

duct, have stirred twenty professors in the university and not a few other teachers to memorialize the minister of state for education. They insist that the competency of Professor Tomizu to hold his chair and his personal character and general conduct are the main points for a minister of education to consider, and not his political opinions from which the ministry and many others may differ. They contend, moreover, that there is nothing in the rules laid down for civil officials, which authorizes the treatment of a man with a university professor's status in such a way.

This appeal represents the convictions of some of the most eminent names in Japan's list of pedagogues and scientists, who, however much they wish a renewal of Professor Tomizu's right status, care even more for the principle involved and the precedent established, a precedent contrary, they believe, to the best educational and political interests of the land. They realize that if Professor Tomizu can be summarily discharged by a minister of education on this issue, they may be discharged at any time on other issues.

In this country academic opinion usually is favorable to peace and hostile to war and extreme measures. In Japan, during the recent conflict with Russia, academic opinion has been conspicuous for a belligerency of spirit.

Japan's surviving autocracy and absolutism under parliamentary forms, has enabled the ministry in its dealing with journalists to be as severe and peremptory as public welfare seemed to make necessary. Professor Tomizu has felt the same iron hand, conserving the interests of peace, at a time when popular feeling has run high and strong.—*The Boston Transcript*.

NOTES ON ENTOMOLOGY.

SEVERAL fascicles of Wytsman's 'Genera Insectorum' have recently been issued; some of much interest to American entomologists. Fascicle 22 treats of the Braconidæ; it is in two parts, of 253 pages and 3 colored plates; it is written by Gy. V. Szépligeti. His classification is, in the main, that of Dr. Ashmead, but he has added several new genera.

Fascicle 23 deals with the Crioceridæ, a group of chrysomelid beetles. M. Jacoby and H. Clavareau are the authors, and the paper contains 40 pages and 5 colored plates. Most of these forms are exotic.

Fascicle 24 is on the subfamily Scutellerinæ of the family Pentatomidæ. It is by H. Schouteden, and occupies 98 pages and 5 colored plates. Most of the species are from the tropics.

Fascicle 25 is by J. Desneux on the Termitidæ or white ants. There are 52 pages and 2 colored plates. He has given a very complete catalogue of the family. His sinking of the many new genera recently created at the expense of the old genus *Termes* is to be highly commended, although he admits that the genus may be divided into six subgenera.

Fascicle 26 is devoted to the Culicidæ, or mosquitoes; F. W. Theobald is the author. There are 50 pages and 2 colored plates. One notices the omission of several species described by Miss Ludlow, and other American entomologists. Apparently ignorant of their identity, Mr. Theobald retains both *Pelorempis* and *Eucorethra* as distinct genera, and even finds characters to separate them in the table.

A USEFUL article is that by Mr. M. T. Cook on the insect galls of Indiana.¹ It includes a general treatment of galls, a catalogue of the Indiana species, with a brief description, and often figure, of the gall, ending with a bibliography. The insects are not described. The enthusiastic author appears, unfortunately, to have but a slight acquaintance with the European literature on cecidii.

MAJOR T. L. CASEY has revised another large group of American beetles; the tribe Pæderini of the family Staphylinidæ.² The generic synopses include all American genera, but the specific tables include only the species from the United States. Many of the genera are described as new, and there are many notes on the position of genera, and suggested improvements in the accepted classification.

¹ 'The Insect Galls of Indiana,' 29th Ann. Rept. Dept. Geol. Indiana, 1904, pp. 801-867, 52 figs.

² 'A Revision of the American Pæderini,' *Trans. Acad. Sci. St. Louis*, XV., pp. 17-248, 1905.

Several of our species, previously considered identical with European forms, he finds, upon comparison, are distinct therefrom. Over two hundred species are described as new.

It is not often that catalogues of exotic insects are issued by Americans; therefore, Mr. Levi W. Mengel's catalogue³ of the Erycinidæ is all the more noteworthy. It is printed in double columns; necessary references, with dates, and synonymy are given; the species are numbered in the genera; there is a full index; in short it is a very useful work to the student of butterflies the world over.

MR. LEWIS'S catalogue of the Histeridæ, a family of beetles, will be a great boon to all who wish to study the group.⁴ It is a pamphlet of 81 pages, and lists 2,306 species. It appears to be complete, but, unfortunately, there are a few errors in localities and references. Mr. Lewis's collection of these insects is by far the most valuable in the world.

A LARGE treatise on mosquitoes has been published by Professor R. Blanchard.⁵ It at once reminds one of Giles's English work, but is not as technical. Part I. treats of the morphology, anatomy, habits, metamorphoses and parasites of mosquitoes. Part II. is a systematic synopsis and list of all the known species. He decides that the proper name of the yellow fever mosquito is *Stegomyia calopus* Meigen, 1818. Part III. relates to the medical phase of the subject. Mosquitoes are considered as agents in malaria, yellow fever, filariasis, and in their probable relation to other diseases. There are chapters on methods of destroying larvæ and adults, of abolishing their breeding-places, of curing the diseases, and finally on rearing and preparing specimens. An appendix includes a list of recently-described species, and a long bibliography. Photographs of Ross, Finlay, Manson and Grassi adorn the pages. Many of the text figures are from Dr. Howard's works.

³ 'A Catalogue of the Erycinidæ,' Reading, Pa., May, 1905, pp. 161.

⁴ 'A Systematic Catalogue of Histeridæ,' by George Lewis; Taylor and Francis, London, 1905.

⁵ 'Les moustiques, histoire naturelle et médicale,' Paris, 1905, pp. 673, figs. 316.

AN elaborate book on the Anopheles mosquitoes of India is that by Messrs. S. P. James and W. G. Liston.⁶ Part I. treats of the habits, external anatomy, breeding-places and methods of studying this genus of mosquitoes. Part II. consists of technical descriptions of 23 species, arranged in 10 groups. Very sensibly he neglects to make new genera for these groups. A number of larvæ are described and figured, with details. There are many plates, 15 of which are colored and printed on a green background, quite a novel feature in entomology.

AN interesting arrangement of the genera of Vespidae, or true wasps, is that by A. Ducke.⁷ He believes that the nesting-habits is the clew to the natural classification, and tabulates the South American forms on this basis. Some of the older genera are divided, and he has added descriptions of a few new forms. The plate represents the nests of two species of *Charterginus*, showing the opening on the upper side.

DR. W. A. SCHULZ has issued a separate publication under the title 'Hymenopteren-Studien.'⁸ It consists of three parts: First, a list of Hymenoptera collected in various parts of North Africa, with notes and descriptions of new forms; second, new genera and species of Trigonalidæ, describing, at great length, several new types from South America; and third, a list of some Vespidae and Apidae from the Amazon region, with descriptions of a few new species.

NATHAN BANKS.

BOTANICAL NOTES.

INDEX OF NORTH AMERICA FUNGI.

FOR many years, Professor Dr. Farlow, of Harvard University, has had under preparation an index of the species of North American fungi which should serve as a guide to the more important systematic literature. The

⁶ 'A Monograph of the Anopheles Mosquitoes of India,' Calcutta, 1904, 132 pp., many plates.

⁷ 'Nouvelles contributions à la connaissance des Vespides sociaux de l'Amérique du Sud,' *Rev. d'Entom.*, 1905, pp. 5-24, 1 plate.

⁸ Leipzig, W. Engelmann, 1905; 147 pp., 13 text figs.