

group G into itself the given commutators generate the smallest self-conjugate subgroup of G , which has the property that all the operators of the corresponding quotient group are commutative to the fixed operator. (3) If one of the elements of a commutator be multiplied on the left by each of the operators of a group it will be observed that the commutator remains unchanged when the multiplier is commutative to the other element, and that it is changed for every other multiplier. Hence this commutator has as many different values as the fixed element has conjugates when it is transformed by all the operators of the given group.

S. Kimura, of Japan, furnished a paper on 'Linear Vector Functions.'

One of the most interesting papers upon the program of Section A was 'The Determination of the Nature of Electricity and Magnetism,' by Professor R. A. Fessenden, of Western University, Allegheny, Pa. It was read before a joint session of Sections A and B, and will be reviewed in connection with the papers of Section B.

The fact that the American Mathematical Society was to hold a separate meeting at Columbus on Friday and Saturday of the Association week, and that the Conference of Astronomers and Astrophysicists is to be held at the Yerkes Observatory early in September, a date just late enough to make it inconvenient for persons who attended the Columbus meeting, both tended to reduce the length of program and the number in attendance at Section A. It is to be hoped that the organizations in question may in the future see fit to cooperate with Section A. It seems obvious that many benefits must accrue to each of the three organizations from such cooperation, for they have many common members and common interests.

JOHN F. HAYFORD,
Secretary of Section A.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGISTS, COLUMBUS, OHIO, AUGUST 18 AND 19, 1899.

THE Association met in room 4, Biological Hall, Ohio State University, at 10 a. m., August 18. Fourteen members and a number of distinguished visitors were present, the average attendance at the four sessions being about twenty. The address of the retiring President, Mr. C. L. Marlatt, Washington, D. C., on 'The Laissez-faire Philosophy applied to the Insect Problem' was treated with an originality as courageous as refreshing. The author depicted the harmonious action of nature and called attention to her abundant powers of recuperation and self protection. The fundamental principles underlying the excessive multiplication and injury characterizing new or introduced species were explained, and an attempt was made to show the futility of efforts to prevent the introduction or secure the extermination of foreign insects once established in this country. These introductions of new forms are world movements not to be thwarted by man. The exploiting of short-lived or easily controllable ills was condemned and the unfair restrictions placed upon commerce by such efforts were pointed out. From the author's standpoint the only legitimate field for efforts in applied entomology is that of the local control of injurious species, and here the entomologist finds ample opportunity for the exercise of his powers in behalf of mankind. A general discussion of the address followed and while some of the members present were unable to accept entirely the conclusions of the author, all agreed that the address constituted a very important and valuable contribution to the philosophical literature of applied entomology.

Active members were elected as follows: C. S. Banks, Albany, N. Y.; Arthur Gibson, Ottawa, Canada; H. P. Gould, Col-

lege Park, Md.; S. J. Hunter, Lawrence, Kan. The foreign members elected were: Edward Barlow, Calcutta, India; E. E. Green, Pundaluoya, Ceylon; A. M. Lea, Hobart, Tasmania; J. S. O. Tepper, Adelaide, South Australia.

The list of papers read and discussed included the following: 'A Destructive Tanbark Beetle,' A. F. Burgess (read by the secretary); 'Voluntary Entomologic Service in New York State,' 'Notes of the Year for New York,' E. P. Felt; 'Recent Work against the Gypsy Moth,' 'The Destruction of Hairy Caterpillars by Birds,' E. H. Forbush; 'A Remedy for Gad-flies; Porchinski's Recent Discovery in Russia, with some American Observations,' 'The Establishment of *Blastophaga psenes* in California,' L. O. Howard; 'The Pea Louse, A New and Important Species of the Genus *Nectarophora*,' 'A New Method of Handling Hydrocyanic Acid Gas in Orchards,' 'Entomological Notes from Maryland,' 'The Stalk Worm, a New Enemy to Young Tobacco,' W. G. Johnson; 'An Improvement in the Manufacture of Arsenate of Lead,' 'A Probable Remedy for the Cranberry Fire-worm,' A. H. Kirkland; 'Miscellaneous Notes,' C. L. Marlatt; 'The Original Home of the San José Scale,' C. L. Marlatt and L. O. Howard; 'Observations on Insects of Sandusky and Vicinity,' H. Osborn; 'Insects of the Year in Georgia,' A. L. Quaintance; 'The Fatal Temperature for some Scale Insects in Georgia,' W. M. Scott; 'Insectary and Office Methods,' 'An Interesting Outbreak of the Chinchbug in Northern Ohio,' F. M. Webster; 'Insects of the Year in Ohio,' F. M. Webster and C. W. Mally. The following papers were read by title: 'A New Breeding Cage for *Schizoneura lanigera*,' W. B. Alwood; 'A Destructive Orange Borer imported from Japan,' 'The Full Life History of *Pulvinaria acericola*, W. and R.,' L. O. Howard.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Lawrence Bruner; First Vice-President, C. P. Gillette; Second Vice-President, E. H. Forbush; Secretary-Treasurer, A. H. Kirkland.

Resolutions were passed: (1) endorsing the work of the Massachusetts Gypsy Moth Committee; (2) the quarantine work of the California State Board of Horticulture; (3) expressing full sympathy with judicious State and National legislation tending to prevent the introduction of foreign insect pests and to secure the control or extermination of such as have become established in this country; (4) expressing appreciation of the action of the Honorable Secretary of Agriculture in publishing the proceedings of the Association in previous years; (5) expressing thanks to the local committee and the officers of the Association. The next meeting will be held on the two days preceding and at the same place as that of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

A. H. KIRKLAND,
Secretary.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS.

I Sogni, Studi psicologici e clinici di un alienista.

SANTE DE SANCTIS. Turin. 1899.

This latest of books about dreams and dreamers is written not only, as its title indicates, from the standpoint of the alienist, but also from that of the comparative psychologist. Its introductory chapters on literature and method are followed by discussions of the dreams of animals, children, old people and adults, of the dreams of the neuropathic, the mentally deranged and the delinquent.

It is safe to say that no book ever written on the subject has taken into account so large a number of dream experiences, for De Sanctis throughout compares the results of his own observation with the published records of the study of others. The book has thus a bibliography of three hundred and twenty-three numbers, though it dispenses with the convenience of page references.