

ent in both the species that occur in America.

Among the Serropalpini, *Xylita* differs from *Anisoxya*, *Abdera*, *Dircaea*, and *Phloeotrya* in that the prosternal sutures are not elevated and the anterior coxal cavities have a lateral fissure. It is unlike *Serropalpus* in that the antennae are less than one-half the length of the body, the prosternum before the coxae is longer than in *Serropalpus*, and the maxillary palpi are not serrate. From *Amblyctis* and *Enchodes*, it may be separated by the terminal segment of the maxillary palpi which in *Xylita* is wider than the two preceding segments. From *Scotochroa* it differs in the fact that the lateral edge of the pronotum in *Xylita* is sharp more than half of the way to the anterior edge and the terminal segment of the maxillary palpus is not triangular. Finally, from *Rushia*, which it most closely resembles, we may separate *Xylita*, first, by general appearance, as *Xylita* is not long and flat, second, by the fact that the antennae are somewhat serrate from the fifth segment on instead of from the fourth as in *Rushia*, and third, because the anterior coxae are larger than in *Rushia*, and finally, since the last segment of the maxillary palpi is securiform.

***Xylita laevigata* Hellenius.**

Head bent downward so that it is scarcely visible from above, front somewhat flattened, frontal suture indistinct. Antennae shorter than the head and thorax taken together, the first four joints cylindrical, the others slightly flattened and triangular and therefore appearing serrate. Maxillary palpi not at all serrate, the fourth joint securiform. Head thickly punctured. Thorax somewhat wider than long, thickly punctured, margined at the base and laterally to the front margin. The anterior edge of the thorax extends forward slightly, tending to cover the head which is bent downward. Two slight depressions near the base of the thorax. Elytra uniformly colored.

On the under side of the thorax, the prosternum before the anterior coxae not as long as the latter, the prosternum flattened at the middle; anterior coxae large; the suture between the prosternum and the episternum flat and not noticeably divergent anteriorly; anterior coxal fissure present. The middle coxae are contiguous. The abdominal segments gradually diminish in length, the first segment is margined laterally.

***Xylita livida* Sahlbg.**

Head more finely punctured than in *laevigata*; frontal suture absent; prothorax shorter than in *laevigata* and therefore the head is more visible from above. Sides of pronotum sharply margined clear to the front edge; punctuation finer.

On the under side of the thorax, the prosternum is convex not flat; the length of the prosternum before the anterior coxae is as great as they are; anterior coxae not as large as in *laevigata*. The middle coxae are separated by a projection of the mesosternum. Elytra with a dark sutural streak.

OBITUARY

JOSEPH PERRIN

Canadian entomology has suffered another loss by the death of Joseph Perrin, who died at the age of 72 years on December 31st, 1936, at MacNabs Island, Halifax, N.S. The late Mr. Perrin came to Canada more than

forty years ago with his father, who purchased MacNabs Island, situated in Halifax harbour, and where the family since lived. During the greater portion of his life he had enjoyed good health. Last summer, however, he suffered from two strokes and a third stroke, from which he did not rally, occurred on the day of his death. He was a keen amateur entomologist, specializing in lepidoptera, and, in addition to maintaining a notable private collection, donated many specimens to the Canadian National Collection at Ottawa, and was a regular correspondent with the Entomological Branch for many years. His interest in entomology attracted the attention of the late Dominion Entomologist, Dr. James Fletcher, and he acted as an inspector of the Branch for many years, both before and after the establishment of Halifax as a port of importation for the inspection of nursery stock. During his lifetime he added materially to the knowledge of the lepidoptera of Nova Scotia; in 1912 he prepared with John Russell of Digby "A Catalogue of Butterflies and Moths Collected in the Neighbourhood of Halifax and Digby, N.S." which was published by the Nova Scotia Institute of Science. The late Mr. Perrin was a member of the Nova Scotia Entomological Society which later changed its name to the Acadian Entomological Society. His death means another gap in the ranks of that group of enthusiastic amateurs who did so much to advance the science of entomology in its earlier days in Canada, and a group which most unfortunately is not being maintained by the addition of younger men as amateurs who are devoted to the science for the great interest it provides.

LEONARD S. MCLAINE.

BOOK NOTICE.

The Origin of Higher Categories in *Cynips* by Alfred C. Kinsey (Ind. Univ. Publ. Sci. Ser. No. 4, 1936, pp. 334). Sold by University Bookstore, Bloomington, Ind. Price \$2.50.

The present volume is complementary to an earlier work by the same author, "The Gall Wasp Genus *Cynips*" (Ind. Univ. Stud., XVI, Nos. 84-86, 1930) which treats with the species inhabiting United States. In his latest book Dr. Kinsey considers the extensive fauna of Mexico and Guatemala describing 70 species new to the genus. Both volumes involve the study of more than 35,000 insects and 124,000 galls or an average for each of the 165 species treated of 214 insects and 755 galls. The two volumes should be used in conjunction. The second in addition to the numerous descriptions of new species and additional distributional, morphological and host plant data concludes with an appendix containing a key to the complexes of the genus and a revised check list of species.

In studying the species inhabiting United States the author found that they could be arranged in numerous diverging lines or chains which when plotted geographically led through their more primitive species to a region in Southwestern United States or Northern Mexico: here the lines abruptly ended. This region was regarded by the author as the probable point of origin of the whole genus and the area in which had taken place the initial split into the ancestral stocks which gave rise to the subgenera and most of the complexes of the genus. An intensive study of the Mexican species substantiated this viewpoint by bringing together the diverging ends of the evolutionary lines in the United States into one continuous chain of existent species.