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With the little space available to the NEWS, editorial comment will be omitted or cut to a minimum so that more notices can reach the members. It will be necessary to cut some of the items so that all can share. Thanks for the kind words on our first issue. Remember the NEWS must reflect the wishes of the members. If you want to see it in the NEWS, send it in.

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The Sixth Annual Pacific Slope Meetings of the Lepidopterists' Society was held at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, on August 29, and 30, 1959. Sessions were held morning and afternoon on both days. There was a luncheon at the Museum on Aug. 29, and a dinner and smoker that evening at the El Presidio Restaurant. A brief report of the meetings will be rendered to the Society in the near future.

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Roger R. Verity, eminent Lepidopterist of Italy, has been reported deceased. No details are available at the time of this report.

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A list of the land arthropods of Michigan is in preparation. Various specialists have agreed to take certain sections of this work. R. R. Dreisbach, 301 Helen Street, Midland, Michigan, is General Editor. Help in the way of records, and from qualified specialists, is requested. It is planned to complete the manuscript by January, 1962.

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Copies of papers on Cuban Lepidoptera by Dr. S. L. de La Torre are being sent to Society members with the compliments of the Universidad de Oriente. Dr. de la Torre would undoubtedly welcome reprints of papers by other members.

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Dr. Eugene G. Munroe, President of the Lepidopterists' Society and a leading specialist in the Pyralididae, is the new Editor of the Canadian Entomologist, succeeding Dr. W. R. Thompson.

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Dr. D. F. Owen, Department of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich., proposes to investigate the occurrence of industrial melanism among North American moths. In Britain and Germany, some 70 species of moths, many of them geometrids, have produced melanic forms. Most of these moths are species that by day rest upon the trunks and branches of trees where their cryptic coloration matches the background. It has been found that in the vicinity of large cities,

1959(4):1

industrial pollution has caused the trunks of trees to become blackened, both by the deposition of soot and by the killing of lichens and unicellular plants. In areas where this has occurred the formerly cryptically colored moths are conspicuous whereas the melanic forms match the background of these polluted trees. In Britain, Dr. H. B. D. Kettlewell has found that these black moths resting on polluted trees are at a selective advantage over the normal forms as far as predation by birds is concerned. Conversely, in unpolluted areas, the normal forms have a selective advantage over the melanics. He was able to show this by marking and releasing large numbers of normal and melanic forms and recapturing with a light trap. Moreover, he observed and filmed birds selectively eliminating moths which he had placed on tree trunks.

All industrial melanics that have been investigated have been found to be Mendelian dominants, and in some cases the gene for melanism also increases viability. Thus, with the appearance of polluted trees in industrial areas, these melanics with their greater selective advantage and increased viability, have spread at a remarkable rate. With the help of about one hundred seventy recorders, mostly amateurs, Dr. Kettlewell was able to find the frequencies of the melanic forms in different populations of several species, in particular Biston betularia. He found that not only were the melanics more frequent in industrial areas, but that they were also more frequent in rural areas into which the prevailing winds had blown the smoke from industrial centers.

Amphydasis cognataria, which is the North American equivalent of Biston betularia, also has a melanic form, "swettaria", and it would be of great interest to establish the frequency of "swettaria" in different areas. Dr. Owen therefore proposes to collect records of this species, and would like to appeal to moth collectors, especially those operating light traps, to send him records of the total numbers of A. cognataria and its melanic form "swettaria", including localities and dates of capture. Records of the number of A. cognataria caught, even if there are no melanics present, would be equally valuable, as also would be the frequencies of other species with melanic forms, such as Phigalia olivacearia.

Lastly, Dr. Owen would like to appeal to collectors who already have melanic moths of any species, to send details of date and place of capture, and an indication of whether the specimens are completely black or not. Instances of partial melanism, that is incomplete dominance in the heterozygous condition, have been reported from old specimens of Biston betularia in Britain. Dr. Owen will be glad to give further detail to anyone who is interested. An article by Dr. Kettlewell on industrial melanism in Britain will appear shortly in Scientific American.

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Manuscripts for formal publication in the JOURNAL OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY should be sent to the Editor of the JOURNAL, Dr. C. L. Remington. His address is: Dept. of Zoology, Yale University, New Haven Conn., U. S. A.

#### NOTICES

Lepidopterists' Society members may use this space free of charge to advertise their offerings and needs in Lepidoptera. The Editors reserve the right to rewrite notices for clarity or to reject unsuitable notices. We cannot guarantee any notices but expect all to be bona fide.

