NOTES ON A FEW BUTTERFLIES FOUND AT KASLO AND
IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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It has been suggested that notes on the occurrence of unusual butterflies should be published, and, as the following will show, I have been fortunate in making several interesting captures.

Chionobas gigas Butler.—A remarkable male specimen was taken at Kaslo in thick timber and near the water's edge, at an altitude of 1,800 feet, on the first of June, 1908. All previous records of this species were from the coast mountains at high altitudes. Mt. Arrowsmith, on Vancouver Island, and Mt. Cheam, on the lower mainland, were the only known localities. Wright, in his "Butterflies of the West Coast," says *gigas* is found on the bald knobs of the mountain tops, but never in the valleys or lowlands; so the occurrence of *gigas* in the valley of the Kootenays at a low altitude adds interest to the record.

The specimen on the upper side agrees with specimens from Mt. Arrowsmith, but on the under side there is a marked variation, the primaries being identical with the figure of *ivallda*, Mead., which Wright figures and reports as occurring in the Sierras at an elevation of 10,000 ft. This variation applies only to the maculation; the ground colour is like *gigas*, a rich nut-brown, and not pale straw-colour as in *ivallda*.

Everes comyntas Godart.—One male, Kaslo, B. C., May 30, 1904. Considerable doubt may be expressed as to this record, but the specimen is identical with eastern material, and has no resemblance to *amyntula*, which is a common species here. I cannot claim this as a record of farthest west, as I was shown a specimen which I identified as *comyntas*, in the collection of Mr. A. H. Bush, of Vancouver; this was taken on the Stickeen River, on the north coast of British Columbia.

Colias Kootenai.—A probable new species, May 17 to 20, and fall brood to Oct. 9. This has been confounded with *eriphyle*, Edw., but does not agree with Edwards's description. It emerges about three weeks earlier than *eriphyle* in both broods; the margins are narrower, the expanse less than that of *eriphyle*, and the colour of the secondaries on the underside is greenish and not deep orange-yellow, as stated in Edwards's description of *eriphyle*. Unfortunately the *Colias* group is in great need of revision by some one who is broad-minded enough to assign all the various named species to their proper place. I have secured a large series of *Colias* in order to compare them with this reputed new

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species, and I find that *philodice*, *eriphyle* and *christina* are generally distinguished in collections as representatives of certain localities, and at the same time I can take individual specimens from all of these localities, and they are absolutely identical in maculation and colour. I do not wish to be understood as saying that the original descriptions of these species are not valid, but that they are so little known that many examples which are now so named in collections are entirely wrong. My own opinion is that *philodice* is far more widely distributed in the west than is generally recognized.

Thecla iroides, Boisd., var. *immaculata*, n. var., one, Kaslo, B. C., May, 1897. An albinic form of *iroides*, of a deep straw colour, shading to canary-yellow, immaculate on both upper and under sides.

This is the only albinic specimen of *Thecla* that appears to be known, and my object in recording it is that possibly some collectors may have met with other specimens of this character; it is the only one I have ever seen, and was taken amongst a large series of *iroides*, which is one of the commonest butterflies here, flying in thousands in the early spring.

Cyaniris ladon, Cram., var. *Quesnellii*, at Bala Lake, Quesnelle, northern B. C. These two specimens were brought down by a "timber cruiser" and given to me. I submitted them to the late Dr. Fletcher, who wrote me that, had they been taken in Ontario, he would have had no hesitation in stating that they were a melanized form of *ladon*, and would have named them "*maculata-suffusa*." As we have already ten recognized varieties of *ladon*, it would seem unfair to burden the lists with a new variety, but in view of the opening up of northern B. C. by the transcontinental railways, there is every reason to think that if this variety is found to be (as I think) a distinct local race, it should be entitled to a specific name. The upper surface is deep violet-blue; the underside has the markings as in *Marginata*, but they are very heavy and of a deep chocolate-brown; a few very minor differences may also be found, but they are trivial.

I hope some of our collectors will obtain further specimens of this "Blue," and can only apologize for naming it tentatively, as I think it will prove a local race which will be found abundant in the Quesnelle Valley. When further specimens can be secured to substantiate the MS. description, I shall take pleasure in publishing a full description as a tribute to a Canadian who was good enough to remember a poor butterfly hunter over 1,000 miles away.