

SELYSIA

A NEWS LETTER OF ODONATOLOGY

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Colloquium on the Odonata

A colloquium on the Odonata has been arranged as a part of the annual meeting of the North Central Branch, Entomological Society of America at Purdue University, March 22, 1963.

The response to the initial announcement of the colloquium has been enthusiastic. Almost every active North American worker on Odonata, whether in the field of behavior, growth studies, faunistics or systematics, has indicated his intention to attend. Rather than have a series of formal papers most of the topics have been assigned to discussion leaders who will introduce the subject and/or present the basic facts of his research. Following the introduction there will be general discussion. In order for these discussions to be thorough and thoughtful, outlines of the topics have been prepared by the discussion leaders and distributed in advance to all who have indicated intention to participate.

It is planned to record the discussions. These recordings will be transcribed and edited for publication in the annual Proceedings of the North Central Branch. We are asking the governing board of the Branch to reprint the proceedings of the colloquium and distribute it separately. This is especially desirable since separates of the introductory remarks of leaders would be of much less value than the entire discussions. The availability of this separate will be announced in a future issue of Selysia.

A detailed program of the colloquium is given on page 5.

Odonata Investigations In Progress at Purdue

Our work with Odonata at Purdue includes two or three distinct projects. I am working on a synonymic catalogue of New World Odonata, with attendant faunistic and taxonomic studies.

Doctor Macklin and I, assisted by several students have work in progress on the life cycle of local species and the effects of light (photoperiod, wave length, etc.) temperature, and other factors upon growth rate and seasonal life history. We have worked out all stages from egg to adult of six local species, and almost all of three others.

Our facilities include my reference collection of about 10,000 determined specimens of almost 1,000 species, the Williamson-Montgomery bibliography and index to the literature of the Odonata, and a laboratory for life history studies with 16 small cabinets for photoperiod and temperature control.

The collection is preserved in papers (triangles), filed in triangular trays as described in my 1959 paper (Proc. N. centr. Br., ent. Soc. Am., 14: 15-16), alphabetically by genus and species in eight separate (superfamily) series.

The bibliography and index are based upon the card files (now in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan) developed by the late E. B. Williamson to include all papers referring in any way to the Odonata, and all generic and specific references since the publication of

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S E L Y S I A

A Newsletter of Odonatology

NORTH AMERICAN ODONATA WORKERS

Compiled at
Department of Entomology, Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana

by

B. Elwood Montgomery

Issued at intervals
as available news and information warrant

This newsletter is designed to disseminate facts and news about the activities of Odonatologists and Odonatology. It is not intended as a journal nor an organ for the publication of articles or technical papers. The name is that of the "Father of Odonatology", Baron Edmond de Selys-Longchamps

We expect to "publish" not only news of the activities, both personal and professional, of those working with or interested in the Odonata, but also information about collections, bibliographies, etc., especially such material available for use by other workers. It is hoped that a world directory of Odonata workers may be issued (in parts). As a beginning this issue has news about an Odonata Colloquium to be held at Lafayette, March 22, 1963, some information about my laboratory, collection, bibliography and index to literature, and a list of North American workers.

For future issues we shall need news about you, information about your collections, etc., and lists of workers (with addresses) in other countries. For the next issue we would like to have lists of South American and British workers.

This issue is being mailed to everyone whom I know to have some interest in the Odonata. Future issues will be sent to all who show some interest in Selysia, by sending some of the information requested, or by writing me indicating that you would like to receive later editions.

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We shall make such corrections and
additions as come to our attention in
future issues. We hope to have a list
of South American and British workers
in the next issue.

Odonata Investigations
(continued from page 1)

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Kirby's Catalogue (1890). The bibliography and index (current to approximately 1920) were copied in manuscript form in 1925-1930. Most of the references have been transferred to cards, and an attempt has been made to keep the files up to date. One of the discussions in the colloquium (by Emily J. Alward) will discuss work on the bibliography. The index, generally arranged alphabetically by genus and species separately in eight series, is reasonably complete to 1959 or 1960 for new taxa and for papers on the New World fauna. Indexing of any paper, proposes to be exhaustive - that is, every reference, however casual or trivial, is noted. Each reference is on a separate card; some entries are annotated. Originally, indexing was more or less confined to systematic or faunistic papers, but with the modern need of consideration of everything from cytogenetics to behavior in systematics, no such limitation is made.

