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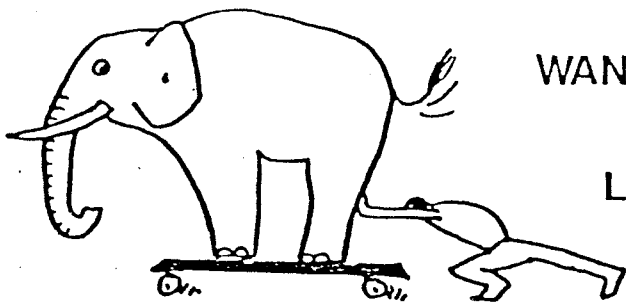
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WANTS, EXCHANGES,

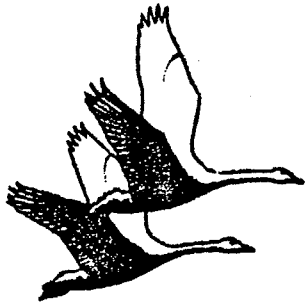
LOST & FOUND

Aberrations of Waterfowl and Wildfowl

I am writing and illustrating a book on the aberrations of waterfowl and wildfowl. The biggest difficulty is locating specimens of the type I seek to illustrate. This is done from coloured photographs, skins and field notes.

I would be grateful if curators who have any such specimens could contact me. For this reference work to be most use it is the intention to record and illustrate as many aberrant forms as possible. I am already receiving much help and information from Wildfowl Associations and the Game Conservancy, from this country and abroad.

G. R. McLaughlin,
8 Riverside,
Par Farm,
Par,
Cornwall.
PL24 2AE



THE WILDFOWL TRUST

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

President: H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES KG KT PC GCB

Hon. Director: SIR PETER SCOTT CBE DSC

SLIMBRIDGE

GLOUCESTER GL2 7BT

Telephone: Cambridge (Glos.) (045 389) 333

Cables: Wildfowl Dursley

In connection with a study of the past distribution of geese in Europe, Dr Malcolm Ogilvie of the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucester, is seeking information on the whereabouts of specimens of Barnacle Geese Branta leucopsis and Brent Geese Branta bernicla. While the location of all specimens is of interest, he would particularly like to examine any Barnacle Geese taken on the Solway Firth, on the Scottish-English border, before 1940, and any Brent Geese collected by A. Trevor-Battye on Kolguev Island, USSR, in 1894. All information will be gratefully acknowledged, and, it is hoped, followed up with visits.

(Dr M.A. Ogilvie)

THE MANCHESTER MUSEUM

The University
Manchester
M13 9PL
England

Telephone
061-273 3333
Telegrams
Museum, University
Manchester

Director
Alan Warhurst BA FSA FMA

Our reference

Your reference

Date 30th November, 1983

The deterioration of natural history material has been little studied. There are few anecdotal descriptions of problems and solutions. Examples where anecdote has been disproved are pyrite disease and Bynes disease, not diseases but chemical reactions. In order to discover the type and extent of deterioration, a start was made some years ago in following the fading of feathers due to light exposure. Also of interest is the deterioration of materials due to fumigants. The investigation of these problems usually requires facilities beyond that of a museum and I was fortunate to catch the interest of the university departments of Textile Science at UMIST and Sheffield. They will facilitate the use of student projects to study the problems.

The first step is to have known materials to work with. Accordingly a list of bird's feathers with known colourants has been drawn up (see Ashley and Horie; this issue of BCG Newsletter). A search is being made by various zoological gardens for a supply of the appropriate coloured feathers from live or recently dead birds. Material from museum collections is needed for comparison. Any specimens from the list would be most gratefully received.

In future years the work will be extended to other materials and other problems.

Yours faithfully,



C. V. Horie
Keeper of Conservation

Information sought on Lieut. L.A. Box and the whereabouts
of his collections

References in entomological journals (listed below) indicate that Lieut. L.A. Box assembled a collection of Hymenoptera probably from Leicestershire and Surrey localities around 1920.

The biographical details so far uncovered show that he moved from Great Glen, Leicester to Croydon in 1919 and was elected to membership of the South London Entomological and Natural History Society in that year. He exhibited a collection of Chalcids to the Society in 1919 but does not appear to have published articles in their Proceedings. Membership lists give London and Shere (near Guildford) addresses but there are no entries after 1928.

If any museum has holdings of L.A. Box's collections, particularly of Leicestershire material, please contact: Mary Hider, Biology Section, Museum and Art Gallery, 96 New Walk, Leicester LE1 6TD. Tel. Leicester (0533) 554100.

