.I. Smith, F.T. Thorne.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Eugene Monroe, of Macdonald College, Quebec, spent the last two weeks of July collecting at LAC À LA TORTUE, near Grand Mère, Champlain Co., Que., an exceptionally interesting locality in the sandy portion of the St. Lawrence Valley with a special flora and fauna. He took over 7000 moths in ten nights (only half of which were really favorable). Included were: Fagitana littera, Syneda alleni, Syngrapha hochenwarthii, Polychrysia formosa, Capis curvata, Acossus centerensis, Apantesis williamsii, Lexis bicolor, Eubaphe laeta, Hepialus gracilis, Sthenopis quadriguttata, etc. Sphingids were common at light, esp. S. gordius. The commonest phalaenid was Septis arctica, of which several melanics were taken, Munroe's only melanics of the year. Geometrids were abundant, esp. Semiothisa spp. Crambids were the dominant pyralids, while Choristoneura fumiferana was the commonest moth(the spruce form outnumbered the jack pine form 3:1). At bait, S. arctica, Pseudospaelotis haruspica, and Zanclognatha spp. were numerous, but no Catocala, prob. because of retarded season.

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Monroe, commenting on the Gaspe trip in August (see p.58), considers that trip too late for G. lygdamus couperi. "In the southern Laurentians, this species flies in late May and early June; in the Laurentide Park it appears later in June. It was abundant in a collection from Bic, Rimouski Co., Que., made in early July. The date of appearance in this region appeared to be slightly ahead of Plebejus saepiolus."

2. NORTHWEST- OREGON, WASHINGTON, IDAHO, AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

by John C. Hopfinger

The Northwest had alternating good and bad spells for Lepidoptera in 1947. Albright reported that in Oregon April and May had excellent weather, with butterflies normal and abundant, but continuous rain throughout June almost eliminated Lepidoptera and much retarded and limited the July fliers. The Steens Mts. had snow in June. The Blue Mts. (3500') had fair collecting at that time. By August the Lepidoptera regained normalcy. Speyeria erinna and Satyrium fuliginosa were common on Mt. Hood Aug. 24 at 6000', and Habrodais grunus was common at 3000'. A notable record was a torn Erebus odora near Dayton, Aug. 15.

In Washington, the coastal region was "almost a month early this year." Frechin found that Parnassius clodius, Oeneis chryxus, Speyeria hydaspe, Euphydryas taylori, Boloria chariclea, Lpargyreus tityrus, and Pyrgus ruralis were unusually common. Colias occidentalis, Coenonympha ampelos, Limenitis lorquini, Incisalia iroides, I. mossii, I. eryphon were above average. Parnassius smintheus, Neophasia menapia, Speyeria cybele, S. zerene, all Vanessa, and the Papilios had a poor season. Aglais californica was still common but continued to decrease from the plague year recently experienced. A. antiopa continues to be rare.

Collecting in north-central Washington was good up to the end of May. Heavy rains and cold winds during most of June stopped the flight of all species usually taken in the middle of summer. In the higher country, from 4000' up, there was nothing to be had, up to the middle of July. After that date, Euphydryas, Boloria, Speyeria, Erebia were as plentiful as usual. This kept on until the last trip, about the end of August. In one spot, at 4500' in the Cascades, S. washingtonia, garretti and a form of atlantis were very common, some 50 of each being taken in half a day. Remington and Anderson found Neophasia menapia plentiful there at the end of August, something unusual, and Polygonia spp. very common. Papilio were almost a total loss. Half a dozen P. oregonia were seen where usually they are not at all scarce. P. eurymedon, rutulus, daunus were also very scarce, and not a single indra was seen. In the early spring, Melitaea sterope made a fine comeback, the first time in years it was fairly common. E. anicia also came back after some 4-5 years of absence.

Around the orchard districts, the use of DDT in spraying for codling moth has just about wiped out all local Lepidoptera, such as Colias, Pieris rapae, P. beckeri, as well as the housefly, a single one of which was seen, which is remarkable. Altogether, with the exception of Papilio, I would call the 1947 season better than average.

