

durch Hämatoxylin Friedländer bei gehöriger Differenzierung mit Salzsäure-Alkohol tief schwarz wird, während der Schwanz ganz blaß bleibt.

Da nun einerseits eine durchgreifende Verschiedenheit in der Bildung der Samenkörper bei zwei so nahe verwandten Formen wie *Paludicella* und *Triticella* nicht wahrscheinlich ist, anderseits unter der Annahme, daß das von Retzius als Kopf beschriebene Gebilde der Schwanz sei, die Übereinstimmung eine fast vollkommene wird, so vermute ich, daß Retzius' Deutung auf einem Irrtum beruht.

Was mir diese Deutung auch für *Paludicella* zunächst als denkbar erscheinen ließ, war die Erwägung, daß die Eier von *Paludicella* sehr groß sind, und daß vielleicht auch das Volumen des befruchtenden Elementes dem entsprechen könnte. Die Tatsachen lehren jedoch, daß eine solche Beziehung nicht besteht. Eher könnte an einen Zusammenhang zwischen der Größe der Eier und der Länge des Verbindungsstückes gedacht werden. Das reife Ei der verschiedenen *Phylactolämen* hat einen Durchmesser von 0,02 bis 0,04 mm, das Halsstück des Samenfadens mitsamt dem Kopf ist etwa 0,02 mm lang. Das *Paludicella*-Ei hat, wenn es sich nach der Ablage gerundet hat, einen Durchmesser von gegen 0,14 mm, vor der Ablage hat es unregelmäßige Form, und der Durchmesser ist teils größer, teils kleiner. Halsstück und Kopf haben die Länge von etwa 0,09 mm. Die Länge schwankt also hier wie dort zwischen dem Radius und dem Durchmesser des Eikörpers.

II. Mitteilungen aus Museen, Instituten usw.

1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

Abstract of Proceedings, April 29th, 1908. — 1) A Revision of the Australian Species of *Adelium* [Coleoptera]. By H. J. Carter, B.A., F.E.S. — When Blessig reviewed the Australian Heteromera in 1862, 15 species of *Adelium* were recognised. In the meantime the number of described species has increased to eighty. The opportunity of comparing his collection with types in the British Museum and in the Paris and Brussels Museums during a recent visit to Europe, had enabled the author to submit the species to a critical revision, the outcome of which is a proposed reduction of the number to fifty-four, by the reference of ten species to other genera, and the omission of synonyms. It is also noted that the so-called species of *Adelium* of New Zealand and New Caledonia belong to different genera, so that it is probable that the genus *Adelium* is confined to Australia and Tasmania. The stridulation and stridulating organs of these insects are remarked upon; while notes on variation, history, and a table of classification of the known species complete the revision. — 2) A Revision of the Thynnidae [Hymenoptera] of Australia. Part II. By Rowland E. Turner, F.E.S. — Part II of the Revision deals with the genus *Thynnus*. The species are very diverse in appearance and structure; but it is thought to be best, in the present state of knowledge, to group them in subgenera rather than to propose an excessive number of

new genera, some of which might have to be sunk when additional material is available. The Australian species number 213, and fall into ten subgenera. Reference is made to the Austro-Malayan species; and several species referable to genera treated of in Part I are proposed as new. — Mr. A. Basset Hull communicated a Note on an exhibit of a series of eggs of the Silver Gull (*Larus novae hollandiae* Stephens) from the gull rookery at Montague Island, displaying two striking mutations in colour. The normal egg is very variable in the shade of the ground-colour, and the markings also vary considerably; but from pale olive-green to deep olive-brown, slightly to heavily streaked or blotched with blackish-brown markings, will do for a general description. The two abnormal varieties exhibited were (A.) uniform pale blue, without any trace of markings: (B. 1) glossy white, faintly blotched with pale red and purplish-red suffused markings and a few dull red spots, distributed over the whole shell; (B. 2) creamy-white, blotched with purplish-red suffused markings, and larger dull red spots and markings, distributed over the whole shell. Such striking departures from the normal colour have not previously been recorded. — Mr. Cheel communicated a Note on an exhibit of a series of specimens illustrating the habits and depredations of a leaf-cutting bee (*Megachile* sp.), and of two pollen-collecting bees (*Podalirius cingulatus* Fabr., and *Sarapoda bombiformis* Smith). The contents of a nest in the ground, comprising a good handful of oblong or roundish pieces of the foliage of *Laburnum vulgare* collected by the *Megachile* were shown; and also a branch of *Solanum xanthocarpum* from a plant which used to fruit freely, but which in recent years has borne no fruit, apparently through being deprived of pollen by the operations of the pollen-collecting bees. — Mr. Goddard exhibited an interesting series of freshwater crustaceans, including species of *Anaspides* and *Phreatoicus*, from ponds on Mount Wellington and Mount Ben Lomond, Tasmania; and examples of freshwater leeches (*Glossiphonia*) from Tasmania and New South Wales. — Mr. Fred Turner communicated a Note on an exhibit of botanical specimens comprising *Salicornia tenuis* Benth., a native saltbush forwarded from Wongalea Station, Gunbar District, with the report that it had recently sprung up, covering an area of six hundred acres; *Grevillea arenaria* R.Br., var. *cunescens*, from the Bathurst district, where it was said to be greedily eaten by sheep; and *Panicum tenuissimum* Benth., collected at Rose Bay, Sydney, the most southerly station so far recorded for this grass. — The Secretary, on behalf of Dr. T. L. Bancroft of Brisbane, exhibited a named collection of Queensland mosquitoes, comprising representatives of twenty-four out of the thirty-two species described in the recently published »List of the Mosquitoes of Queensland, etc.« (Annals of the Queensland Museum, No. 8. 1908); and he stated that, at Dr. Bancroft's request, the specimens were to be presented to the Macleay Museum, to supplement the collection which the late Mr. Skuse had studied.

