

SUMMARY

Samples of moths of the genus *Catocala* from three localities in the United States have values of species diversity that are not significantly different. It is suggested that this result supports the view that diversity is an intrinsic property of the environment and that although the individual species differ in their relative abundance in different places, an essentially identical pattern of diversity occurs in three widely separated yet ecologically similar localities.

LITERATURE CITED

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McFARLAND MOTH COLLECTION DONATED TO THE NATURAL
HISTORY MUSEUM OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Noel McFarland has been one of the more prominent students of North American moths for many years. When he moved to Australia he donated his splendid collection of 8,420 specimens to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

By far the most significant portion of the collection is 3,315 beautifully preserved larvae, in alcohol, and the accompanying copious notes on foodplants, behavior, and larval descriptions. The larvae of many species, such as *Saturnia albofasciata*, are represented in few, if any, other collections.

In addition to the larvae, there are 5,105 adult moths, many of which bear distinctive labels to associate them with rearing notes and preserved larvae. Included are most of the 278 species of moths taken during extensive collecting in Los Angeles County that resulted in "The moths (Macroheterocera) of a chaparral plant association in the Santa Monica Mountains of Southern California," (1965, *J. Res. Lepid.* 4: 43-74). In addition, there are a number of specimens from Kansas, and numerous moths from the edge of the Mojave Desert adjacent to the San Gabriel Mountains.

Earlier, in 1963, McFarland donated to the Museum 860 specimens of moths from Benton County, Oregon. These represent a large portion of the 360 species that he collected during a 20-month study that was the basis of his unpublished 1963 Master of Science thesis at Oregon State University, "The Macroheterocera (Lepidoptera) of a Mixed Forest in Western Oregon."

These generous donations are a valuable addition to the Museum's extensive holdings of western Lepidoptera, while the larvae will form a strong nucleus for the collection of immatures.

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