No reports were received from British Columbia or Idaho.

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Contributors: Ray Albright, A. Anderson, D.P. Frechin, C.L. Remington.

S.B. Smalley informs us that the "Calephalis borealis (muticum?)" reported in the NEWS (p. 70) were examined by Dr. A.E. Brower and Mr. W.S. McAlpine and were C. borealis. The food-plant around Cincinnati is Senecio obovatus Muhl.

3. ROCKY MOUNTAINS- NEW MEXICO, UTAH, TO ALBERTA

by J. Donald Eff

All reports show that this territory, which includes some of the richest butterfly collecting spots in North America, had a season which ranged from slightly below normal to very poor. Even in Colorado, where there was relatively good collecting as usual, the season was mostly two or three weeks later than normally. Here there was fine weather in early May, in contrast to the previous year's dry, early spring. Snow and a spell of wet, cold weather in late May eliminated some species usually out then and greatly retarded appearance of others. Fresh Incisalia eryphon, Callophrys apama, Anthocaris sara, and other strictly early June species were not uncommon on July 10th. Stallings and others found some of the Arctic-Alpine species, such as Oeneis lucilla and Boloria helena, were entirely absent or rare, rather than normally very common. On July 27 Erebia magdalena was in mid-flight on the rock-slides, compared to the 1946 flight period of July 7-20. Nabokov reported over a hundred different species, races, and forms around Long's Peak during the summer, including a female E. magdalena remarkably close to E. erinna. He also found Plebejus shasta very common. Species which were normally abundant in Colorado: Parnassius smintheus, Euchloe ausonides, Colias meadii and alexandra, Coenonympha ochracea, Erebia epipsodea, Minois oetus and olympus, Speyeria hesperis, Boloria myrina and frigga, Melitaea arachne, Euphydryas capella (at lower levels), Phyciodes gorgone and barnesi, Glaucopsyche lygdamus, Plebejus lycea, melissa, and saepiolus, and others. Among the unusually uncommon species were all the Theclinae, Euphydryas eurytion, Boloria freija and alticola, Oeneis uhleri, Erebia theano, Colias scudderi, and Phyciodes nycteis.

In Utah, Downey reports the same cold, late spring, followed by a summer with average temperatures well below normal and a noticeable reduction in the number of Lepidoptera flying. This was Utah's "poorest summer since 1941." Plebejus annetta and Phyciodes barnesi were not taken at all, "for the first time in many seasons." All Strymon were scarce. In the high Uinta Mts. (N.W.Utah) "several days were spent without seeing a single specimen." In the famous Ephraim Canyon Hammer found new snow June 22 and a retarded season, with Melitaea alena just appearing. A week later P.S. Remington found alena fresh and common and in late July Limenitis wiedemeyeri, Hypaurotis chrysalus and various Speyeria were common at lower levels but high in the canyon no Lepidoptera were present. Hammer found Phyciodes tharos very common and newly-out along with Speyeria utahensis in Provo Canyon June 14. Downey found both broods of Aglais californica and A. milberti "out in great numbers." Brephidium exilis, a rare mid-summer visitor in the Salt Lake Valley was taken on October 9!

Glasgow reports a steadily cold and unproductive season on the Green River between 7000' and 9000' in Wyoming, although Coenonympha haydeni, Speyeria eurynome, and Boloria kriemhild were fairly common. (See NEWS, p. 84, for Wyoming notes).

No reports were received from New Mexico, Montana, or Alberta.

Contributors: J.C. Downey, Clyde Glasgow, W.A. Hammer, A.H. Moeck, V.V. Nabokov, C.L. & J.E. Remington, P.S. Remington, D.B. Stallings.

4. GREAT PLAINS- TEXAS AND EASTERN PLAINS OF ROCKY MTS. STATES TO SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA

by Don B. Stallings

The 1947 season on the Great Plains commenced wet and late and continued in that fashion well into June. As a result, flights of nearly all Lepidoptera were from 10 to 20 days late. Many species usually common in the first third of any season were scarce or entirely absent.

