

HEMIPTERA

MIRIDAE

Engytatus geniculatus Reuter (det. O. H. Swezey), on wild tomato.

MYODOCHIDAE

Nysius sp. probably *delectus* White, on ahuhu, sedge, and wild tomato.

ORTHOPTERA

BLATTIDAE

Blatella germanica (Linn.), caught in camp.

GRYLLIDAE

Grylloides sigillatus (Walker), caught in camp.

Economic Entomology of the West Indies—A Review

BY E. H. BRYAN, JR.

(Presented at the meeting of March 1, 1934)

Dr. George N. Wolcott, entomologist with the Insular Experiment Station, Puerto Rico, has done a valuable service for tropical agriculture, both in the West Indies and elsewhere, by assembling into one volume what is known about the insect pests of the principal crops of the Antilles. The Entomological Society of Puerto Rico is also to be congratulated for assisting with the publication of such an extensive book.

In order to make the subject intelligible to persons not familiar with entomology, the first seven chapters discuss the anatomy, physiology, life history, and classification of insects, and their relations to their environment, and control. The rest of the book takes up in turn the insects associated with various crops. These are sugar cane and other grasses, cotton, sisal, coffee, cacao, coconut palms, citrus fruits, pineapples, bananas, papayas, mangoes, avocados, other fruits, tobacco and vegetables. There are numerous bibliographical references and a good index.

The book is written throughout in a readily readable and popular style, which should appeal both to students and farmers. But good illustrations, and the presence of specific names should also make the book useful to professional entomologists. It should be of interest to persons interested in tropical agriculture here in Hawaii, because several of the crops whose insects are discussed are raised here. Although but few of the insect pests which it includes belong to the same species as those which attack those crops in Hawaii, they belong to the same general groups, so that the control measures which are suggested would still be applicable.

The Entomological Society of Puerto Rico was scarcely a year old when it undertook the publication of this book. But entomological organization in the West Indies goes back to an earlier date. The first Entomological Conference in Puerto Rico was held May 25, 1912, largely through the enthusiasm of D. L. Van Dine, who was the pioneer entomologist with the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station and a charter member of the Hawaiian Entomological Society.

There is a distinct need for a similar work on the insect pests of crops other than sugar cane and pineapples here in Hawaii. The pests of these two major crops have been very well discussed, but very thorough investigation, as well as careful compilation, is necessary to bring up to date the knowledge of pests of other crops in these islands. The sponsoring, or at least the encouraging, of such investigations and the publication of results would be a very worth-while project for the Hawaiian Entomological Society.