In addition to the Williamson-Montgomery index we have a copy of the Ris Catalogue to the Odonata on microfilm - copied from the 13-volume manuscript in the library of the British Museum (Natural History). This has only a few entries not included in the Williamson-Montgomery index, but does have additional annotations on some references (usually in the language of the reference!)

The bibliography and index is available to anyone who comes to Purdue, and in some cases, copies of entries may be furnished at cost of copying.

The extent of the bibliography and index may be judged from the following estimate of the number of entries (cards.)

Bibliography	6200
*Euphaeidae	710
*Polythoridae	500
*Other Calopterygoidea	
New World	1700
Old World	2200
+Agrionoidea	16675
[Coenagnonoidea]	
Petaluridae	300

Cordulegasteridae	1200
Gomphidae	9500
Aeshnidae	5700
Corduliidae	5700
+Libellulidae	17000
Unsorted (now in process of being filed)	4200

*The index is now undergoing reorganization in the development of the New World catalogue.

+1890-1920 references, except to original descriptions, not transferred to cards, but available in manuscript as copied from Williamson index.

We are mailing copies of this first issue of Selysia to everyone, who (in our opinion) may be interested. To receive future issues, it will be necessary to acknowledge this copy. We shall be glad to send copies to anyone missed upon request.

The Department of Entomology of Purdue University, has borne the entire expense of preparing and mailing this issue. However, it may be necessary to request contributions to pay for postage and paper of future issues.

We shall be glad to exchange specimens, separates of our papers, and information about Odonata with anyone who wishes. We hope to hear from you.

Colloquium on the Odonata
Purdue University, March 22, 1963
9:40-12:00¹ Memorial Center, Room 210
1:30-5:00
7:30-10:00 Agricultural Building, Room 203

1. Classification and nomenclature of the Odonata - M. J. Westfall, discussion leader.
 - a. Scheme of the New World Catalogue - B. Elwood Montgomery
 - b. Common names of Odonata - Donald J. Borror
2. Behavior in Odonata - Edward J. Kormondy, moderator
 - a. Migration of Odonata - Philip P. Corbet
 - b. Meaning of color and sexual behavior in dragonflies and other animals - Merle E. Jacobs
 - c. Reproductive behavior in Enallagma civile and Argia apicalis - George H. Bick
 - d. Habitat selection; evolution of territoriality in Odonata - Clifford Johnson
 - e. Mating behavior and local dispersal in Erythemis simplicicollis - Neva L. Currie
3. Recent studies in Enallagma and related zygopteran genera - Thomas W. Donnelly
4. Odonata Cytogenetics - Robert B. Cumming
5. Dragonflies in natural environments (a photographic study) - Paul D. Harwood
6. Seasonal life history in the Odonata - Charles E. Jenner, moderator
 - a. Seasonal occurrence and abundance
 - (1) Seasonal distribution of Odonata at a large pond in central Pennsylvania - Harold B. White, III
 - (2) Distribution and abundance of Libellulinae in five southwestern states - William H. Cross (to be presented by Minter J. Westfall)
 - (3) Life history, distribution and ecology in Western Australian Odonata - J. A. L. Watson
 - (4) Seasonal distribution of adult Odonata in Indiana - B. Elwood Montgomery
 - b. Experimental studies of the factors regulating growth and seasonal development
 - (1) Effect of photoperiod on larval development in several species of Odonata - Charles E. Jenner
 - (2) Seasonal regulation in Pachydiplax longipennis - J. G. Eller
 - (3) Life cycle and seasonal differences in photoperiodic responses of Tetragoneuria cynosura nymphs - Paul E. Lutz
 - (4) Some effects of temperature and photoperiod on development - Jerry M. Macklin
7. A survey of recent Odonata literature - Emily J. Alward
8. A neglected early list of Utah Odonata - Mary Davis Ries
9. The use of the Odonata in PreCollegiate Biological Institute - Robert W. Alrutz
10. A movable molar in the Odonata? - Leonora K. Gloyd
11. Organization and care of an Odonata collection - A. F. and G. H. Beatty

Tour of the Purdue Entomological Environment Laboratory

Inspection of the Montgomery Collection and the Williamson-Montgomery bibliography and index.