The subtropical area of Pharr and Brownsville, Texas, is difficult to correlate with the remainder of the Great Plains area. However, the following species appeared in 1947 in better numbers than in 1946: Ascia josephina, Danaus eresimus, Euptoieta hegesia, Apodemia walkeri, Thecla bazochii, Strymon pastor, Strymon clytie, Achalarus coyote, Cogia calchas, Chiomara asychis, Lerodea tyrtaeus, Lerodea edata, L. julia, and Spathilepia clonius. On the other hand the following species were few or absent this year: Papilio ornythion, Papilio anchisiades, Chlosyne endeis, Anartia fatima, Victorina steneles, Timetes chiron, Athena petreus, Adelpha fessonia, Emesis emesia, Strymon azia, Mitoura xami, Astraptes fulgerator and Synapte malitiosa. This being an area where citrus fruits are grown, it may be that the use of D.D.T. and other insecticides affects the Lepidoptera populations from season to season. The late fall was extremely dry and butterflies consequently scarce.

Collecting in the Big Bend area of Texas from June 26 to July 3 produced about the same material as was collected the year before during the first 10 days of June. (See NEWS, p. 42).

In the Panhandle of Oklahoma and the Mesa country of N.E.New Mexico Phyciodes picta, Amblyscirtes oslari and Atrytonopsis vierecki were found in fair numbers on May 30. The picta were of the spring brood and were flying just 15 days earlier than the summer brood for 1946 in the same area, indicating that the 1947 season was 15 to 30 days late.

In Kansas spring collecting (Mar.20-June 20) was practically nil, due to continued rain. Euchloe olympia, usually abundant in early April, did not appear until the last half of April and then in few numbers. The number (always small) of Megathymus yuccae did not seem to be affected although the flight was at least 10 days late. The June flight of Isogramma hageni did not occur. In spite of a record lack of late summer rain, Minois alope appeared on schedule in July and in the usual numbers. In August and the 1st part of September good flights of Isogramma hageni, Melittia lindseyi and Melittia snowi were observed. Later fall material was generally scarce and failed to show the usual extreme fall or winter forms.

Saskatchewan was as follows (Bruggemann): "Spring cold, wet, and very late; spring butterflies nearly absent, on the wing only days instead of weeks; (normally) common moths very few or none. Summer started hot and dry, butterflies fair to good; some Phalaenids fair, Notodontids very good, Geometrids very poor. (Summer) continued with numerous hailstorms and ended wet; fall rather wet and cold, sugaring hopeless, no Catocala and no Geometrids; season ended nearly a month earlier than usual." A few species did well. Boloria frigga was common "for the first time in nearly ten years"; "a pair of Euptoieta claudia, the first taken by me in this district";4 Poecilopsis rachelae.

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Contributors: P.F.Bruggemann, H.A.Freeman, C.L.Remington, J.R.Turner.

5. CENTRAL- MISSOURI TO WEST VIRGINIA, NORTH TO ONTARIO

Along with protracted cold weather in spring, east-central Missouri had a remarkable year, in which some species formerly considered rare or strays appeared in large numbers. Often for several consecutive years no single Euphydryas phaeton is seen and search of its Mo. host (Aureolaria grandiflora) yields nothing. But in the late summer of 1946 O'Byrne found many nests of larvae, and in June, 1947, phaeton had one of its great years. Phyciodes gorgone, a rare species in Mo., suddenly appeared plentifully in late June & early July. Strymon ontario, usually moderately common, was very scarce in 1947 but was out at the usual time. Calephalis muticum was unusually common through June, the normal date. Again in early Sept. it was fresh, flying with Hesperia leonardus, which was out at the normal time. Catocala had a poor year.