Abstract of Proceedings, May 27th, 1908. — 1) The Behaviour of *Hyla aurea* to Strychnine. By H. G. Chapman, M.D., B.S., Demonstrator of Physiology in the University of Sydney. The common Australian frog *Hyla aurea* has been noted not infrequently to be much less susceptible to the poisonous alkaloid strychnine than European frogs of the genus *Rana*. The minimal lethal dose for various species of *Rana* has been measured by numerous observers; and there seems to be general agreement that it may be said

to lie between 2 mg and 5,5 mg per kilogram of body-weight. For *Hyla aurea* the minimal lethal dose is 0,1 mg per gram of body-weight, and is somewhat higher in frogs collected in winter than in those collected in summer; but is unaffected by differences in sex. The receptive substance of the muscles of *Hyla aurea* is sensitive to strychnine, so that the frogs show, with appropriate doses, typical curare paralysis. The prominence of this action produces a characteristic type of poisoning in *Hyla*. — (3) A Contribution to our Knowledge of Australian Hirudinea. Part I. By F. J. Goddard, B.A., B.Sc., Junior Demonstrator in Biology, University of Sydney. — Two species of freshwater leeches referable to the genus *Glossiphonia* [syn. *Clepsine*: Fam. Glossiphonidae] from New South Wales are described as new — the first record of the genus in Australasia, it is believed; and a new genus is proposed for a remarkable species, also a freshwater form, obtained by Dr. J. P. Hill near Oberon, N.S.W.

2. The Naples Table Association for Promoting Laboratory Research by Women

hereby announces the offer of a fourth prize of one thousand dollars for the best thesis written by a woman, on a scientific subject, embodying new observations and new conclusions based on an independent laboratory research in biological, chemical, or physical science. The theses offered in competition are to be presented to the Executive Committee of the Association and must be in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee on the Prize, Mrs. Ellen H. Richards, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass., before February 25th, 1909. The prize will be awarded at the annual meeting in April, 1909. Each thesis must be submitted under a pseudonym and must be accompanied by a sealed envelope, enclosing the author's name and address, and superscribed with a title corresponding to one borne by the manuscript. The papers presented will be judged by a regularly appointed Board of Examiners (Biological Sciences Dr. William H. Howell, Johns Hopkins Medical School), or by such specialists as they may choose. The Association reserves the right to withhold the award of the prize, if the theses presented are not, in the judgment of this Board, of adequate merit to deserve the award. [The first prize was awarded to Florence Sabin, B.S. Smith, '93, M.D. Johns Hopkins University, '00, for a Thesis on the Origin of the Lymphatic System. The second prize was awarded to Nettie M. Stevens, B.A., M.A., Leland Stanford University, '99, '00, Ph.D. Bryn Mawr, '03, for a Thesis on a Study of the Germ Cells of *Aphis rosea* and of *Aphis oenotherae*. The third prize offered was not awarded.]

3. Versammlung des Vereins italienischer Zoologen und Anatomen.

Der italienische Verein der Zoologen und Anatomen (Unione Zoologica Italiana) wird seine diesjährige Versammlung vom 1. bis 4. Sept. unter der Leitung von Prof. Russo und Prof. Romiti in Bormio—Bagni (Wormser Bad), an den Grenzen zwischen Italien, Tirol und der Schweiz, halten. Allgemeine Referenten sind Camerano für Zoologie, Golgi für Histologie, Romiti für Embryologie, Rosa für Vergleichende Anatomie.

Fremde Gäste sind willkommen und hiermit eingeladen.

Anmeldungen sind an Prof. Angelo Andres in Tirano, Veltlin (Italien) zu richten.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Bonn a. Rh.

Gräfin **Maria Linden**, bisher Assistent an der biologischen Abteilung des anatomischen Instituts, wurde zum Abteilungsvorsteher am Hygienischen Institut (Abteilung für Parasitenkunde) ernannt.

Herr Dr. **W. Harms**, bisher in Marburg (Zoolog. Institut), trat als Assistent an der biologischen Abteilung des anatomischen Instituts der Universität Bonn ein.

Nekrolog.

Friedrich Theodor Köppen †.

Den 24. Mai d. J. starb in St. Petersburg nach schwerer Krankheit der bekannte Naturforscher und Bibliograph Fr. Th. Köppen (geb. d. 30. Dezember 1833). Von 1858 bis 1883 fast ausschließlich mit dem Studium der Lebensweise der schädlichen Insekten und deren Bekämpfung beschäftigt, veröffentlichte K. späterhin verschiedene wertvolle Arbeiten über die Verbreitung der Säugetiere und der Holzgewächse in Rußland. Von seinem Hauptwerk, der »Bibliotheca Zoologica Rossica« sind die beiden ersten Bände (Allgemeiner Teil) noch vom Verfasser herausgegeben worden (die 2. Hälfte des II. Bandes soll im Juli d. J. erscheinen); die übrigen Bände (Spezieller Teil) sind von dem Verfasser so weit zum Drucke vorbereitet, daß ihre Herausgabe durch die Kais. Akademie d. Wissensch. keine wesentlichen Schwierigkeiten bereiten wird.

Köppen hat auch in Westeuropa, welches er häufig besuchte, durch seine liebenswürdigen Charaktereigenschaften weite Freundeskreise erworben.

Dr. N. v. Adelung.



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