proposes that the following should be included in a zone to be named *Vancouverian*: That portion on the southern side of the inner Aleutian Islands, South-eastern Alaska and the Islands of the Coast, Western British Columbia, including the islands, Western Washington, the western portion of Northern Oregon, and a strip along the coast of California, to a little south of San Francisco Bay. That this zone has not been included in our scheme is not evidence of its non-acceptance, for we believe that Mr. Van Dyke's proposal is supported by a number of facts. Pending further investigation, however, we have deemed it advisable to restrict ourselves to the zones already indicated.—[C. GORDON HEWITT.

REPORT ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE CENTENNARY
OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL
SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA.

BY F. M. WEBSTER,

Delegate from the Entomological Society of Ontario.

This noted gathering was, thanks to the united efforts of the members, an entire success. The entire world of letters, personified by a company of more than one hundred distinguished men and women, representing the institutions of learnings and scientific societies of this country and Europe, participated in the ceremonies. The fine new lecture hall of the academy was given over to the carrying out of the set programme, made up of papers on purely scientific subjects, prepared and read by the distinguished delegates at the meeting.

On the platform were seated Mayor Blackenburg; Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, president of the academy; Sir James Grant, of the Royal Society of Canada; Dr. Edward J. Nolan and Dr. J. Percy Moore, the secretaries.

Among the smaller social events in connection with the centennial celebration was a dinner given by Dr. Henry Skinner, of the academy, at his home in Glenn road, Ardmore. There were present the following delegates, representing the entomologists, in which particular branch of natural science Dr. Skinner is especially interested: Dr. W. J. Holland, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; Professor J. H. Comstock, of Cornell University; Professor C. W. Johnson, of Boston, representing the Boston Society of Natural History; E. T. Cresson, of Philadelphia, representing the American Entomological Society, of which he was founder; Dr. Philip P. Calvert, of the University of Pennsylvania, representing the Sociedad Aragonesa de Ciencias Naturales, and Professor F. M. Webster, Washington, D.C., representing the Entomological Society of Ontario.

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The address of the president, Dr. Dixon, was exceedingly gratifying to entomologists, by reason of his laying some stress on the fact that among the original founders of the academy was Thomas Say, the father of American entomology. In his mention of the services many of the former members of the academy had made to science, he again spoke of Thomas Say, who went out with the Long Expedition to the Rocky Mountains, in 1819. This was followed by expressions of appreciation of the later works of Le Conte, Horn, Cresson and others. He told of the size and importance of some of the special collections, mentioning among others the collection of insects which now numbers 1,000,000 specimens and has world-wide renown.

Doctor Dixon showed the practical use of the work of the academy, and the real value to people and Government in the study of insect life; the now known cause of many preventable diseases, among them yellow fever, an outbreak of which was promptly suppressed in New Orleans, La., and malaria, which have been banished from Cuba and the Panama Canal section. He gave some figures showing the immense damage done to crops by insect life, and showed the money loss in this field, which economic entomology is trying to correct, to be more than \$1,000,000,000 a year.

There were but two papers presented relating exclusively to insects. The first by Henry Skinner, M.D., D.Sc., on "Mimicry in Butterflies."

Dr. Skinner's long familiarity with these insects rendered his paper of unusual interest and value. First calling attention to the many cases of deceptive resemblance among butterflies, and the very much that had been written on protective mimicry, both in this and other countries, he called attention to the fact that actual observations on the feeding of birds on butterflies were almost entirely lacking here in America, so much so that at the present time protective mimicry among butterflies must be admitted to be far more fancied than real, and, that the proof justly demanded by science was here conspicuously lacking. The doctor rested his case on the scientific as well as legal objection of "not proven." The second paper, by Mr. Jas. A. G. Rehn, dealt with "The Orthopterological Inhabitants of the Sonoran Creosote Bush" throughout the country along the Mexican border so rich in new and unique species of insects. It was of much interest not only relative to Orthoptera but also from a faunal point of view.

PROF. WEBSTER'S ADDRESS.

Members of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia:

A very pleasing duty has devolved upon me as an honorary member of the Entomological Society of Ontario, in having been delegated to

represent that body, at this your 100th anniversary, and to convey, for the Society, its hearty congratulations and good wishes for your continued prosperity and success.

It will perhaps not be out of place for me to call attention at this time to the fact that this sister society, but four years the junior of the Entomological Society of Philadelphia, afterwards the American Entomological Society, expects, next year, to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

We, who have had the good fortune to attend the meetings of this Society across the border, cannot easily forget the cordial greeting and warm comradeship we have always enjoyed, and we all the more appreciate the hearty God-speed which I am expected to convey to you. Not only have our colleagues done a grand work in Canada, but the pages of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST have been as freely open to us as to their own numbers.

Insects know no national boundaries, therefore those who study them must be equally cosmopolitan in their investigations. So, also, science knows no race, nationality or creed, because it deals with the universal, and in recognition of this, my message becomes all the more appropriate.

F. M. WEBSTER.

ON THE LARVAL STAGES OF CERTAIN ARCTIAN SPECIES.

BY WM. BARNES, M.D., AND J. MCDUNNOUGH, PH D., DECATUR, ILL.

A. phyllira Drury.

In a previous article (CAN. ENT., XLIII, 257), we described the final larval stage of this species. Since then we have been successful in breeding from the egg, and append our notes on the various stages. Packard has already described the larval history (Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., III, 178), but rather briefly, so that we feel justified in publishing our own account as a verification and amplification of Packard's. It has been suggested that *phyllira* is but a variety of *rectilinea* or vice versa. We would call attention to the fact that in *phyllira* larvæ the spiracles are orange, whilst in *rectilinea*, according to Gibson (CAN. ENT., XXXV, 117), they appear to be black; this would seem to suggest that we are dealing with distinct species. All our bred specimens showed (apart from slight increase or decrease in the heaviness of the white markings), very little tendency to variation, and in no case could we detect a specimen with traces of white markings on the veins in the outer portion of the wing; *phyllira* normally possesses a slight white dash on the subcostal vein and occasionally one on the cubitus near base of wing, as figured by Drury, but beyond this the veins are not outlined with white. The white markings on the veins

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