In north-central Illinois Glenn reported "the poorest collecting season I have experienced in the past 16 years." The spring was cold & wet, with record rainfall for May. The spring moth emergence was much curtailed with some normally abundant species not seen at all, and those which did emerge were 2 to 3 weeks later than usual. The cold & rain continued into June but July & August were dry & hot. Even the pest moths, such as the Corn Borer & Codling Moth, were relatively scarce in both 1st & 2nd broods. In general the summer & fall collecting was poor and larvae difficult to find. However, Loxostege similalis caused considerable garden damage and the Crambidae were normally abundant. The leaf-mining moths were numerous in late summer & fall, coming back after scarcity in 1945-46. "Gelechiidae and Tortricinae were very scarce." Parasites of moth larvae were much less numerous than in 1946, when they were very abundant. An unusual record for west-central Ill. was a Strymon m-album in May, reported by Starrett from Elsah. He also notes the abundance of Nathalis iole, Eurema lisa, Colias eurytheme, & Papilio philenor this fall and the relative scarcity of Anaea andria. Woodcock thought the season at Chicago normal, but did little field observing.

In upper Michigan Voss found the season retarded, with normal May fliers out as follows: Oeneis- June 21, Incisalia- June 23, Coenonympha - July 8. Feniseca tarquinius & Phyciodes nycteis, tharos, & batesi were much less abundant than in 1946. Vanessa virginiensis & Lethe portlandia were commoner than in recent years. August had an early frost and also great heat & drought, but the moth collecting at light was fair and a great variety of species of butterflies was noted.

Wisconsin's weather was much like north-central Ill., and little appeared at Green Bay before June. June was excellent for skippers, which were flying two weeks late. The unusually common June skippers were Carterocephalus palaemon, Hesperia metea, Polites mystic, Amblyscirtes samoset, & Erynnis spp. Limenitis arthemis & Melitaea harrisii had a poor year. Catocala were notably scarce. Griewisch reports "hundreds of Ctenucha virginica" found dead, stuck to flowers. He could not determine the cause but suggested a fungus.

At Payne, Ohio, Price found Papilio ajax & marcellus common and other Papilio unusually scarce. Vanessa cardui had its third straight year of scarcity. Atrytone dion was commoner than in 1946, and A. bimacula was rare as usual. Catocala was very scarce. In general, the year was normal after the cold, wet spring.

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Contributors: M.O. Glenn, Louis Griewisch, H.I. O'Byrne, H.F. Price, P.S. & C.L. Remington, D. Starrett, E.G. Voss, H.E. Woodcock.

6. SOUTHEAST- FLORIDA TO LOUISIANA, NORTH TO ARKANSAS AND VIRGINIA

Several reports covering some part of the season in Florida showed it irregular and with more time below normal than in other years. In Dade and Monroe Counties January was very favorable and productive. February and March were unusually cold and retarded the Lepidoptera. Strymon favonius, normally common in mid-March, failed to appear until late April, and then was scarce. Eunica tatila was still uncommon by June 30. In spite of dry weather in April and May the flight periods were about normal by June 30. Aphrissa statira was on the wing at almost any time, with greatest abundance in June. Dryas phaetusa seemed to have a good year. Anthanassa frisia was abundant. Athena petreus, usually common, was very rare. Anaea portia was uncommon as usual. Papilio aristodemus ponceana, on Key Largo, was approximately one month later than usual. It was much scarcer than in the peak years of 1934-35 and 1944-45. The following table (from Schoenherr) may be useful for comparison with P. ponceana in future years:

	May 11	May 14	May 17	May 18	May 31	June 1	June 7
Males taken	0	1	5	2	4	1	1
Females taken	3	1	7	1	7	2	5
Observed	8	11	19	3	36	15	13

Mrs. Grimshawe took a number of Asbolis sandarac (new to U.S.A.?) in early September around Miami and in spring many Eurema nise perimede at Royal Palm Park. Schoenherr gave no comparisons on the Sphingidae collecting, but took 25 spp., including Cocytaeus antaeus, Isoparce cupressi, Lapara coniferarum, Protambulyx carteri, Pseudosphinx tetrio, Phryxus caicus, Pachylia ficus, Calliomma parce, Cautethia grotei, Perigonia lusca. Fires in the Everglades continue to have a serious effect on Lepidoptera, as on the other fauna and flora.

