looking over type and other material at the M.C.Z., as well as my own, I could find none with the ramus as thin as he figured it. For comparison I have included a drawing of each species (figures 12 and 13). It can be seen from these that there are other slight differences as well.

From Emerton's (1913) remarks it would appear that he had both *flavipedes* and *virginis* under consideration from New Jersey. I find that in *flavipedes* there is a tuft of white scales between the large eyes; the legs are mostly yellowish, (except for the last pair which is brown), and in some cases provided with a black line on the prolateral surface of the femora; and the abdomen has an indistinct chevron pattern. In *virginis* the white tuft between the large eyes is lacking; the legs are more brown than yellow and without black lines; and the abdomen has in the posterior half three pairs of black spots. The chelicerae are light yellow except for a black basal spot on each side and a black stripe along the median line which widens distally to form a characteristic mark (figure 8). In *flavipedes* the chelicerae are darker, and though there may be a black stripe along the median line, there does not seem to be as distinct a mark distally.

Record: East Hampton, Conn., 7 May 1937 (A. De Caprio).

NEWS AND VIEWS

INSECT PESTS IN NUMBERS THREATEN FOR NEXT YEAR

Insect pests are ending their season with serious threat of large numbers next year in many places according to the Insect Pest Survey Bulletin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Grasshopper eggs in the large numbers expected are revealed by surveys in most of the States where hopper outbreaks were heavy last summer. Because of warm weather, egg laying has been somewhat protracted in the southern part of the grasshopper-ridden area.

Mormon cricket eggs are numerous in the northern part of Nevada, where the egg survey has been completed, but less so southward in Montana. Apparently the crickets have spread from focal points scattered over much of the State.

The hessian fly has been found in some early seeded wheat in Missouri and in southeastern Kansas.

The chinch bug took advantage of the dry, warm fall weather to enter hibernation in tremendous numbers.

The velvetbean caterpillar, which feeds on soybeans, cowpeas, peanuts, etc. recently has been very numerous and destructive in Florida. It is at work also in Louisiana.

The apple maggot showed up in unexpectedly large numbers for the first time in 10 years in an orchard in central West Virginia.

Unusually large numbers of the grape berry moth occurred along Lake Erie in Ohio and in southwestern Michigan.

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The walnut husk fly has extended its infestation somewhat to the west, having been found in Orange County, California.

The California red scale is injuring severely citrus trees in the southern tip of Texas. It also is abundant in Los Angeles County, California.

The vegetable weevil, which had temporarily suspended operations in the Gulf States, is attacking truck crops there.

The northern mole cricket has been seriously damaging potato tubers in Massachusetts—an extraordinary occurrence so far north.

The squash bug seems to be more numerous than usual in Minnesota and Iowa.

Larvae of the spotted cucumber beetles have injured immature peanut pods in Virginia.

The tobacco worm continued its depredations late into the fall, being specially destructive in Connecticut.

The late season has been very favorable for boll weevil development. Many more weevils than have been found for several years are reported from South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, and eastern Texas. They have continued to develop in the late growth of cotton squares and young bolls produced by recent abundant rains.

BRITISH SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY HONORS AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGIST

Robert E. Snodgrass, U. S. Department of Agriculture entomologist, has been elected an honorary fellow in the Royal Entomological Society of London—the third American to be so honored in recent years. Honorary membership in this society—one of the oldest entomological societies in the world—is limited to twelve, all elected for their contributions to the scientific study of insects. Dr. L. O. Howard, one of the great pioneers in economic entomology, and the late Professor W. M. Wheeler of Harvard University, the world's foremost authority on ants, were also recipients of this honor.

Mr. Snodgrass was elected because of his important morphological work on insects. His extensive research on the comparative anatomy of insects has made it possible to establish many important and interesting relationships among the various insect groups, according to Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Although all this is in the realm of pure science, the results have been of great practical value in leading to a better understanding of insect mechanism and in furnishing a basis for physiological studies, thus facilitating the work of the economic entomologists seeking better methods for controlling insect pests.

THE MONTREAL BRANCH OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

The regular monthly meeting of the Montreal Branch was held in the Lyman Room of the Redpath Museum, McGill University on Saturday evening, December 11th, 1937. Mr. H. A. U. Monro gave an account of the very successful annual meeting of the parent society held in Toronto, November 18th and

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19th. Mr. G. A. Moore was congratulated on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society of London.

The meeting was then addressed by Mr. Eugene Munroe on "Collecting Lepidoptera in the West Indies and British Guiana during 1937." Mr. Munroe gave a very interesting account of a collecting tour which included visits to Bermuda, Dominica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and British Guiana. Mr. Munroe illustrated his address with a number of specimens of butterflies and moths and also exhibited several cases representing his collection made during the trip.

SEVERE GRASSHOPPER PLAGUE IN NICARAGUA

Nicaragua is periodically visited by plagues of grasshoppers which do considerable damage to crops, but since August of this year their ravages have been extraordinarily severe and now constitute a serious threat to the nation's agriculture and to the national economy in general, according to a report received by the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics from the American Vice Consul H. Bartlett Wells in Managua. The most important crops in Nicaragua are bananas, beans, coffee, corn, rice and sugar.

On November 10th, the Government of Nicaragua promulgated a degree requiring all able bodied male inhabitants in the Republic from 12 to 50 years of age either to devote one day of 8 hours work a week to combating the pest or pay a weekly tax of 50 cents. The only men not subject to this law are foreigners with diplomatic status. The fund collected from those who choose to pay the 50 cents weekly tax will be used exclusively for fighting the insect.

Specimens of the Nicaraguan grasshoppers have been forwarded to the United States Department of Agriculture for exact identification and suggestions as to the best means for checking their increasing damage.

RESEARCH NOTES

TWO INTERESTING RECORDS OF LEPIDOPTERA FROM VANCOUVER ISLAND

During the month of August of this year serious damage was done on several seed farms near Victoria, B. C. by larvae of the moth *Heliothis phloxiphaga* G. & R. The principal injury was caused by the caterpillars eating large holes in the seed capsules of Antirrhinums and devouring the unripe seeds. The flower heads were also attacked and the total injury to these plants was approximately 70 per cent. Other plants attacked were schizanthus, asters, and, to a slight extent, sweet peas. The interesting point about this outbreak is that the moth had never before been recorded from Vancouver Island, although lepidoptera have been collected there extensively by various people for thirty or forty years. The moth was identified by Dr. J. H. McDunnough who informs me that it is well known throughout the west. Our only previous records of this species in British Columbia are from Kaslo and other points in the Southern interior of the Province but I have recently been informed by Mr. Llewellyn Jones, of Mill Bay, Vancouver Island, that he took two specimens at light in 1931.

The second occurrence of interest is the species *Hemerocampa pseudotsugata* McD., the fir tree tussock moth. This again is a species never before recorded from Vancouver Island. The first specimens were reared from two

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