

Cæoma-like rusts, and so to be regarded as the last of the evolutionary series of this group of fungi. While there may be some slight resemblances of the æcidium cup in its development to certain Ascomycetes, the regular occurrence of conjugate nuclei in the rust form, as well as the additional wide differences in the spore mother cells of the two groups of organisms, precludes, in my opinion, the idea of any close relationship between the two, as has been assumed by Blackman.

Are Canned Goods Sterile? T. J. BURRILL.

The canning process depends for its efficiency and safety upon the exclusion of living bacteria; sometimes by defects in the cans or in the process failure occurs. Do cans apparently sound ever contain living bacteria? Several investigators have reported affirmatively, but mistakes are hard to avoid and the reported results can not be considered conclusive.

For this investigation a new method was adopted, believed to be more likely to reach the truth, but in this there are shown to be some growths—eleven out of two thousand six hundred and one cultures or 0.42 per cent. There is every reason to believe these are contaminations in spite of the care taken to prevent them. In one case there were two positive cultures, from one can; otherwise only one tube out of seven—ten from a can showed growth.

Conclusion: cans which "keep" are sterile.

HENRY C. COWLES,
Secretary pro tem.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE third meeting of the Entomological Society of America was held at the University of Chicago, December 30 and 31, 1907, in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and other societies. About one hundred

were in attendance, coming from as widely remote localities as Maine and California, Ottawa and Louisiana.

On Monday sessions were held for the reading of papers. On Monday evening the annual address was given before the society by Professor Herbert Osborn, of the Ohio State University, his subject being "The Habits of Insects as a Factor in Classification." The address was followed by a most enjoyable smoker, at which the members of the society and their friends were the guests of the Entomological Section of the Chicago Academy of Sciences.

At the annual business meeting on Tuesday, December 31, the following officers were elected:

President—Dr. William Morton Wheeler.

First Vice-president—Dr. John B. Smith.

Second Vice-president—Rev. Professor C. J. S. Bethune.

Secretary-Treasurer—J. Chester Bradley.

Additional Members of the Executive Committee—Dr. James G. Needham, Professor V. S. Kellogg, Professor Herbert Osborn, Professor J. H. Comstock, Dr. P. P. Calvert, Mr. F. M. Webster.

Standing Committee on Nomenclature—(to serve three years) Dr. H. T. Fernald, (to serve two years) Professor T. D. A. Cockerell, (to serve one year) Dr. E. P. Felt.

Committee on Nomenclature.—Dr. Fernald moved, seconded by Dr. Smith:

1. That the Entomological Society of America hereby endorses the Code of Nomenclature adopted by the International Zoological Congress as the code which should be used by the members of the society so far as it can be applied.

2. That cases not covered by this code which may be presented to the society for consideration, be referred to a standing Committee on Nomenclature, to consist of three members, one member of which shall be elected each year for a term of three years, and the opinion of this committee on cases referred to them, shall be reported to the society at the first annual meeting subsequent to their reference to the committee.

Mr. Bradley moved to amend by striking out the second clause, because entomology should not be treated as distinct from zool-

ogy in general, and because the Commission on Nomenclature established by the International Congress of Zoology is the sufficient and proper body before which to bring such question for decision.

Dr. Fernald stated that the reports of the Commission on Nomenclature of the International Congress of Zoology are greatly delayed by the fact that the congress meets only once in three years, and by the rule that a question must be presented at least a year before the meeting at which it is to be considered. It was not the intention of the mover that the committee should act in opposition to or independently from the Commission on Nomenclature, but that it should be instrumental in voicing the needs of entomology before that body, which should be the final court of reference.

With that explanation, the amendment was withdrawn and motion passed.

Publication of a Journal.—Perhaps the most important act of the meeting was embodied in the following resolutions adopted by the executive committee and confirmed by the society:

1. That the society undertake a publication to be called *Annals of the Entomological Society of America*, to be issued in quarterly fascicles.
2. That it include only papers of importance or marked merit, and that each be issued and bound separately as well as in fascicles, so that each paper may be sold separately.
3. That proceedings of the meetings be included either at the beginning or end of each volume and form one separate, which is to be sent to all members of the society.
4. That a subscription price of one dollar in addition to the membership fee be charged members for the annals and that the subscription price to non-members, libraries, etc., be \$3.
5. That an editorial board be selected by the executive committee and that this board shall select one of its members as managing editor, who, with his associates, shall be responsible for the selection of material to be published.
6. That if possible some one living in a suitable location and who can undertake the work of man-

aging editor for a series of years, be selected for this position.

7. That details not covered in this report are to be determined by the editorial board.

8. That actual publication under the provisions of this report be inaugurated as soon as possible.

It will be seen from the above that all members will receive the number containing the full proceedings of the meetings free, and upon payment of one dollar the entire annals; while the regular subscription price to non-members will be \$3.

A resolution was passed limiting the number of fellows for the present to ten per cent. of the membership.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet next December in Baltimore.

During the sessions the executive committee elected the following fellows: Justus Watson Folsom, William Joseph Holland, Clarence Preston Gillette, Lawrence Bruner, Mark Vernon Slingerland, Henry Clinton Fall, Charles Lester Marlatt.

J. CHESTER BRADLEY,
Secretary

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Practical Physiography. HAROLD WELLMAN FAIRBANKS, Ph.D. Pp. xxvii + 542; 403 figs., including 9 colored maps. Boston, Allyn & Bacon. 1906.

The author of this new text-book of physiography points out the fact that the evolution of better methods of teaching justifies the addition of new texts to those already in use, and in his own production makes certain departures from the usual methods with the purpose of effecting desirable improvements. Questions and exercises are distributed throughout the text, in order to make the volume a combination of text-book and field and laboratory guide. The illustrations are largely from photographs, on the ground that "they appeal with much more force to pupils of high school age than do diagrams or sketches." When diagrams are considered necessary, the student is asked to construct them. The printed illustrations are good, and have an added interest from the fact that