Fuller found Atlides halesus in the latter part of its brood and very common in central Florida Nov. 15, and Strymon m-album less abundant there. Near Sanford Anartia jatrophae was common in November. In northern Florida Berry noted the extremely wet year, with high tides and severe hurricane damage all combining in a poor year, with everything late. Catocala sappho, generally not rare, was not found at all. C. jair was abnormally rare. Strymon calanus (= wittfeldi) and S. favonius were nearly normal. He reports taking some Hesperia meskei, Poanes howardi, Atrytone palatka, A. berryi, Atrytonopsis loammi, and the first Wallengrenia otho he had ever seen. Megathymus yuccae was found on Merritt Is. An unusual capture for Florida was an albino female of Colias eurytheme.

There is a great void in information from all other southeastern states this year, although Fuller mentions an unusual abundance of Pieris protodice and Euptoieta claudia on the Virginia-Tennessee border. In the Great Smoky Mts. in mid-June we found unusually heavy rain and mist with relatively few butterflies present. Limenitis astyanax, Papilio glaucus, and Everes comyntas were the only common species. Ackermann, in the Smokies in late June and early July, found Spargania luctuata extremely common, but only above 3000'. It was in close association with the equally common and similarly marked Neodezia albovittata. The latter was also common at low altitudes.

Contributors: O. Ackermann, D.F. Berry, S.V. Fuller, Mrs. C.N. Grimshawe, C.L. Remington, W.H. Schoenherr.

7. NORTHEAST- MARYLAND NORTH TO QUEBEC AND NEWFOUNDLAND

by Eugene Monroe

At Irwin, Pa., the recession of Alsophila pometaria larvae continued after the pest years of 1943-45; Catocala were very scarce. No other reports are at hand from Pa. and none south through Maryland.

At Rochester, N.Y., Papilio troilus and glaucus were in usual numbers, and Pyrgus communis was abundant, but all other butterflies were unusually scarce. Autumn strays included only 1 specimen each of Alabama argillacea, Magusa orbifera, and Tetanolita mynesalis.

At Fall River, Mass., Rogers reported Incisalia unusually scarce, Erynnis abundant, and Speyeria, including idalia, at or near normal numbers. Autumn Lepidoptera scarce, most migrant species absent. Johnston found Atrytonopsis hianna and Hesperia metea common outside of Boston in May. Summer collecting around Petersham was exceptionally poor, but Limenitis astyanax and arthemis were common and Lethe portlandia in fair numbers. See Clench (NEWS, p. 58) for Theclinae.

At Hancock, N.H., June 30, S. atlantis was common, but L. arthemis proserpina, Lycaena thoe, and Atrytone bimacula were just emerging.

In Maine, the season opened 2-3 weeks early for hibernating species. Cold, wet weather in May and June reduced Lepidoptera abundance. Incisalia, Lycaenopsis, Erora, P. glaucus were all scarce or absent. P. ajax was in normal numbers, but late. Warm, dry weather after early July had adverse effects. Most Lepidoptera were scarcer than usual. Polygonia were not seen. Vanessa virginiensis, Phyciodes tharos, and Colias philodice were unusually common in Sept. and Oct. C. eurytheme was moderately common. Sphingidae, Autographa, Catocala, etc., were scarce. Common grass and weed feeding moths were mostly normally abundant. New record for Maine: Heliothis virescens.

