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sale in the grounds. Bitter beer on draught sold for 2d a glass. The pale ale label shown here dates from 1902, one of the few remaining relics. Brewing is thought to have ceased before 1916 and John Jennison & Co Ltd sold out to Belle Vue (Manchester) Ltd in 1925. John Jennison Junior, a grandson of "Old John", continued to work at the gardens, first as general manager, then as resident works manager. The last surviving member of the Jennison family, Mrs Emily Studholme, died in Sale, aged 86, in May 1958.

Alan Gall

Reproduced from the Camra Newsletter (Manchester branch)

Jennison was the source of numerous exotic creatures donated in the flesh to the museums in the area. They then had the problem of getting the larger ones mounted which was usually done by H. Brazenor of 34 Lloyd Street, Greenheys, Manchester. I do not think he was related to the Brazenor's of Brighton although it is an uncommon name. The best examples of his work were the exhibits at Salford (Buile Hill) Museum. The mounted mammals there were known as the "Brazenor Environmental Collection". These have now been dismantled and dispersed as the result of devoting the Buile Hill building to a museum of mining technology. Brazenor's work can also be seen at Bolton and Manchester, with specimens from Belle Vue Zoo in a large number of cases.

E. G. Hancock.

Dimethyl hydantoin formaldehyde (D.M.H.F.); an alternative mountant for insect genitalia

Although by no means new (see Angus, R. B., 1969, *Entomologist's Mon. Mag.*, 105(1); 2 and Sinclair, M., 1978, *Balfour-Browne Club Newsletter*, No. 10; p.6). D.M.H.F. is not widely known even amongst entomologists. It is a colourless, transparent, water-soluble resin, especially suitable for mounting smaller, more delicate structures, which may be introduced to a bead of the mountant on a card. The bead will set hard in a matter of days, without distortion of the specimen which may be dissolved out with water at any time in the future. One advantage of this substance is that the genitalia can be transferred to it directly from water and this saves considerable time.

D.M.H.F. may be obtained from W. S. Simpson & Co. Ltd., 1-23 Linden Way, Southgate, London N14 4LT and costs about £7.50 for 500 gms. Though to date this mountant has been used mainly by coleopterists it deserves far wider attention.

Howard Mendel,
Ipswich Museums,
High Street,
Ipswich. IP1 3QH

British and Irish Herbaria - new edition

The BCG are meeting Douglas Kent and his collaborator David Allen in order to identify and solve any problems of overlap which are concerning some curators. From the curator's point of view (and he or she is quite likely not to be a botanist) an entry for the Collections Research Unit's registers is as much as can be found. Often these can be very detailed;

sometimes all that is known is the surname of a person whose collection was destroyed by fire many decades ago. All the information is grist to the mill, however small, but if nothing else is known, or can be readily discovered, then it cannot be invented.

The only way a new edition of British and Irish Herbaria can be more comprehensive than the data base at Manchester is for under-represented (i.e. under-manned) museums to be visited by willing and competent botanists with an extensive knowledge of the history of the subject and the biographies of the men who made the collections. Obviously a small number of people, on a voluntary basis, are going to be extremely busy and expend not a little money travelling around the British Isles. Perhaps even this could only be achieved in an ideal world. Let us hope not, for the effort necessary to make this BSBI project as complete as it ought to be will be of enormous benefit to the scientific community. If only there could be about twenty peripatetic David Allen's who could visit every little museum basement, library attic and open every school room cupboard.....

Houbara or MacQueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata macqueeni*

Four British records are quoted for this species in the Handbook of British Birds by Witherby, etc. Are any of these specimens in your collection?

Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lincs. Oct. 1847
Redcar, Yorks (ad. male) 5 Oct. 1892
Spurn, Yorks (male) 17 Oct. 1896
St. Fergus, Aberdeen (female) 24 Oct. 1898

There is a fine bird in a private collection in Warwickshire, mounted by Henry Shaw of High Street, Shrewsbury (therefore presumably c.1890), but without further details. It is most probably of foreign origin, but just might be the second bird above.

Information on these or any others would be of great interest.

Mrs. Pam Copson,
Warwickshire Museum,
Market Place, Warwick.

The Butterflies and Moths of Shropshire

by Adrian M. Riley, published by Shropshire County Museums, 1981, 24 pp.

This is a list of the macrolepidoptera of the county of Salop with an asterisk system for indicating relative abundance of records. There is, however, no discussion as to why some species are less frequently recorded than others. No information is given on the methods of sampling although collections have been consulted, from those of local lepidopterists still in private hands up to the BM(NH).

Only records since 1965 have been included so that an up-to-date picture is presented to compare with earlier efforts. This might also help encourage further recording to fill the gaps but geographical coverage is not indicated to assist in this. Copies are obtainable from John Norton, Ludlow Museum (no price given).