Published references

- | | | |
|-----------|--------|---|
| BOX, L.A. | (1918) | Notes on Collecting; <i>Diomorus armata</i> , <i>Crabro clavipes</i> and <i>Homalus auratus</i> . Entomologist's Rec. J. Var. <u>30</u> : 189-190 |
| " | (1919) | Some aculeate Hymenoptera from Leicester- shire Entomologist's Rec. J. Var. <u>31</u> : 15-16 |
| " | (1919) | Tubulifera from Leicestershire in 1918 Entomologist's Rec. J. Var. <u>31</u> : 76 |
| " | (1921) | New Species of <i>Myrmecophilus</i> Hymenoptera- Proctotrypoidea Entomologist's Rec. J. Var. <u>33</u> : 15-17 |
| " | (1919) | <i>Crabro capitosus</i> Schuck in the Midlands Entomologist's mon. Mag. <u>55</u> : 17-18 |
| " | (1919) | Hibernating <i>Andrenas</i> Entomologist's mon. Mag. <u>55</u> : 89 |
| " | (1921) | On <i>Phaenoserphus levifrons</i> Förster (Proctotrypoidea) Entomologist's mon. Mag. <u>57</u> : 92 |
| " | (1921) | <i>Gronotoma nigricornis</i> Kieffer (Cynipsoidea), a British Insect. Entomologist's mon. Mag. <u>57</u> : 186 |

H. M. Customs and Excise

H. M. Customs have various zoological specimens in their possession, which have been seized as illegally imported. These specimens cannot be transferred to other ownership, however they can be used by educational institutions on a long term loan basis. Hence specimens could be available for exhibitions on endangered species etc.

Interested BCG members should write in the first instance to Mrs. Bell (address below), explaining what sort of material they are seeking. It is necessary for H.M. Customs to seek DOE approval to release specimens, but Mrs. Bell will very kindly sort out these formalities.

Some specimens are held in the London Offices of H.M. Customs, but the bulk of the material is at Heathrow and warehouses around the country. However it may be possible for specimens to be viewed at the London office by arrangement.

Contact: Mrs. Bell
H. M. Customs & Excise
Kent House
Upper Ground
London SE1.

It must be stressed that the specimens are not necessarily triumphs of taxidermy, but rather more likely to be tourist trophies, handbags, etc.

P. Wheatcroft.

DIPTERA LABEL LISTS

Bill Ely of Rotherham Museum has produced label lists for the following families of acalypterate flies:-

1. Tephritidae.
2. Platystomatidae, Otitidae, Micropezidae, Megamerinidae, Tanypezidae, Psilidae, Helcomyzidae and Dryomyzidae.
3. Chamaemyiidae, Lauxanidae, Coelopidae and Chyromyidae.
4. Heleomyzidae and Sepsidae.

These lists are prepared from the R.E.S.L. checklist with additions and corrections where necessary, and the spacing has been altered to make them more convenient for cutting up into labels. They are produced with the consent of R.E.S.L., who hold the copyright.

If you would like copies of these lists they are available at 10p each + s.a.e. (to take A4 sheet).

JONATHAN SALT (1759 - 1815): CAREX ELONGATA

I am gathering information on Jonathan Salt, the Sheffield naturalist, and would be pleased to hear of any specimens or correspondence in museums and other academic institutions. Amongst other things, I am interested in Salt's correspondents, and in his position in contemporary natural science.

Jonathan Salt discovered Carex elongata in the British Isles, and provided specimens for other botanists. If you have a herbarium with specimens collected ca. 1780-1810, I would be much obliged if you could look at Carex elongata (and any other species you have time for), to see if Jonathan Salt is the collector or otherwise involved.

Tim Riley
Sheffield City Museums
Weston Park
Sheffield S10 2TP
tel. 27226.

BRIGHTON TAXIDERMISTS - A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I am collecting information on Brighton Taxidermists particularly the family firms, Pratt & Sons, G. Swaysland and Brazenor Bros., and also E.T. Booth's own taxidermist, George Saville. Any relevant information would be most gratefully received. I would be particularly interested in any signed/attributed specimens or collections by any of the above-mentioned which are housed outside of Brighton.

Jeremy Adams,
Senior Technical Officer,
Booth Museum of Natural History,
Brighton.

Hard-up Curator... wishes to dispose of:-

Biology Curators group Newsletter - complete

unbound set. Nos. 1 to present. A good opportunity for a new member to obtain his/her personal set.

Museums Journal 1975 to present inclusive

(plus Bulletins for the same period, if required)

Reasonable offers accepted. Contact Asst. Editor