In the Upper St. Lawrence Valley hibernating species were below normal, as were May and early June spp., except for Pieris rapae. P. virginiensis and Pap. glaucus were very scarce. Moths, esp. Scoparia and Geometridae, became abundant in late June. In July & Aug. moths were common, but mostly common grass and weed feeders. Nymphulinae & Schoenobiinae were normally abundant; Euxoa (but not Feltia & Agrotis) were greatly depressed, Catocala less so. Habrosyne rectangulata was commoner than H. scripta! Autumn Lepidoptera were abundant, C. philodice very common, C. eurytheme much scarcer than in 1946. Phalaenids and other moths common in Sept. & Oct. On the Lanoraie Bog Euphydryas phaeton, Melitaea harrisii, and Atrytone bimacula and other butterflies were common, but about a week later than normal. See notes on Lac à la Tortue (NEWS, p.89). At the Laurentides National Park frequent collecting at 1500'-3000' showed the season abbreviated, but succession normal and abundance above normal. P. glaucus, Glaucopsyche lygdamus, Erynnis sp., Carterocephalus mandan were very abundant at lower levels in June. Erebia discoidalis was well distributed. Usual acid bog Geometrids were common. The early August fauna was typical: Polygonia faunus, gracilis, progne, Boloria myrina & chariclea common; B. bellona & freija scarcer. One worn Plebejus aster was taken. Moths were common, Sthenopis more than usual. C. eurytheme not seen in the Park this year, though common in 1946. New Quebec record: Deidamia inscriptum.

Contributors: O. Ackermann, A.E. Brower, W.M. Johnston, C.P. Kimball, W.P. Rogers.

8. FAR NORTH- ALASKA TO LABRADOR

Two reports on Lepidoptera in northern Canada provide information on this little-known and consequently particularly interesting region. Only the vicinity of Churchill on Hudson's Bay has been well collected, so seasonal comparisons for most Arctic localities are not possible.

Hovanitz made a trip to northwestern Canada specifically for his genetics studies of Colias and his notes deal entirely with that genus. In the first week of July in the Peace River country the season was retarded, with C. christina just emerging and C. gigantea at its peak. C. philodice eriphyle was uncommon. Near Ft. Smith, N.W.T., gigantea was common in willow thickets and christina rare, July 6-9. On July 24-26 gigantea had nearly disappeared and christina was very abundant. Near Yellow Knife, July 10-12, no Colias were seen. "July 12-19 was spent at Coppermine on the arctic coast. ...The period was too early for the 1947 season although in a normal year the week would have been excellent. Colias boothi was taken in quantity on the 17th and 18th. ..This species appears to be a hybrid between Colias nastes and hecla but the latter two were not taken." Boothi was again found at Dismal Lakes. Near Jasper, Alta., christina was very common in late July. Several important sections on host plants and hybridization from Hovanitz' report have been selected and will appear elsewhere in the NEWS.

Freeman spent the whole open season in far northern Manitoba for the purpose of more inclusive study of Lepidoptera than was Hovanitz' aim. His terse, clear report is quoted directly: "The period from June 11th until July 11th was spent in the subarctic region at Churchill in northern Manitoba. During that period certain species of Oeneis, Erebia and Boloria were particularly common and it was possible to capture more than 100 butterflies during the course of a single day. One would gain the impression that over the whole of such a vast country, the butterfly population must be extremely immense and the numbers incredible. In general I should say that the Churchill region during the past summer was extremely profitable for collecting Lepidoptera.

"From July 11th to August 15th I collected on the north-western shore of Baker Lake, a locality situated in the center of the so-called Barren Lands and about 450 miles north and slightly west of Churchill. This location lies about 300 miles north of the tree-line and in general the short summer season was extremely inclement and very poor from the standpoint of Lepidopterous collecting; however, I managed to capture a significant series of Colias boothii Curt., Erebia fasciata Butler and Erebia rossi Curt. I also took 2 specimens of Boloria frigga improba Butler and 2 Plebejus aquilo Bdv. Boloria polaris Bdv. was fairly abundant as were some of the smaller Noctuids represented by the genus Anarta and Sympistis. Oeneis taygete hanburi Wats. and an Oeneis in the melissa complex were fairly numerous. Colias nastes subarctica McD. only occasionally encountered. A few Pyralids, Tortricids and Geometers completed the Lepidopterous picture of the area. As this material is not spread as yet, my determinations are naturally only tentative in these difficult northern groups. In general I should say that the past summer in this area was extremely poor and there were only 5 days during my stay there that the temperature was high enough for butterfly activity; a good deal of my butterfly collecting occurred under rocks and other cover."