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WILL EXCHANGE LEPIDOPTERA FROM YUCATAN for complete series of volumes 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the LEPIDOPTERISTS' NEWS as well as a good copy of F. L. Davis' Notes on

Butterflies of British Honduras, 1928. Please write what is available and number of specimens desired per volume or book. Eduarado C. Welling, Calle 66 Norte, No. 426, Merida, Yucatan.

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LEPIDOPTERA and other insects on special order, from Yucatan, for sale. 20,000 pinned moths of all families except Sphingoidea and Saturnoidea (these papered); will sell lot for \$500.00 plus postage. All inquiries invited. Eduardo C. Welling, Calle 66 Norte, No. 426, Merida, Yucatan.

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FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE, ova from Platysamia crosses and many other saturniids. Duke Downey, Box 558, Sheridan, Wyoming, U. S. A.

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RHODESIAN BUTTERFLIES offered in exchange for those of all other countries. Robert D. Kelly, 29, Fordham Ave., Mabelreign, Southern Rhodesia, Africa.

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35 MM COLOR SLIDES OR PRINTS of perfect bilateral gynandromorphs, melanic Papilios and albinos, offered in exchange for colored pictures or slides of unusual variations. Full data with each pic. Inquiry invited. Above items also for sale. James A. Ebner, 13002 W. Cameron Ave., Butler, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

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WISH TO EXCHANGE RHOPALOCERA with collectors of the world, esp. Asia, Canada, Scandinavia, Spain, Italy, France, Switzerland, Greece, Calif., Ariz., Colo., Texas, Fla., and northern parts of U.S.A. Have butterflies of Japan and Formosa and some moths and beetles for exchange. Masaki Nakayama, Fujihonmachi, Wakamatsu, Kyushi, Japan.

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NEARLY 1200 BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS mounted singly in Denton mounts, mainly with glass top and bottom, offered for sale reasonably by a museum which is consolidating collections. Origins mainly New England, but some exotics included: Write: Dr. N. S. Bailey, 20 Hyatt Ave., Bradford, Mass., U.S.A.

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HUNGARIAN BUTTERFLIES offered in exchange for foreign species. Ferenc Pfilf, Budapest III, Csalma u. 1., Hungary.

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WANTED: Identified and preserved eggs of NORTH AMERICAN GEOMETRIDAE. Will exchange Ontario or other North American adult Lepidoptera for this. Paul D. Syme, 262 Bessborough Drive, Toronto 17, Ont., Canada.

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TO STIMULATE INTEREST in Lepidoptera, especially among younger students, I am offering ten North American butterflies or moths, or five of each, and two foreign butterflies, postpaid for \$1.25. (Mrs.) Edith Lyle Ragsdale, 429 N. Marion St., Centralia, Illinois, U.S.A.

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FOR EXCHANGE, the following moths (and others): Phlegethontius florestan, Sphinx oreodaphne, S. australis, Pachysphinx modesta, Pholus typhon, Xylophanes falco, Coloradia pandora, Bertholdia trigona, Gloveria arizonensis, G. gargamelle, Dicogaster coronado. Desired: Sphingidae, Saturniidae, and Arctiidae, of the less common species. Thomas W. Davies, 791 Elsie Ave., San Leandro, Calif., U. S. A.

1959(4):3

WANTED: Rhopalocera and Macroheterocera of U. S. A. Purchase and exchange.  
Paul B. Saltsman, 79 Second St., Carrollton, Ohio, U. S. A.

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BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS OF JAPAN and adjacent areas for sale and exchange.  
Also seasonal living materials of various Japanese Butterflies and Moths can be  
supplied. All correspondence welcomed. J. Okura, 1566 2-chome, Shimoshakujii,  
Nerimaku, Tokyo, Japan.

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The object of the Lepidopterists' Society is to promote the science of Lepidoptero-  
logy; to Publish the JOURNAL OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS SOCIETY and the NEWS OF  
THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY, and to encourage free interchange among Lepidopterists  
of all countries. All members in good standing receive the publications of the So-  
ciety.

Membership is open to all interested persons. Remittances in dollars (U. S. A.)  
should be made payable to the Lepidopterists Society. There are three paying classes  
of membership: Active members - annual dues \$4.00 (U.S.A.); Sustaining Members - an-  
nual dues \$10.00 (U.S.A.); Life Members - single sum \$75.00 (U.S.A.). Dues may be  
paid in Europe to our official agent: E. W. Classey, 4 Church Street, Islesworth,  
Middx., England. Secretary of the Society: Dr. Paul R. Rhrlish, University of Kansas,  
Lawrence, Kansas, U. S. A. Treasurer of the Society: Sidney A. Hessel, Nettleton  
Hollow Rd., Washington, Connecticut, U. S. A.