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Contributors: T.N. Freeman and William Hovanitz.

129. Chermock, Ralph L., "A New Subspecies of Limenitis archippus (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae)." Am. Museum Novitates, no. 1365, 2 pp. 7 Nov. 1947. New race from Vera Cruz and Hidalgo, Mexico, named hoffmanni for C.C. Hoffmann, who first recognized the race as distinct. The southernmost Limenitis in America. Resembles Danaus eresimus montezuma. Chermock reviews the butterflies which the races of archippus (The Viceroy) resemble. Refers to the Monarch as Danaus m. menippe.

130. Chermock, Ralph L., "A Revisional Study of the Euptychia pyracmon Group." Ent. News, vol. 58, pp. 193-204, 12 figs. Oct. 1947. One of the most satisfying papers we have had the pleasure of reviewing this year. Dr. Chermock has studied genotypes of the genera Neonympha, Megisto, Euptychia, Cissia, Cyllopsis, and Taygetis, and sinks Neonympha, Megisto, and Cissia as synonyms of Euptychia (having page priority), with Cyllopsis as a subgenus and Taygetis as a probable subgenus (or synonym) of Euptychia. The E. pyracmon group, with eleven species, makes up the subgenus Cyllopsis. Two new species are described: nayarit (Nayarit, Mexico) and pseudopephredo (S.Angel, Mexico). Several current names are dropped into synonymy. Nabokov's extremely interesting E. dorothea from Grand Canyon proves to be perfectly distinct genitalically from all other species. The male genitalia are clearly figured for the genotype of Euptychia (herse) and all the species of Cyllopsis except hedemanni and clinas. A diagrammatic sketch of the pattern elements for the subgenus is given. A key to all species is another fine feature. The checklist at the end of the paper gives detailed references and establishes the following synonymy for the species of Euptychia (Cyllopsis):

gemma gemma (Hübn.)
gemma freemani (Stall.& Tur.)
  syn. form inductura (""")
dorothea dorothea (Nabokov)
  syn. edwardsi (Nabokov)
  syn. avicula (Nabokov)
  syn. texana (Wind)
dorothea maniola (Nabokov)
pephredo God. & Salv.
pseudopephredo R. Cherm.
nayarit R. Cherm.
pyracmon pyracmon (Butl.)
  syn. hilaria God.& Salv.
pyracmon henshawi (Edw.)
hedemanni Feld.
  syn. ithama Butl.
  syn. vetones God.& Salv.
clinas God.&Salv.
rogersi God.& Salv.
argentella Butl.& Dr.
philodice philodice God.&Salv.
philodice nelsoni God.& Salv.

131. Kiriakoff, S.G., "Het Vraagstuck der 'physiologische Ondersoorten' bij Vlinders." (In Flemish). Naturwet. Tijdschrift (Ghent), vol. 29, pp. 43-47. 30 Apr. 1947. Maintains that le Doux's "physiological subspecies" is not desirable and sympatric non-crossing butterflies are actually species.

132. Stallings, Don B. & J.R. Turner, "A new subspecies of butterfly." Pan-Pacific Ent., vol. 23, pp. 119-120. July, 1947. Describe as new Strymon ontario race violae (Folsom, N.M.) based primarily on ground-color differences from races autolycus and ilivia. Note expresses "opinion that one of the basic characters of valid subspecies of Lepidoptera on continental areas is change of ground color."

8. William Jacob Holland (1848-1932)

Although W.J. Holland has received boundless recognition from individuals and societies throughout the world, it must be acknowledged that he was by no means the great Lepidopterist that Edwards and Scudder were. His two best-known publications, the Moth Book and the Butterfly Book, stand as his most extensive contributions to Lepidopterology and, as was noted in the reviews of these volumes (NEWS, pp.27,51,57), although taking a definite place in this field's literature and encouraging a widespread popular interest, both leave much to be added in accuracy and completeness.

Holland was born on Aug. 16, 1848, in Jamaica, West Indies, where his father had been sent as a missionary. In 1867 he graduated from the Moravian College and Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pa., and went to Amherst College. Upon receiving his A.B. in 1869,he became principal of the Amherst High School, and a year later transferred to a similar position in Westboro, Mass. He won an A.M. in 1872 from Amherst. The same year he was ordained in the Moravian ministry, and accepted a pastorate in Philadelphia. He successively held that another ministerial post and several professorships both in zoology and other fields. He was inordinately proud of his several honorary degrees bestowed by various universities. Even during the course of his ministry, he devoted time to scientific pursuits, such as joining the U.S. Eclipse Expedition to Japan in 1887 as a naturalist. In 1879 he married Carrie Moorhead, and they had "two bonny boys". For five years Holland was Chancellor of the present University of Pittsburgh. In 1898 his "close friend", Andrew Carnegie, invited him to become Director of the Carnegie Museum, a post which he held until 1922, when upon retirement he became Director Emeritus. He died on Dec. 13, 1932, at the age of 84, just after the publication of the revised edition of the Butterfly Book.

Some of those who knew Holland personally are inclined to criticize his sense of self-importance and air of pomposity. A review of the list of his published works on entomology indicate that there is even less basis for this scientific egotism than would be expected. Of the 117 papers on insects which he wrote, all but a very few are on Lepidoptera. Numerous papers on Lepidoptera are lists of collections, while only two short papers are on life histories, and only one is a large revision or other very extensive piece of research. The largest number of the papers deal with the Lepidoptera of Africa, in which Holland described hundreds of new species and scores of new genera, many of which were collected by Holland himself. These range over many families of moths and butterflies. Other contributions concern the faunas of the Bahamas, Malaysia, and various islands.

Other fields in which Holland dabbled are numerous, including paleontology (especially Jurassic dinosaurs),ornithology, archaeology, and history. He was an authority on museum administration and founded the American Association of Museums. He is acknowledged as the prime force in directing the growth of the Carnegie Museum, and edited its Annals and Memoirs for 34 years. He aided in the organization of the first international entomological congress and was made an Honorary Life Member. He will be a controversial figure for many years, but in whatever low esteem his research papers may be held, his two valuable books on American moths and butterflies deserve great credit. Few scientists lived more colorful or active lives.

J.E.R.

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After completing the NEWS manuscript we have just received (Dec.13 the long-awaited "Systematic Catalogue of Speyeria (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae) with Designations of Types and Fixations of Type Localities" by dos Passos & Grey. It is the culmination of a campaign undertaken several years ago to bring order from the chaos then present in the American "Argynnis", and we cannot be too enthusiastic in welcoming it. The NEWS will carry a full-page summary in the next number, but meanwhile- warmest congratulations to members Dos Passos & Grey for their achievement!

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A NEW QUERY COLUMN

There have been several requests for the establishment of a "Question and Answer" column in the NEWS. In order to insure authoritativeness we approached Professor W.T.M. Forbes to prepare the answers and he very kindly consented to do so if extensive library research is not required. We hope this will be a busy column. Send questions on any lepidopterological matter to the editor. Naturally, mere matters of opinion are not wanted. If sufficient material is received it may be possible to commence this feature in the January NEWS.

Add to Board of Specialists (pp. 13, 14, & 86):

NORTH AMERICA

All Pieridae and Boloria (Brenthis).....Dr. A.B. Klots
Dept. of Biology, College of City of N.Y., N.Y. City 10.

Phalaenidae and Notodontidae.....J.G. Franclemont
5829 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, Virginia.

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Murphy, Gardner, 16 Chauncy St., Cambridge 38, Mass. NEW ENGL. RHOP. & HET.
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